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Australia—Victoria Mounted Rifles.

Africa—Cape Mounted Rifles.

India—1st Bengal Cavalry.

Canada—Queen's Own Rifles.

West India Regiments.

TYPES OF THE COLONIAL AND INDIAN ARMIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

Military Types of Greater Britain:

(See Engraving.)

The types represented in the engraving on preceding page give a fair idea of the varieties of uniform in use in the Colonial and Indian services. Three out of the five represented are regular troops, viz., the Cape Mounted Rifles, the Indian Cavalry, and the West Indian regiments; the others, those representing Canada and Australia, are Volunteer Militia. They present an interesting variety of uniforms, and may be of value here, not only in suggesting certain changes and improvements in the dress and accoutrements used in the Canadian forces, but also in counteracting the ultra-conservatism of many of our officers, who think that the uniforms of the Dominion Militia should be modelled solely on those used by the Army.

A short description of the corps represented in the engraving may be of interest.

The West Indian corps dates back—under its present designation and status—to 1795, although it in reality represents two Loyalist corps, one of which did good service for the Crown during the American rebellion. The regiment fought brilliantly through the French war which occupied the first few years of this century, and saw service at New Orleans in 1814, Barbadoes in 1816, Demerara in 1823, Barra in 1831, and in fact in every subsequent campaign in their quarter of the world. The rank and file are blacks,—the officers being appointed from Britain. The uniform is that of the Algerian Zouaves—scarlet, with white facings.

The Bengal Cavalry combine, to a remarkable degree, a most picturesque appearance with great fighting ability. The First Regiment was raised early in the century, and was originally known as the First Irregulars; they fought gallantly at Bhurtpore and Candahar, and also in the Afgan war of 1878-80. Their uniform is yellow, with black facings. They carry on their standards "Bhurtpore," "Candahar, 1842;" "Afganistan, 1879-80."

The Cape Mounted Rifles is a fine dashing corps, the best uniformed—so far as utility and neatness goes—of any of the five representatives in the group. There have been two separate and distinct corps of the name; the first behaved badly in the Kaffir war of 1852, and was disbanded, being succeeded by a somewhat similar corps called the Frontier Armed and Mounted Police, which was repeatedly engaged during the numerous native African wars in the quarter century following 1852. In 1879 the cumbersome "Police" name was dropped, and the regiment again became the "Cape Mounted Rifles"—a step that is a good example for the Canadian Government in the hoped-for change of name of our North-West Police. During 1879 and 1880 they were often in action, and fought with great gallantry, at least two troopers winning the V.C. The attack on Morosi's Mountain was an exceptionally brilliant affair. The uniform of the C. M. R. is dark green, with black facings.

For a sparsely settled country the Victoria Mounted Rifles is perhaps the most serviceable corps in the British Empire. Their system is an elastic one, and efficiency for active service is the standard to which everything else is sacrificed. The corps consists of nine companies, scattered all over Victoria, each company being made up of small local groups of ten men and over. Every trooper must be an efficient member of a rifle association or club in his district; the skill of the force at the butts is therefore of a very high order. The commanding officer and adjutant are regular officers, on the permanent staff of the Colony, thus enabling them to devote their whole time and energy to the discipline, drill, and general good of the force. The corps wears a serviceable uniform of khaki-coloured tunic and breeches, and a broad felt hat; it is armed with sword and the Martini carbine and wears a sportsman's cartridge belt.

Last, but not least, we come to the Canadian representative, one of the Queen's Own. The corps is so well-known and popular throughout Canada that it is unnecessary to say much about them, only that no better representative of the best type of the Canadian Volunteer could have been presented by the artist. We hope, before very long, to give our readers a complete history of this fine battalion.

REGIMENTAL NOTES.

TORONTO.

The annual dinner of "I" Co., Q.O.R., was held at Webb's on 3rd inst., and may well be classed in the list of the "tip-toppers." Capt. Murray occupied the chair and around him, amongst others, were Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, Major Buchan, Capts. Pellatt, Lee, Bennett, Mutton, Trotter, 10th Regiment; Irving, T.F.B.; Lieut. Wyatt, Sergt.-Major George, Sergt. Woods, Mr. E. Sullivan, Mr. D. A. Rose.

The *menu* having been thoroughly enjoyed, the toast list was entered upon, commencing with that of "The Queen;" "Our Commanding Officer," proposed by Capt. Murray, was replied to by Lieut.-Col. Hamilton; "Our Guests," briefly proposed by Lieut. Crean, brought responses from Major Buchan and Mr. E. Sullivan; "Absent Comrades" was coupled with the name of Sergt. F. H. Gray, and many were the fervent wishes of an early and complete recovery from the sickness which is threatening him; "The Ladies," proposed by Lieut. White, brought the list to a close. The songs which were rendered between the toasts and during the evening were contributed by Major Buchan, Lieuts. Wyatt, Crean, Color-Sergt. Higinbotham and Sergt. Woods. Glionna's orchestra amply attended to the wants of the guests when an adjournment was made to the ball-room, and the reputation for hospitality or in fact anything else that has ever been attained by "Murray's Dandies" was well upheld on this occasion.

* * *

The annual dinner of "G" Co., Q.O.R., was held at Webb's on Tuesday the 7th inst., Capt. Bennett occupying the chair. After a very enjoyable *menu* had been discussed the toast list was commenced, that of "The Queen" being received in the usual manner;" "Our Commanding Officer and Staff" brought responses from Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, Capt. M. S. Mercer and Sergt.-Major George; "Our Sister Corps" was responded to by Lieut. Chadwick, 10th R. G.; and Color-Sergt. Galloway, No. 2 Co., C.R.I.; the toast of "Absent Comrades," to which the name of Staff-Sergt. Macdonald was coupled, was proposed by Staff-Sergt. Williams and an early and complete recovery, with a quick passage home were the earnest wishes of his comrades in "G;" "Our Guests" brought responses from Majors Delamere, Sankey, Capt. Irving, 10th R. G.; Mr. E. G. Ebbels, Mr. McCord and Mr. Montgomery; "The Ladies," ably responded to by Pte. D. J. Maclean, brought the list to a close.

The following programme added in a great measure to the enjoyment of the guests and to the success of the evening:—Recitation, Mr. Ebbels; banjo specialty, Capt. A. M. Irving; harmonic solo, Pte. W. G. Parker; recitation, Mr. C. Smith; and songs by Mr. N. McCord, Lieut. Chadwick, Staff-Sergt. Williams and ex-Sergt. N. Stewart. Glionna's orchestra was in attendance and stag dances, etc., etc., brought to a close a very jolly dinner.

