

REGIMENTAL NOTES.

(Continued from page 87.)

Hall was given up to the merrymakers, and even that space was found at times too small for the large company. The rooms were tastefully decorated, and prominently displayed were all the trophies won by the company during the past four years. Among those present, besides the officers and men of the company, were :—Major Moore, Major McLaren, Capt. Tidswell, Capt. W. G. Reid, Lieut. Powis, Assistant-Surgeon Rennie, and Lieut. Warren (77th Batt). Card tables scattered throughout the rooms furnished amusement for those so inclined, but, as usual, nearly all the interest centred in the programme, which was one of the best ever put on at an affair of the kind here. Capt. Ross and Lieut. Fearman divided the honors in occupying the chair, and Messrs. E. Pearce and W. S. Hemphill rendered splendid service in playing accompaniments. The smoking, like the fun, was fast and furious, with the result that at times the talent was almost invisible, but the music sounded just as well, and the result was an evening's entertainment long to be remembered by the members of the company and their well-pleased friends. Mr. W. T. Ramsay, of Toronto, sang a total of eight comic selections, and each one seemed to please better than the last. The Hamilton Bicycle Club mandoline quartette rendered several selections, and Mr. W. Warden gave a couple of songs to a banjo accompaniment.

Messrs. E. G. Payne and H. Morton sang a duet and also contributed solos. Corp. Wm. Allen brought down the house with a topical song entitled "In the By-and-By." Mr. Harry Bull gave a capital rendering of De Wolfe Hopper's great song, "The Elephant on his Hands." Lieut. Laidlaw sang and Mr. Joseph Wilson played a piano solo.

Mr. Sanford Evans, President of the new Canadian Club, on the invitation of Capt. Ross, laid before the company, in a brief but eloquent speech, the claims of the club for earnest and patriotic members.

Sir Richard Allen delivered an oration on the duties of a soldier, first to various things and then to his country, that won no small measure of applause. Pte. Birch gave a stump speech and then there was a skit on cockfighting, the chickens being Ptes. Campbell and Weston. A jolly little "stag dance" was then announced and eight members of the company gave a fair imitation of "de way dey do it at Rockyville."

One of the features of the evening was the presentation to the company by Major McLaren of a shield for winning first place in the competition of 1889. Major Moore also presented Ptes. Frank Reynolds, Geo. Ogilvie and Henry McBeth with the half-sovereigns, suitably engraved, awarded by their officers for the best attendance at drill.

The buffet was open from 8 to 12, and light refreshments could be had in abundance. Capt. Ross, Lieuts. King and Fearman, Color-Sergt. Harvey, Sergts. Smith and Kidner and the other members of the entertainment committee looked after the comfort of their guests in splendid style, and D Co. is to be congratulated on the success of the affair.

Sergt. Bewley, of the Royal Grenadiers, Toronto, has presented the sergeants' mess of the 13th Battalion with a large group photograph of the Grenadiers' sergeants' mess.

ST. JOHN.

The recent statement in the House by the Minister of Militia, when he said in reply to a question from Mr. Wood, M.P. : "I may tell my friend that it is my intention to give an additional troop, etc., to the Eighth Hussars to be organized some time in the autumn and provision will be made for it in next year's estimate" is very interesting and welcome news to the members of this fine corps. When this is carried out the strength will be : Officers, 32; non-coms. and men, 337; horses, 234; baggage wagons, 8.

This will be encouraging to Colonel Domville, who has taken so much pains with the corps, and be a matter of pride to the officers and men to know that the General, who spares no criticism, however severe when necessary, accords them so much praise. It is to be hoped they may be fully

equipped later on according to Queen's Regulations with traveling forge, gatling gun and engineers' tools. Such a force would be of great service if, unfortunately their services should ever be required. Our militia should be properly armed and drilled or abolished. Canada cannot afford to have money voted for the service thrown away, and General Herbert has clearly pointed out that in the past vast sums have been given to contractors for worthless stores—a perfect El Dorado for boodlers at the expense of the soldiers.

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The annual meeting of the 62nd Fusiliers was held at their club room on Charlotte street on Monday night, 6th inst., Lieut.-Col. Blaine occupied the chair. The reports on the Brass band, Bugle band, and Regimental Committees were presented and passed.

Capt. Edwards, president of the Brass Band Committee, in presenting his report, referred to the satisfaction that the new instruments were giving, and to the excellent state of the band in every way, due largely to the efforts of Bandmaster Jones.

Major Sturdee, president of the Bugle Band Committee, expressed pleasure at the efficiency of the band and its marked improvement under the instructorship of Corporal Woodland.

Assistant-Surgeon MacLaren, president of the Regimental Committee, in presenting his report showed that the receipts and expenditures for the year were very satisfactory and that there was a balance to the credit of the regiment.

The following committees were elected for the ensuing year :—

Brass Band—Capt. Edwards, Capt. Churchill and Major Hartt.

Regimental—Asst.-Surgeon MacLaren, Major Sturdee and Lieut. Kay.

Bugle Band—Major Sturdee and Lieuts. Hetherington and Kay.

HALIFAX.

Col. Ryan, who commands the Royal Artillery on this station, has been promoted to rank of Major-General.

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Col. E. P. Leach, V.C., C.B., R.E., is appointed to the command of the Royal Engineers in this garrison, vice Col. Hill, who will vacate that position on the 8th April next.

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A recent number of the *Ottawa Citizen* says : The 1st Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment—the old 17th, so dear to the hearts of all Quebecers—which has been in garrison at Halifax for some years, will leave that station in a few days for further foreign service. This regiment occupies a unique and distinguished position in its connection with the Dominion, in that it is the first regiment of Her Majesty's regular forces to be commanded on Canadian soil by a native of this country. Lieut.-Col. William Mogg Rolph, the officer commanding the battalion, was born at Dundas in this Province, and is also, if we mistake not, an Upper Canada College boy. On entering the army he was commissioned to the 17th, then stationed at Quebec, during the old garrison days there, and he has remained with the same distinguished corps up to the present, passing through the various grades of the service to the chief command, which he reached in February, 1890. In India Col. Rolph saw much distinguished service. In view of the exceptional circumstances of the case, and as an acknowledgement also of the splendid qualities displayed by the gallant Canadian during his eventful and distinguished career under the Queen's banner, we shall hope to hear of some special compliment being paid to the 17th, by the people of Halifax, before allowing the regiment to leave these shores.

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Extensive improvements are being made in the Imperial dockyard. There is to be built a new torpedo depot, capable of accommodating twenty-five torpedoes on this station. This is in addition to the torpedo equipment already in existence for the torpedo boats. The various departments of the dockyard are to be put in first-class condition.