

## BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

## FROM YORK, O.

The second annual dinner of the 37th Battalion Haldimand Rifles, was held in the Battalion Drill Shed, at York, on Saturday the 19th ultimo, in order to recognize the assistance given by the County in the erection of drill sheds for the Battalion and the various companies, and also to celebrate the opening of the Battalion headquarters shed in a fitting manner. Invitations were sent to the members of the County Council and many prominent citizens of the county, and a large number sat down to table. In addition to the officers of the Battalion were many officers of the Sedentary Militia, who, with the County Council and county officials, were the guests of the evening. The Drill Shed was handsomely decorated with flags and overgreens, interspersed with appropriate mottoes, among which the characteristic motto of the Battalion, "We Advance," was conspicuous. The chair was occupied by Lieut. Colonel Davis, with Majors Thompson and Scoble as vice chairs. The tables were laden with good things, to which ample justice was done in the first instance. Then followed the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, viz:

The Queen—God bless her.—Received with all the honors. Band—God Save the Queen.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family. Cheers and Band—God Bless the Prince of Wales.

His Excellency the Governor General of Canada, Lord Monck.—Cheers and Band—He's a Jolly Good Fellow.

Song by John Stewart, Esq.—The Real Old Irish Gentleman.

The Army and Navy of Great Britain.—Cheers and Band. Responded to in a very patriotic speech by Colonel Villiers.

The Warden and County Council of the County of Haldimand.—Cheers and Song—For they are Jolly Good Fellows. Responded to by John McClelland, Esq., Reeve of Walpole, in an excellent speech.

The Service Militia of Canada, coupled with the names of Colonels Martin, Farrell and Young. Cheers and Band. Responded to in eloquent speeches by Colonels Farrel and Martin, after which Colonel Farrell gave:

Colonel Davis and the 37th Haldimand Battalion. Great cheering. Responded to by Colonel Davis in an eloquent and patriotic speech.

The 1st vice-chairman, Major Thompson, then gave the following toasts, viz:

Prosperity to the Dominion of Canada. Cheers. Responded to by John R. Martin in a feeling and patriotic manner.

Song by Dr. McCargow.

The County Officials, coupled with the name of Judge Stevenson. Cheers. Responded to by Judge Stevenson in excellent style.

Song by Alex. Taylor, Esq.

The Adjutant General, Colonel Macdonald, and Militia Staff, coupled with the name of Colonel Villiers. Cheers. Responded to by Colonel Villiers in an excellent speech, in which he paid a high compliment to Colonel McDougall, as an efficient and energetic officer.

Song by Captain Davis.

The 2d vice-chairman, Major Scoble, then gave

The Queen's Own and the 13th Battalion, coupled with the name of Captain Jackson, Captain of No. 11 Company of Queen's Own, in June 1866. Cheers. Responded to by Captain Jackson in an appropriate manner.

Alex. Kinnear, Esq., here gave "The charge of the Six Hundred," in splendid style, and was loudly applauded.

The memory of the men who fell at Ridgeway. Drank in solemn silence.

Our Guests, coupled with the names of Captain Brown, of the Binbrook Company, and Alexander Taylor, Esq. Cheers. Responded to by both gentlemen in an excellent manner.

Song by Dr. McCargow.

Song by Major Scoble.

The Press, coupled with the name of Thomas Messenger, Esq. Responded to by Thomas Messenger, Esq., of the *Sachen*, and Dr. Harrison, of Selkirk.

The Ladies. Responded to by Captain McKinnon, No. 7 Co.

After which followed many volunteer toasts, until eleven o'clock, when the party separated, after a most pleasant evening.

The Drill Shed, which was opened on this occasion, is built on the Government plan, for a Company headquarters' shed, and is thirteen feet long by sixty-two feet in breadth. It is situated on a corner of a square block of land, with the Battalion store-rooms, Orderly room, Officers Mess room, and care-taker's apartments, most excellently furnished and filled up, in a long building at right angles with the shed, thus inclosing on two sides a level and commodious parade ground. The whole is nicely fenced in, and a fine flagstaff gives an appropriate finish to the most compact and best finished Battalion headquarters west of Toronto. Too much praise cannot be given to the contractors, who, under Colonel Davis' careful supervision, have completed the buildings for a comparatively small sum. It is not only a credit to the county generally, who are liberally disposed to the Volunteers, but to Lieutenant Colonel Davis especially, that these buildings should have been erected for the use of the Battalion. He has been most indefatigable not only in this, but in everything that could promote the efficiency and well being of the regiment under his command: and through his well directed and earnest efforts the 37th Battalion is approaching, in organization, drill and discipline, that position to which they and all Volunteers should aspire.

## FROM SAULT STE. MARIE.

An esteemed correspondent writes: The Sault Ste. Marie Infantry Co. was inspected on the 7th ultimo, by Lieut. Colonel Durie, Assistant Adjutant General. The Colonel expressed himself pleased with the men, and the good condition of their clothing, arms, etc. The gun detachments went through their drill (with the field pieces) to the Colonel's satisfaction. The Company has been served with the Snider rifle.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

NEW YORK, Oct. 29th, 1867.

The Military Commanders of the Departments of the South have very generally met with much odium from a large portion of the people of the North, but upon what grounds it is not quite certain, few of the charges brought against them being tenable. That they have uniformly sought to carry out the instructions of Congress, is every day becoming more and more apparent, and President Johnson's reasons for removing them, one after another, becoming daily more and more inexplicable. Scarcely more than the semblance of military law exists there, as is clearly shown in the correspondence between General Thomas, commanding the Department of Cumberland, and the War Department relative to the Municipal elections in Nashville, Tennessee. General Thomas asked the War Department which party he should recognize and support, and what support he should give. His reply from General Grant was. Interfere with no party, but preserve order if called upon. Plainer instructions could not be given. Yet, in spite of the efforts of Congress and the Authorities to produce something of order out of the chaos that the South was plunged into at the close of the war, disturbances of a serious nature are continually occurring between the whites and blacks. Not even the torrents of blood spilt during the war could wash away the life-long, deep seated prejudices of the two races. The proud, aristocratic Southerner, and the proud domineering Northerner, could but ill brook the idea of equality between the white and black races, even if the latter accepted the gift as such; but when the desire of the whites to render tardy justice to the blacks is but the signal for them to engage in lawlessness and offer insults and indignities to those who but lately called themselves their masters, it is quite natural that regret at what has been done, and a desire to remove the disturbing cause, should take the place of the former and more laudable desire. That is the case now. Many of the fiercest abolitionists are beginning to see and reluctantly admit that the blacks ought to be sent away, that they may acquire too much power; and that to allow them the full privileges of citizenship will be fraught with future danger to the Republic. Hence, the endeavors of the Military Commanders to preserve order and to repress the wild lawlessness and the domineering and insulting conduct of the negroes, meet with ready approbation from the people. Yet, it will be long before the troops can be withdrawn and the South re-admitted into the Union without fear of another outbreak, if, indeed, such can ever be done. The feelings engendered during the war exist still perhaps as intensely as ever, though such forcible expression is not given to them, unless it be in denunciations of England and desire for revenge upon that country for the