* * *

Pte. J. C. Mason of "I" Co., Q. O. R., was made the recipient the other day of a handsome gold watch, suitably engraved, and setting forth the hearty appreciation of the shareholders of the Home Savings and Loan Co., Ltd., of his efforts on their behalf, at the attempted robbery of the offices a short time ago. Pte. Mason is a son of Major Mason, 10th R.G., and on this occasion proved himself to be a worthy son of a worthy sire, his plucky resistance to the armed robbers balking them of considerable booty.

* * *

The Q.O.R. have already commenced recruiting, having two classes which are well under way.

The Grenadiers commence on the 14th inst., and the 48th Highlanders have been started for a couple of weeks.

The kilties are determined to make the struggle for recruits among the city regiments an interesting one, as witness their novel advertisement (novel only on account of their being few if any precedents), in which they state that they contemplate spending the 24th May in Hamilton, and may possibly go to Chicago for the World's Fair. It strikes one as being a rather queer inducement to hold out to men who are supposed to look at soldiering from a totally different

basis than the amount of picnicing or number of picnics they would go to in a year. The craze for recruits is not confined to one regiment, as witness what the correspondent from Hamilton to the Toronto *Mail* has to say concerning "B" Co., 13th Batt.:—"B" Co., 13th Batt., is offering a number of valuable prizes to be given to the members bringing in the greatest number of recruits during the year. It is by no means flattering to the Company to say that its members require special inducement to make them keep the ranks full, besides which, men who have to be coaxed or persuaded to join the Company, instead of doing so of their own free will, are not likely to make good soldiers."

* * *

This in turn is, I think, beaten by Capt. W. B. Smith, of F Co. 22nd Regt. N. Y., who enlists the services of the ladies towards building up his company, and offers a handsome gold pin to the first lady who proposes through a member of the company three recruits who will pass the surgeon.

If this keeps on we will gradually work back and perhaps, you never can tell, we may yet hear of companies being formed as one of the Highland regiments was, by the men receiving the bounty or shilling from the lips of a beautiful woman.

* * *

I came across in a list of rare medals offered for sale by Spink & Co. of London, Eng., the following names, and I am sorry to say all Canadian and Ontario men at that, whose medals are listed at the following values :

- I. Armstrong, A Co. 12th Bn. Y. R. £1 10 0
- W. Blackwell " 1 10 0
- E. Higham, 7th Fusiliers. 2 0 0
- King, 10th Bn. R.G. (Saskatchewan Bar) . . . 3 0 0

All the above are North-West medals and bring exceedingly high prices, considering that Crimea and Indian Mutiny medals are held at from eight shillings up.

* * *

The general opinion among the shooting men around Toronto is that the Military Rifle League will not have as successful a year as last unless they can see their way to dividing the competition into two classes, viz.: Martini and Snider. It has been suggested that it be left to the option of a regiment or association whether to enter all Martini, all Snider, or mixed teams.

* * *

In view of the recent decision at Ottawa it seems absurd to think that men who perhaps are limited as to practice time, will devote any of it to practising with the condemned gas pipes, that is if they intend going to the D.R.A. meeting; and it certainly would put no hardship on anyone to make it optional which rifle a team or teams from a regiment used; unless this is done, the chances are that a really good and (thanks to Major Delamere) a flourishing League will through lack of interest and competitors come to an untimely end.

* * *

FORTY-EIGHTH SERGEANTS' MESS FIRST ANNUAL DINNER.

Here's to the heath, the hill and the heather,
The bonnet, the plaidie, the kilt and the feather,
Here's to the heroes that Scotland can boast,
May their names never die, that's a Hielanman's toast.

Some one has said that a Highland welcome leaves nothing to be desired, and, of a truth I believe it, to guage from the welcomes extended and bounteous hospitalities dispensed in such a happy manner as that which characterized Sergt.-Major Robertson and every member of his flourishing Mess, on the occasion of their first Annual Dinner at the "Arlington," Friday evening, the 10th inst.

Not having sufficient room in their temporary quarters, the sergeants were compelled to hold their dinner in some place more suitable and it took place in the spacious dining rooms of the Arlington.

The menu provided by Messrs. Mathews was irreproachable as will be seen by the following :

MENU

SOUPS

Consommee Mock Turtle

FISH

Codfish, Egg Sauce. Pommes, Parisiennes

	BOILED		
Leg of Southdown			Caper Sauce
	ENTREES		
Sweetbreads		Glace a la Fenanciere	
	Oyster Patties, a la Francaise		
	Timbales of Rice, au Confiture		
	JOINTS		
Ribs of Beef	Yorkshire Pudding	Braised Ham	Champagne Sauce
	Turkey, Cranberry Sauce		Scotch Haggis
	GAME		
	Venison	Currant Jelly	
	COLD DISHES		
Chicken Salad	Lobster Salad	Roast Beef	Ham
Tongue	Boned Turkey		Pate de foie gras
	VEGETABLES		
Boiled Potatoes	Mashed Potatoes		Turnips
Fried Parsnips	Tomatoes		Green Peas
	PASTRY		
English Plum Pudding	Brandy Sauce	New Rhubarb Pie with Custard	
Apple Pie	Apricot Tart	Assorted Tarts	Maccaroons
Scotch Shortbread	Port Wine Jelly	Strawberry Ice Cream	
	DESSERT		
Fruit	Almonds	Walnuts	Filberts
Tea	Coffee	Milk	Canadian Cheese
	Bottled Ale	Sherry	Claret
			Delhesa Raisins
			Stilton Cheese
			Hot Scotch Punch.

The Guests were received in the reception rooms by Sergt.-Major Robertson and Staff-Sergt. Harp, President of the Mess, and a few minutes after nine preceded by Pipe-Major Ireland, entered the dining room, and shortly after all were engaged in a brisk discussion of the feast that had been provided.

The gathering presented a very fine appearance, and it is not at all out of the way to say that never at any dinner, held in Toronto, were the Militia so well and creditably represented as on this occasion.

One could not help a feeling of admiration for the force and the country which possessed such worthy representatives, and it would indeed be unfair to individualize or comment on the appearance of any representative of the regiment. They all looked ideal soldiers and thoroughly capable of holding their own no matter what they undertook, or the odds to contend against.

