

the Fort. At noon of the fatal day he performed his duty by firing off the gun at 12 o'clock. The report of the gun, which carries a five pound charge, and is heard every day at noon, excited no comment; after the interval of a minute or so another loud report was heard which was unaccountable. Some thought it merely the echo of the first report, which supposition was immediately ended by a telephone message from Fort Henry asking that a surgeon be sent up at once as Gunner Marsh had been seriously shot. Surgeon-Major Neilson, accompanied by a city ambulance, went at once to the Fort where Gunner Marsh was found in the ditch about twenty feet below the Advance Battery, his wrists and hands were terribly mangled, nothing but mere shreds remaining, and he was also severely injured internally by the fall from the platform above; he never regained consciousness and expired about 4 p.m. the same day. The funeral, which was of a military and civil character, took place on the following Sunday. The order of it being as follows:—

#### FIRING PARTY.

(In charge of Sergt. Hewgill.)

14th Battalion Band.

Gun Carriage.

"A" Battery.

14th Battalion Sergeants.

Attached Officers.

Officers "A" Battery.

L.O.L., T.B., and P.B. Lodges.

Citizens and others.

About ten members of the former band of the Battery assisted the 14th Battalion band in furnishing the music for the parade.

Several theories are given for the cause of the accident, but the one receiving most credence is that the late gunner after firing the noon gun immediately reloaded the cannon, which was a 32-pounder smooth, in preparation for the 9.30 gun in the evening and the wind blowing straight in the muzzle probably detained some of the burnt powder bag so that on his ramming home the charge the new blaze ignited blowing the rammer and the unfortunate man along with it, resulting in his death as before stated. Deceased left a wife and nine or ten children, the oldest at home being but fifteen years of age. His late comrades in "A" Battery generously started a subscription list in the barracks and the citizens also commenced the formation of a fund for the relief of the widow and orphans, which was grandly augmented by two performances given in the Opera House for the special benefit of Mrs. Marsh; the first being given by the Royal Military College Ethiopian Troubadours, netting about \$160. The second by the Amateur Pinafore Company, clearing about the same amount; the proceeds of the subscription list will probably total the sum of \$600 and will be a blessing, indeed, to the bereaved family.

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A thing that was brought to my notice by a very old military friend of the deceased was the absence from the funeral of three officers of the Battery. It was a noticeable occurrence.

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Sergt.-Major R. D. Baker has resigned from that position in the 14th Battalion, and has received his discharge; the post has been filled by the appointment of Sergt.-Major Morgans of the R.M.C., as Acting Sergt.-Major, he having received permission from General Cameron to do so.

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It has been definitely decided that the 14th Battalion will visit Montreal on Dominion Day, and arrangements are now being made towards that end.

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Lieut.-Col. Smith, A.D.C., commanding the Rifles, was on parade the other evening and inspected the battalion, and was well pleased with the appearance and physique of the men of the corps. Nos. 1, 2 and 3 being complimented for their large turn out, the latter two companies having every member present, and the first mentioned having but one man absent. After inspection the battalion was manoeuvred by all the mounted officers in deployments, changes of front,

manual, etc.; the fine band, under the leadership of A. C. Carey, rendered selections at intervals throughout the evening.

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The officers taking short courses at the barracks are:—Major L. Buchan, No. 2 Company, C. R. I., Lieut. R. Myles, Toronto Field Battery; Lieut. Macdonald, Halifax Garrison Artillery.

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The following are finishing long courses at the R.M.C.: Captain D. R. Dupuis, 14th, P.W.O. Battalion, Kingston; Lieut. the Honorable M. W. Elphinstone, Lieut. Edward Hosmer, Manitoba Dragoons; Lieut. G. B. McRae, 1st P. W. R. Battalion, Montreal; Lieut. C. St. A. Pearse, British Columbia Brigade of G.A.

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"B" Battery had their first route march of the season on the 12th inst. There were four guns on parade, to which were attached the dismounted section who marched in the rear of their respective guns; the troops left the barracks at 9 o'clock in the morning and marched to Cataraqui bridge, a distance of some four or five miles, where a bivouac was formed and dinner partaken of, after which the parade reformed and arrived home about 7 p.m., every one tired and dirty, for the day was the hottest this spring, the thermometer standing 80° in the shade.

STIENSALES.

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The doing away with the band attached to "A" Battery is an act which is justly open to much criticism. Most of the men, good musicians, are averse to doing duty in the ranks. Three of the members have already left or deserted. Bandsmen Callaghan and Blinkwood would not go into the ranks and have gone over the line. Cornet Player Hayward was the last to leave. He joined a band in New York and bought his discharge.

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As was confidently expected, a large audience greeted the Royal Military College Minstrels in the Opera House on evening of 10th inst., and as a result about \$300 was raised for the widow and family of the late Gunner Marsh. When the curtain rose nearly forty Cadets were disclosed seated upon the stage dressed in white, with red neckties, and red stripes on their trousers. The effect was very pretty. Each member of the troupe, with one hand on each knee, remained as motionless as a statue while on the stage. The six end-men were Cadets Leckie, Armstrong B. and Thacker, "bones;" Gibbs, Armstrong C. and Strickland, "tambos." These were attired in altogether indescribable costumes, and were introduced by the interlocutor, Cadet J. T. Warner.

"Our Dinah" was the opening chorus. The next number was a solo entitled "The Rowdy Dowdy Boys," by Cadet Strickland. Cadet Lamb's solo, "The Story of the Bells," was splendidly sung, an encore being given. The next solo, "Not the Only One," was contributed by Cadet C. J. Armstrong. This also called forth an encore. "The Man that Broke the Bank at Monte Carlo" was sung by Cadet B. H. Armstrong. This, like the preceding solos, was encored. Cadet Leckie followed with a song entitled "When the Days Grow Longer," after which came the closing chorus of the first part of the programme, "Oh! Who will O'er the Downs?" The singing was interspersed with jokes, which kept the audience in almost constant laughter.

The second part of the entertainment consisted of specialties, the first being selections by the R. M. C. Banjo club. The merit of the music given was fully appreciated by the audience, judging by the applause with which it was received. Gunner McDonald, of "A" battery, succeeded in mystifying the audience with some slight-of-hand tricks. Cadet H. J. Lamb favored the audience with a solo entitled "The Arab's Bride." This was given very artistically and was much enjoyed. Cadet Cantlie performed a sword dance, and for an encore danced the Highland fling. Gunner Rousseau, of "A" battery, astonished everybody by his heavy lifting, raising from the floor a number of heavy dumb bells on which stood two young men. A stump speech by Cadet Osler closed the second part.

The whole performance ended with a very humorous farce entitled "Who Speaks First?" in which the following ladies and gentlemen appeared: Miss M. Gildersleeve, "Smart;"