The Sergt.-Major occupied the chair and around him were seated, on his right, Lieut.-Col. Davidson, Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, Q. O. R.; Major Cosby, 48th; Major Buchan, No. 2 Co., C. R. I.; Major Henderson, 48th; Mr. W. Simpson, President of the Caledonian Society, and Mr. Alex. Muir, President of Army and Navy Veterans. Seated to the left of the Sergt.-Major were Major Delamere, Q. O. R.; Major Macdonald, 48th; Capt. Macdougall, No. 2 Co. C. R. I.; Surgeons Stewart and Dame, 48th. The vice-chairs were filled by Staff-Sergt Hays, president, and Color-Sergt. McBain, vice-president. The other guests present were, Mr. W. Mortimer Clarke, Q.C.; Mr. T. H. Litscher, Mr. W. S. Pearcey, Mr. J. Ewan, Capt. Robertson, 48th; Capt. Macgillivray, 48th; Lieuts. Ramsay and Donald, 48th; Quar.-Master-Sergeant Borland, No. 2 Co., C.R.I.; Sergt.-Major Stretton, G. G. B. G.; Sergt.-Major Spry, T.F.B; Sergt.-Major George, Q. O. R.; Sergt.-Major Cox, 10th R.G.; Staff-Sergt. Mills and Color-Sergt. Hokinson, 13th Batt., Hamilton; Colour-Sergt. Mellish, 38th Dufferin Rifles, Brantford; Colour-Sergeant Galloway, Sergt.-Instructor Belan, Sergt. Butcher, Bugle-Major Forder and Sergt. Buck, 2 Co. C. R. I.; Color-Sergt Lennox and Color-Sergt. World, Q. O. R.

The Haggis was introduced in a truly appropriate manner, the entrance of Sergts. Greatham, "A" Co., and Anderson, "D" Co., each bearing aloft a huge Haggis and preceded by Pipe-Major Ireland playing "up and warm them a' Willie," evoking rounds of applause which was continued during the parade around the tables and until the dishes were deposited opposite the president and vice-presidents of the Mess.

The brass band under Bandmaster Griffin, stationed in the ante-room, made its first appearance in public, and during the dinner discoursed a choice programme, earning well-deserved eoniums from all present at the splendid state of efficiency which had been acquired by them in such a remarkably short time. Their playing reflected great credit on their leader, and demonstrated the happy choice which had been

made in the selection of Mr. Griffin as bandmaster. The following is the programme :—

1. Quickstep. Scotland. Bracon.
2. Cavatina. Giovanna D'Arco. Verdi.
3. Selection. Scotland's Pride. Godfrey.
4. Valse. Bitter Sweet. Lawrhean.
5. Troop. Comin' thro' the Rye. Morelli.
6. Galop. Light as a Feather. Nicolai.

The toast list was commenced about 11 o'clock. The Queen being given with the customary honours.

Sergt. McEvoy then read letters of regret from Lieut.-Governor Kirkpatrick, Major-General Herbert, Lieut. Col. Otter; D.A.G., Sir Casimir Gzowski, Lieut.-Col. Sweny, Lieut.-Col. G. T. Denison, Lieut.-Col. F. C. Denison, Lieut.-Col. J. M. Gibson, Lieut.-Col. Dawson, Major Hay, Judge Macdougall, Capt. Hendrie, Chaplain Macdonnell, and to every one's surprise and amusement from Major Buchan, but in justice it must be stated that when the occasion arose the genial Major made out a thoroughly satisfactory explanation.

The Commanding Officer and Staff was given with Highland honours, and to the eye of any other nationality the sight was a treat, and showed what a poor attempt any one else but Highlanders can make at it.

This was responded to by Lieut.-Col. Davidson, Majors Cosby and Macdonald; and as the Colonel, taking his cue from a recent lecture, held that the Majors were not at all an indispensable feature, placed on them the responsibility of replying fully to this toast, contenting himself with congratulating the Mess on the success of the dinner. Major Cosby followed in a similar strain and in a similar manner, so that the bulk of the work fell upon the shoulders of Major W. C. Macdonald. That this was executed in a satisfactory manner goes without saying, and ample evidence was given, that the popularity with which Major Macdonald was held in the Queen's Own, has followed him in his promotion in the 48th.

Mr. W. Simpson then favoured the Company with a song, after which "The Canadian Militia," coupled with the names of Lieut.-Col. Gray, B.M., Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, Major Buchan and Capt. Macdougall, was duly honoured.

Lieut.-Col. Gray began by stating that he had just completed thirty-seven continuous years' service, and in the event of the grand decapitation act taking place, which the papers had recently alluded, he felt that he was still eligible to become a private in the 48th, and that with diligence and hard work he might become a corporal or better still, one of themselves. In speaking of the recent inspection he gave several interesting pointers and stated that he had found fault with the 48th for the carelessness with which the haversacks had been put away. He complimented the Queen's Own on the state of their armouries, taking into consideration the miserable accommodation they had to contend with, but stated that they had lost points through the absence of a great many keepers of the slings on the rifles.

Referring to the 13th, he stated how he caught that regiment napping. Col. Gibson, he stated, came into the Stores Department with a long list of what they required for the rifles and bayonets and on leaving the room had the misfortune to overlook the list. This was transferred to the B.M.'s pocket, with the thought that it might prove of service when a visit was paid to Hamilton. Amongst other things the list showed that rifle 125 wanted a piston for the breechlock, and that rifle 137 lacked a screw in the swivel of the guard for the sling. At the inspection, lo and behold! rifle 125 was not perfect, nor was the screw utilised on rifle 137, a regimental or yet a satisfactory one, the result being that the 13th lost points on arms.

Lieut.-Col. Hamilton followed and congratulated the 48th Sergeant's Mess on the magnificent success of their dinner. He stated that seeing so many ex-members of the Q.O.R. he felt thoroughly at home and hoped that the splendid feeling that has already characterized the two regiments would never wane. He assured the 48th that the admission of Col. Gray would, indeed, prove a valuable acquisition, but thought that the fact of his not being a Highlander would prove a fatal barrier. He expected that they would profit by the pointers that had been given them, and touching the lack of keepers on the Q.O.R. rifle slings stated that they felt secure it would not have been noticed, trusting to the old adage, "That what the eye did not see the heart will not grieve for." This did not seem to effect the B.M.'s heart, because his heart seemed to grieve for them, and although his eye did not see them his hand felt for them and lo and behold! they were not

there. The Colonel dwelt tragically on the awful result to the Q.O.R. if red-handed war was to make its appearance and they were to take the field minus those keepers, their fate would at once be sealed and the cause they fought for all but lost.

Major Buchan referred to the number of riflemen who now wore the 48th uniform, and referring to the arduous and painstaking work of Capt. Macdougall, (who was once a rifleman) stated that they owed a good deal to that branch of the service.

Capt. Macdougall was enthusiastically received, and spoke briefly of the formation of the regiment and of the formation of the sergeant's mess. He told the following story, tracing its rise from a cupboard and a few shelves. He said that he, in company with the Sergt.-Major, had set out to look for quarters, and coming to a large room thought that it would prove to be the very thing. The S.M. assented, and pointing out a large cupboard, with a few shelves, stated that that would come in very handy for—overcoats. A few nights after Capt. Macdougall thought that he would see how the Mess was getting on, and securing the services of a guide and a lantern, set out to explore. Reaching the room he found a table and a few chairs. On the table were to be seen two glasses, both empty, and a further search, in the overcoat cupboard, revealed a bottle, also empty. Without further exploration he concluded that the Sergeant's Mess was formed, and to-night felt that they should be congratulated on its progress.

Mr. F. H. Litster rendered in good style "The MacGregor Clan;" and the toast of "Canada," coupled with the name of Mr. Alex. Muir, President Army and Navy Veterans, was the next on the list.

The company sang the chorus of the "Maple Leaf," of which Mr. Muir is the author.

Mr. Muir began by stating that although he had Scotch blood in his veins, he felt that the only clan he could lay claim to was MacSemper Paratus. He stated that he was sure the 48th had none among their list of friends or members who were annexationists, none like the wandering professor who was born grumbling, lived grumbling, and would die grumbling, - and none but those who were worthy descendants of the men who first placed the Union Jack over the Citadel of Quebec and the Plains of Abraham, and through whose assistance it has waved unsullied and unstained ever since. He referred to the trials of Canada in the olden days, when, despite the then proportion of 20 to 1 to the people to the south of us, we so bravely held our own. Are we not, he said, when that proportion has to be reduced 12 to 1, any less able to take the same care of our country? He referred to the success of Canada and Canadians wherever they went, instancing how Donald Dennie had to succumb to the Canadian, Rory McLennan, and how in the world-wide competition the essay of Lt.-Col. G. T. Denison won the prize donated by the Czar of Russia. The speaker was frequently interrupted by applause, and the scene at the close, when the vast company arose and gave three hearty and heartfelt cheers, will long be remembered.

"Our Brother Non-Coms." brought responses from Sergt.-Major Stretton, G. G. B. G., Sergt.-Major Spry, T.F.B., Qmr.-Sergt. Borland, 2nd Co. C.R.I., Sergt.-Major George, Q.O.R., Sergt.-Major Cox, 10th R.G., Staff-Sergt Mills, Col.-Sergt. Atkinson, 13th, and Col.-Sergt. Mellest, 38th.

"Our Guests," was briefly replied to by Mr. W. Mortimer Clark, Q.C., and Mr. W. Simpson, President Caledonian Society, who did yeoman service in the formation of the corps, and Major Delamere, Q.O.R.

"The Ladies," responded to by Sergt. McEvoy, and "The Press" by representatives of the *Mail* and CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE completed the toast list.

Amongst the contributors to the programme were Mr. Gault, Mr. Muir, and Pipe-Major Ireland.

After the conclusion of the dinner an adjournment was made to the Mess-Room, and the festivities continued until an early hour, or rather a late hour, in the morning. A description of the menu card would not be out of place, because in the military line it has seldom, if ever, been equalled in the city, and reflects the greatest credit on the designer. In the top corner appears the crest of the regiment; in the centrepiece, bordered with thistles, appears a reproduction of a picture of the 79th on parade on the esplanade of Edinburgh Castle, the Castle appearing prominently in the back-ground; quite as conspicuous, appears the picture of a 48th Highlander in full

regimentals, and by the same token it makes one think that there is something of a resemblance to Staff-Sergt. Harp, in the attitude and statue. The reverse of the card, as a centre-piece, shows a shield surmounted by the Lion and Unicorn, and on which are inscribed the names of the Board of Management. Around these, and grouped very nicely by companies, are blocks, which contain the names of every member of the Mess.

The Committee have every reason to feel gratified at the splendid success which attended their efforts, and the fruit of their hard work was enjoyed to the fullest by all present.

The Officers of the Mess are as follows :—

Sergt.-Major A. G. Robertson.
 President—Staff-Sergt. W. Harp.
 Vice do.—Col.-Sergt. G. M. McBean.
 Secretary—Sergt. A. C. McEvoy.
 Treasurer—Color-Sergt. H. Rose.
 Committee—Color-Sergt. W. H. Stewart, Sergt. A. G. Fraser, Sergt. W. D. Davidson.

* BREECH BLOCK.

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P. W. Ellis & Co., of King street, display in their window a specimen three-quarter figure photograph of Major-General Roberts, and which, at his request, has been presented to the Canadian Military Institute.

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A valuable member of the Queen's Own shortly severs his connection with the Regiment, to accept a lucrative position in Warton. Color-Sergt. J. Agnew, "F" Co., has accepted the position of Solicitor to the town, and while deeply regretting the removal, all join in wishing that the greatest success and prosperity may accompany him to his new field. Color-Sergt. Agnew has been one of the shooting strength of the Regiment, and last year won the Cup in "F" Co. for the season's aggregate.

B. B.

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The examination of the men desiring to qualify for non-commissioned officers in the 48th Highlanders, came to a close on Monday, February 20th. The examining officers were Capt. MacDougall, No. 2 Co. C.R.I., and Col. Davidson, 48th.

The bayonet team, under Sergt. Hollinger, was also inspected, and received high praise from Capt. MacDougall, who said he had never seen it performed better. The men of the team all received certificates to show that they were competent to perform the bayonet exercise.

On the Saturday afternoon before the examination the class was photographed in front of the U. C. College, the men turned out in full dress, bonnet and kilt, and it was rather a severe test, as the afternoon was very cold.

We append the result of the examination. The possible number of marks obtainable was 500, 100 being allowed for each subject. These were Squad drill, Arm drill, Company drill, Battalion drill, and Guard mounting.

Lance-Corp. A. Beattie, "B" Company,	415	marks.
Lance-Sergt. J. Templeman, "B" Co.,	395	"
Lance-Sergt. J. Davidson, "A" Co.,	392	"
Private A. Grindley, "D" Co.,	390	"
Private G. Thomas, "F" Co.,	373	"
Sergt. A. Florence, "D" Co.,	367	"
Corporal H. Smellie, "H" Co.,	367	"
Lance-Corporal G. B. Hunter, "D" Co.,	358	"
Corp. J. C. Smith, "D" Co.,	356	"
Private S. V. Jones, "A" Co.,	353	"
Corporal J. Florence, "E" Co.,	351	"
Private T. Dawson, "D" Co.,	342	"
Private H. Craig, "E" Co.,	314	"
Private A. McGregor, "A" Co.,	312	"
Lance-Corporal A. Ogilvie, "D" Co.,	311	"
Private Gordon Smith, "D" Co.,	304	"
Corp. J. McLean, "C" Co.,	293	"
Private H. Dixon, "A" Co.,	283	"
Private T. Faulkner, "D" Co.,	281	"
Private J. McKenzie, "F" Co.,	281	"
Private J. O'Brien, "C" Co.,	276	"
Private A. Moore, "G" Co.,	269	"
Private A. Mack, "A" Co.,	253	"
Private J. Caskie, "A" Co.,	234	"

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The annual meeting of the officers of the 48th Highlanders was held on 7th inst. Major Cosby presided as Lieut.-Col. Davidson was unavoidably absent. The financial statement for the year was presented and was highly satisfactory. The amount expended for equipment, etc., for the year, was about \$25,000, of which the Government allowance was about one-sixth, the rest being subscribed by friends of the regiment. Major Henderson and Lieut. Campbell were appointed auditors. A vote of thanks was tendered Mrs. Merritt and the ladies of the city of Toronto for the colours presented to the regiment, also to D. Ritchie & Co., of Montreal, for the "Old Chum" trophy cup. Officers were then selected as follows for the year :—Regimental Committee, Capt. D. M. Robertson, Capt. D. MacGillivray, Capt. John Michie; Rifle Committee, Major Macdonald, Major Henderson, and Lieut. Ramsay; Band Committee, Major Cosby, Capt. R. S. Cassels, Capt. Currie; Mess Committee, Capt. Hendrie, Lieut. D. H. McLean and Assistant Surgeon Dame. Regimental drill will begin shortly. It is about decided that the regiment will go to Hamilton on May 24th. There is still some talk of going to Chicago this summer, but a definite decision has not yet been arrived at. A large number of recruits are joining the recent classes.

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The third annual meeting of the shareholders of the Canadian Military Institute was held on 6th inst. The following officers were elected: Directors, Capt. A. B. Lee, Q.O.R.; Mr. R. C. LeVesconte, Q.O.R.; Major W. C. Macdonald, 48th Highlanders; Dr. J. E. Elliott, T.F.B.; Major T. D. Hay, R.G.; Capt. J. Sloan, G.G.B.G.; Mr. Robert Myles, T. F.B.; Capt. J. C. McGee, Q.O.R.; Capt. G. P. Eliot, late R.G.; Sec.-Treas., Mr. H. F. Wyatt. After the election of officers Lieut.-Col. H. Smith, D.A.G., London, delivered a lecture on "The Best Mode of Enlisting and Training a City Corps of the Active Militia Under Existing Conditions," Major Mason, of the Royal Grenadiers, in the chair. There was a good attendance. The speaker, although a permanent corps officer, was not in favour of a larger standing force, and believed thoroughly in defence by the people and for the people. The authorities in Canada have decided on the armament, pay, and equipment, and the militiamen have accepted the situation. The force was not a mercenary one; it gave more than it received. He was opposed to the militia covering up the weakness of the system by voluntary contributions of funds and equipment. In the naval militia the men are enlisted for the company and not for the battalion. In the city corps men are taken on for the battalion. The commanding officer is responsible to the authorities for the efficiency, but has nothing to say as to the selection of the rank and file, and in practice he has very little to say, the company officers having the selection of the men. No man should, he said, be permitted to take part in battalion drill until he had been thoroughly instructed in all his drills. There was too much show and too little utility for the money spent. The lecture was much appreciated, and Lieut.-Col. Smith received a hearty vote of thanks for his trouble. Mr. Marshall P. Wilder and Lieut.-Col. Prior, M.P., paid the Institute a visit, and were warmly received.

KINGSTON.

At the conclusion of the recent hockey match between the R. M. C. Cadets and the officers of the 1st Prince of Wales' Rifles, the Montrealers were right royally entertained by the Cadets at the Military College. It was one of the most enjoyable little suppers given in this city for a long time—it could hardly help being such, for the *menu* was good and all present were "Jolly good fellows." The health of both teams and the ladies were enthusiastically honored and ably responded to, Captain Lefevre being particularly happy in his remarks. After the bill of fare had been fully enjoyed, an adjournment was made to the music room, where speeches, songs, etc., were enjoyed. A number of ladies were present, and the additional presence of wit, beauty and high spirits made the evening pass all too quickly. At 12 o'clock Capt. Lefevre suggested that, being in Her Majesty's service, the Cadets and the Rifles had better retire at a seasonable hour, and accordingly the gathering broke up, all expressing the sentiment, "Happy to meet and loth to part." But the Rifles were not to escape so easily—they yet had to undergo

another "trial." A number of members of the 14th Battalion captured their Montreal friends and entertained them at the Club room until about 2 a. m., when they accompanied the Montrealers to the depot and gave them a "send-off" in the shape of three hearty cheers. The jolly Montrealers expressed themselves as immensely pleased with their visit to and their reception in this city.

* * *

On the same evening, two rinks of Montreal Club Curlers, who had been playing the Kingston Club, were entertained at an oyster supper by the officers of "A" Battery. The supper took place at the Tete du Pont barracks, and an enjoyable time was spent.

* * *

Major-General Herbert, commandant of the Canadian Militia, accompanied by Lieut.-Col. D. T. Irwin, Inspector of Artillery, were in this city from the 7th to the 9th, making the first general inspection this year of "A" Battery, R.C.A. The last time the General was here he was accompanied by Capt. Streatfield, A. D. C., whose services were not needed this time, owing to the able Inspector of Artillery himself being in a position to attend. The first day was devoted to a thorough inspection of the Regimental books and accounts, which were found to be correct in every particular, reflecting great credit on the Master Gunner of the Battery, who had the preparation of them. The General also listened to several complaints from non-commissioned officers and men, but did not think any of the cases serious enough to warrant his interference with the judgment of their own commanding officer. On Thursday morning the Garrison Division, Field Section, Signallers, &c., paraded on the Barrack square at nine o'clock, and headed by the regimental band, marched to a parade ground which had been selected on the ice in the harbor opposite "Shoal Tower," taking up a position in line at open order in front of the saluting base. They had just got well into position when the General and Col. Irwin appeared, mounted, and Lt.-Col. van Straubenzee, D. A. G., on foot. The Garrison division presented arms, and the band played the "general salute." Arms were shouldered, and the General rode up and down the ranks, making many comments, favorable and unfavorable, on different individual members of the corps. Referring to the band, he said that on all his parades he wanted to see the band parade in the ranks, as they were but a privilege, not a necessity. The march past then took place, the Field Section with three nine-pounder R.M.L. guns mounted on the "Drury" gun sleds and a spare limber and extra ammunition box mounted on a carriage of the same style, went past at close interval in fine style. The Garrison Division went past in quick time, commanded by Lieut. Burstall. Owing to the recent thaws here the slush was from three to four inches thick on the ice, making it impossible for the men to march very steadily, which brought forth the remark from the General, "very bad indeed; they march like a lot of recruits." He was nearer the truth than a good many people generally are when they say anything on the spur of the moment, for over half of the Garrison Section of the Battery *are* recruits, as men for the Field Section are all drafted from their ranks, leaving nearly all recruits with the Garrison Section. The march past in quarter column was a little better than the column movement. Both the Garrison and Field Sections then went past at the double and trot respectively, in exceedingly good order, after which the Garrison was marched back to barracks, to prepare for kit inspection. The Field Section then ranked past, and General Herbert called out Major Drury, Capt. Hudon and Lieut. Gaudet, complimenting them highly on the efficiency of the Field Section, stating that he had been talking to Capt. Boileau of the Royal Artillery, Halifax, who had been in Kingston for a few days, and had seen the Field Section at practice on the ice, and had told him they were perfection itself; he was, therefore, prepared for something good, but did not think the Field Section would be up to the high standard of excellence that they showed to-day, they being really the best he had seen since he came to Canada. Major Drury then galloped his command far out to the middle of the Lake, where they were halted. action left, and by means of range finders, the distance to two trees placed so as to represent one flank of an opposing battery was ascertained. The range finders gave the result at 1950 yards, the first shot was, therefore, fired at that elevation, but struck short. The elevation for the second shot was raised 200

yards and went over. The third shot was fired at 2000 yards elevation, and struck exactly at the top of the trees, demonstrating the good work of the range finders, who were only 50 yards out on their calculations, a mere trifle in battery firing. After a few rounds had been fired at the above range they advanced towards the targets and the range finders again showed the accuracy of their reckonings, for the distance at which they halted was immediately found to be 1,000 yards, the first shot taking effect alongside of one of the trees. After the firing was finished the Section returned to barracks and were dismissed to "stables." The General then made the round of the barrack rooms where the men had their kits laid out for General Kit Inspection; all the stores and regimental necessaries were found to be in good order with the exception of one room where the General asked to have one of the regimental blacking boxes opened so as to see what kind of blacking was used, this was done, but the peculiar part of it is that every box was found to be empty; whether this room used some other polish I do not know, mentioning it simply to show the thoroughness with which the inspection was carried out, details, even to the smallest, being looked into and commented upon. Taking all in all, the General was more than pleased with the Field Section; there was much room for improvement in the other ranks, everything not being just what it should be. He did not know that "A" Battery was to be exchanged with "B" Battery in six months as had been stated by an officer here. He could not say that Lieut.-Colonel Van Straubenzee, D.A.G., was to be shelved; further than the remarks made by the Minister of Militia on the floor of the House the General had no knowledge of the matter. Hon. Mr. Patterson had said that another officer's duties would be coupled with that of Deputy-Adjutant-General. In regard to the Kingston Board of Trade securing the site of the Tete de Pont Barracks for an elevator, a report of the matter would be presented to him and the choosing of a new site for the barracks, if so it was desired, would be his duty. During his stay here he was registered at the Hotel Frontenac and was entertained by the officers of the R.C.A. at mess on Wednesday night.

The General and Colonel Irwin left for Ottawa on Wednesday afternoon.

* * *

Staff-Sergt. Patrick Coughlan of "A" Battery having been appointed caretaker of the city drill shed, has moved into quarters there. This appointment is only a temporary one, his name being still carried on the strength of the Battery, being struck off from pay and rations only. This appointment puts the right man in the right place, although the Battery loses a very efficient Paymaster's Clerk by his acceptance of the position.

* * *

As spring is now near at hand the interest in rifle shooting is again being revived, and in the various military messes here, the topic of conversation generally leads to discussing the kind of rifle that will be used in connection with the League the coming season. The general opinion here, as in other places, being in favour of the Martini-Henry. The efforts of Major Sam Hughes, M.P., for the procuring of cheap ammunition are also enthusiastically endorsed, and the result will be watched with great interest.

* * *

Capt. W. J. B. White has been appointed Quartermaster of the 14th P.W.O. Rifles, vice the late Major Spriggs, Capt. Bruce Carruthers succeeding to the command of "F" Company.

* * *

The *Army and Navy Gazette* states, that the Secretaries for War and India and H. R. H. the Commander-in-Chief, have expressed their appreciation of the good services performed by several officers, among whom was mentioned the name of Lieut. Twining (of the R. M. C.) of the Indian establishment, on the survey of the proposed railway from Mombosa to Victoria Nyanza.

* * *

In speaking of the inspection of "A" Battery there is one thing that cannot well be overlooked, and that is the difference in the efficiency of the Garrison and Field Sections. The reason it exists is put down by some to be simply this: It is a well-known fact that both Major Drury and Major Wilson are in command of "A" and "B" Batteries respect-

ively, each having control of the Garrison and Field Sections in their respective stations; it stands to reason that one of the branches, either mounted or foot, is bound to advance at the expense of the other, for no officer can keep two batteries, for it amounts to that, one a garrison and the other a field battery, in a good efficient state and at the same time be cognizant of all the minor details of the work of each, which is what the officers in command of these Batteries have to do; and the natural taste of the commanding officer for one of the two branches will incline him to devote more pains to it than to the other, as witness the dashing appearance and efficiency of the Field section of "A" Battery and likewise the fine Garrison division they have at "B" Battery. In short, at Kingston the Field is kept up at the expense of the Garrison and in Quebec the Field is sacrificed to the advancement of the Garrison.

STEINSALES.

* * *

Referring to the first item that appeared in this column in issue of 1st Feb., we have been requested by the authorities of the Royal Military College to make further inquiry into the matter. The party who furnished the item to our correspondent now declines to give any further information. As he has been notified of the enquiry—especially with reference to the R. M. C.,—we take it for granted that the insinuation had no reference to that institution.

QUEBEC.

The arrival of Major-General Herbert in this city at the latter part of February, which was in a great measure unexpected, resulted in "A" Troop, Regiment Canadian Dragoons and "B" Battery, R.C.A., receiving orders to march out to the Falls of Montmorency on the 28th ult. This order was carried out with a satisfactory result, the G.O.C. having expressed himself as pleased with the manner in which they had acquitted themselves.

* * *

Major-General Herbert was accompanied by Captain E. Streatfield, A.D.C., and Mr. Fred. W. White, U.L. The latter gentleman had to remain in the city in connection with a Board appointed to look into the matter of the late fire at the Government Cartridge Factory; at the completion of their investigation he returned to Ottawa.

* * *

Mr. H. du P. Casgrain, Royal Engineers, who has been spending some months in Canada, on leave, left the city on the 13th inst. to return to England to rejoin his corps.

* * *

The Regimental Orders of the 8th Royal Rifles, under date 2nd inst., called for the issue of clothing on the 6th, 7th and 8th instants, and for a parade of the Regiment on the 10th instant to commence their Annual Drill. In accordance with the above the Regiment commenced their annual training on Friday last and will parade on every Tuesday and Friday evenings until further orders. This parade was marked in a special manner as being the first appearance of Lieut-Col. George R. White as commanding officer of the regiment and the first appearance in public of the new band. The parade as usual on such occasions was not strong in point of numbers.

A few words with reference to the band may not be out of place in view of the fact that the organization of the same took place but some four or five months ago, and the members composing it having had little or no knowledge of music prior to their enrolling for that purpose, the result can be considered as exceeding the anticipations of the most sanguine, as to their being able to parade at so short a date.

From the "fall in" to the termination of this the initial performance in public of the band, the members of the regiment and spectators had an opportunity of witnessing a change from the usual custom followed in the past. Instead of playing at the halt, the bands, both brass and bugle, performed on the march, the countermarching at the end of the hall being done in a most creditable manner. The officers are to be congratulated upon their selection of Bandmaster Hutchison, and who was deservedly complimented by the commanding officer and others upon the good result obtained within such a short time.

* * *

The promotion of Major White to the command of the regiment has created a vacancy in the majority which has not as yet been filled. With the exception of Mr. H. J. Hussey, who has been told off for duty with "F" Co., no change appears in the *personnel* of the company officers.

* * *

At a meeting of the officers held recently it was decided to hold the annual regimental sports in the near future, and a committee was appointed for that purpose.

R. M. C., No. 47.

OTTAWA.

The Guards can now claim to be the military hockey champions of Ottawa. On the 2nd inst. they added to their long list of victories by defeating a team from the 43rd Battalion by six goals to two. C. Kirby was referee, and A. S. Pittaway and Dr. Grant acted as umpires. The teams were as follows:—

G.G.F.G.—Major W. E. Hodgins, Lieut. D. Watters, Sergt. Grant, Corp. Bentley, Lieut. Adamson, Pte. Muchlestone and Capt. P. B. Taylor.

43rd Battalion.—Pte. Savage, Pte. S. Rosenthal, Lieut. Cameron, Capt. McKay, Lieut. W. T. Lawless, Capt. S. M. Rogers, and Lieut. McLean.

* * *

The G.G.F.G. commenced the season's drill on the 3rd March, when Lieut.-Col. Toller announced that it was his intention to take the battalion to Quebec for Dominion Day, leaving Ottawa on June 30th, and returning on the evening of the 2nd of July. The regiment will drill for the present by half battalions, right half every Monday, and left half every Friday.

* * *

On Wednesday, the 8th inst., the examination for the non-commissioned officers and men, who have been attending the Guards class of instruction, was held in the Drill Shed, before a Board consisting of Major W. E. Hodgins, Capt. P. B. Taylor, and Lieut. E. F. Taylor. The following were the results:—

Sergeants' Certificates—Lance-Corp. Mollatt, Sergt. Law, Corp. Staples, Sergt. Burch, Corp. Rogers.

Corporal's Certificates—Corp. Herbot, Pte. Law, Pte. St. Aubin, Pte. Hillman, Corps. Law, Herriott, Walker, Kauffman and Cross, and Sergt. Bowzer.

Lance-Corporal's Certificates—Ptes. Thomas, McEachern, Drummond and Brown.

HAMILTON.

The following orders have been issued to the Hamilton Field Battery:—In accordance with G.O. 10, dated Ottawa, Feb. 3, 1893, the Hamilton Field Battery will be in readiness to proceed to Camp Niagara, for the annual drill, on a date which will be notified hereafter. All officers, non-commissioned officers and men will govern themselves accordingly.

Referring to the inspection report of field batteries, G. O. 45, Nov. 25, 1892, it will be seen that, notwithstanding the twenty-one marks lost through the unavoidable absence of an officer, the Hamilton Field Battery is second in general efficiency, being nine marks behind the first corps. The Battery won the Lansdowne Cup, second efficiency, and second Gzowski drill and driving competition.

Having been in command of the Hamilton Field Battery for ten annual trainings, Major Van Wagner asks the loyal assistance of every officer, non-commissioned officer and man to make the next annual drill of the Battery a greater success than ever.

The Battery will parade for drill every Thursday evening, until further orders. H. P. VAN WAGNER, Major commanding Hamilton Field Battery.

* * *

Instead of the usual annual dinner, "D" Company of the 13th Battalion decided this year to hold a smoking concert, which duly came off on 20th ult. That the affair was a success, goes without saying, and few regretted the change. The whole of the second floor at the eastern end of the Drill

(Continued on page 90.)

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All communications and remittances should be addressed to the Editor, P.O. Box 387, Montreal.

VOL. VIII. MONTREAL, 15TH MARCH, 1893. No. 6

The Militia Estimates 1893-4.

Instead of increasing grants for military purposes during the financial year 1893-4, the estimates recently submitted to Parliament show a decided and unwelcome reduction. The figures for 1892-3 were \$1,271,900, while those for the coming year are \$1,256,382. The decrease is due to proposed reduction in the following items:—

Salaries and wages of civil employees.....	\$ 5,825 00
Military properties, works and buildings.....	5,500 00
Dominion Cartridge Factory.....	10,000 00
Military Institute, Toronto.....	100 00
	\$11,425 00

Against this, there are increases in

Pay of staff, permanent corps and active militia..	\$4,050 00
Sundry expenses.....	1,857 00
	\$5,907 00
Showing a net reduction of.....	\$15,518 00

The total authorized expenditure is:—

Pay of staff, permanent corps and active militia, including allowances.....	\$ 575,782 00
Salaries and wages of civil employees.....	50,000 00
Military properties, works and buildings.....	91,000 00
Warlike and other stores.....	66,700 00
Clothing and necessaries.....	62,000 00
Provisions, supplies and remounts.....	179,600 00
Transport and freight.....	68,500 00
Grants in aid of artillery and rifle associations and bands.....	35,800 00
Miscellaneous and unforeseen contingencies....	15,000 00
Royal Military College of Canada.....	70,000 00
Dominion Cartridge Factory.....	40,000 00
Monuments for battlefields of Canada.....	2,000 00
	\$1,256,382 00

The figures are disappointingly small; we had hoped that a substantial increase would have taken place instead of a decrease. The Government are evidently determined to make no effort to remedy the cancer which eats the life out of the rural battalions—insufficient pay. This refers only to second and third year men—not recruits; fifty cents a day is ample for men who have to be taught everything. But after

the experience of the first year, they are more valuable to the country, and should get—when attending camp, and away from their work—some additional remuneration. There is an element of business in the matter, and it should be looked at in a business-like way.

The reduction in the vote for the Quebec Cartridge Factory must surely be but temporary; the output of ammunition now is sufficient to supply little more than the current demands for practice purposes, and the coming season promises to be a very busy one in this respect on account of the practical abolition of the Snider and the interest all will feel in shooting with the Martini. It is probable that the production of Snider ammunition will now cease, or nearly so, and that at a later stage ample provision will be made in the Supplementary Estimates for a larger out-put of Martini cartridges. It is to be hoped that the authorities will from this time out, keep in store a large reserve stock of the new ammunition, for use in case of emergency; this is especially necessary in the District centres west of Lake Superior.

The withdrawal of the \$100 from the Canadian Military Institute is a paltry piece of business, on a par with the action of the Quebec Government in refusing to assist its own Provincial Rifle Association. Surely the new Minister will not permit his first batch of Estimates to be sullied by the withdrawal of a trivial sum from an institution which is doing better work for the higher interests of the forces than has been effected by any person, club, or association in the Dominion.

The grant of \$2,000 for monuments on our battlefields is a most praiseworthy one. It is anything but creditable that scarcely a single monument exists on Canadian battlefields to indicate to our children or to the stranger how the American invader was beaten back, not once but a dozen times, by British troops and Canadian Militia in the last war. The Niagara peninsula is especially rich in historic memories, and it is to be hoped a beginning in monument-raising will there be made without delay. To the Lundy's Lane Historical Society especial praise is due for their zeal and perseverance in urging on this matter.

The Efficiency Returns.

The *Canada Gazette* of the 25th Feb. completes the returns of comparative efficiency for the Infantry of Districts 5 to 11 as well as for the Cavalry of the whole Dominion. We have much pleasure in congratulating the Sixth Fusiliers of Montreal, not only for winning the trophy kindly presented by Sir Donald Smith for the most efficient Corps in No. 5 District, but also in ranking the highest among all the Infantry Corps of the Dominion. Its percentage of marks (119 5-8) is a very high one, considerably in excess of the second and third on the list, which are respectively the 63rd and 66th Batts., both of Halifax. The high rank obtained by the former Corps (63rd) apparently confutes the reports of internal dissension which were current last summer; if they existed they certainly did not effect the drill and appearance of the Battalion at inspection. The small but efficient St. John Rifle Company stands very high with 104 points; in fact the whole ten corps included in districts 8 and 9 show the high average of 94.5 points, an exceptionally good showing, considering that six out of the ten are rural corps. In Montreal the 3rd "Victorias" come next to the Sixth, with an average of 93½ points, followed by the Fifth "Royal Scots" with 83½; the latter figures would however have been very greatly increased had it not been that, through some oversight, the target practice returns were not sent in in time and the battalion consequently does not obtain a single mark for this branch. This is much to be regretted.

The allotment of marks to the Cavalry varies more even than to the Infantry. The King's Canadian Hussars of King's Co. N.S., are away ahead of all others with 130 points to their credit, the Winnipeg Dragoons coming next with 98, tying the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards of Ottawa. The 8th "Princess Louise" Hussars of New Brunswick follow closely with 93½ and the figures then drop off gradually to 54¾ which is gained by a corps that everyone expected would have taken a far higher rank in the competition.

The Quebec Border Corps.

The low percentage of marks obtained by the rural corps stationed along the frontier in the Province of Quebec is not particularly reassuring when we consider that on them a great deal would depend in the case of a sudden invasion of the Province in the direction of Montreal or Quebec. The 58th Battalion, of Megantic, ranks highest of the whole nine battalions concerned and its marks are only 52.15; the figures then drop rapidly downwards to 23.14 which is the total allotment to the 60th Battalion of Missisquoi, a six company regiment stationed close to the border and on whom fell a great deal of the brunt of the last Fenian Raid. It is evident that special attention to these corps during the coming summer is necessary. It must be remembered, however, that they of course have the same great drawback to contend against as have all the other rural battalions, viz., the lack of financial encouragement for men to return to camp after the first year, which is always a trying one. The excellent figure obtained by the 53rd of Sherbrooke (a city corps) favours the long desired increase of its strength from four to six companies as well as being a good index to the satisfactory results that would in all probability attend the establishment of a Field Battery in that growing city, to take the place of the one recently disbanded at Richmond.

Too Many Inspecting Officers.

The great drawback to these figures giving the proper standing of the various corps inspected is that they are not all allotted by the same officer. This is especially noteworthy in the case of the Cavalry, in which, out of eleven regiments and troops inspected there have been no less than nine different officers making the necessary examinations, almost all of whom are, while on the Staff, from the Infantry, and naturally more conversant with the details of that branch of the Service. What is wanted is that *one* officer, and an experienced Cavalry officer at that, be appointed to inspect all the Cavalry during the season, and that he alone be responsible for the allotment of marks. Until this is done there will be more or less dissatisfaction with the published figures.

The Medical Service of the Militia.

It was pointed out in these columns, in the special number of December 15th, last, that the wants of the medical service were many and urgent. These statements have been fully verified by the debate on the Militia estimates on Feb. 10th Surgeon-General Bergin stated, during the discussion, that he had not been consulted, relative to his branch of the service, since 1888. It is not too much to say that such a state of affairs is scandalous and detrimental to the public interest. We are now pleased to learn from the *Empire* that Dr. Bergin, accompanied by Dr. Ryerson, M.P.P., secretary of the Association of Medical Officers of the Militia, had last week an interview with the Minister of Militia, and that the honorable head of the Department has promised a thorough investigation into the medical service, and a complete re-organization, should the report of the Surgeon-General warrant it. Dr. Bergin will visit all the Camps of Instruction, and will probably be sent to Washington and to the State Camp of the National Guard of the State of New York.

That much good will come from Dr. Bergin's report is undoubted. It has been insinuated that the Surgeon-General has not shown the interest in the service which might fairly have been expected of him. We are, however, inclined to believe that had he had in the past the working of the Medical Officers Association, there would have been no opportunity to decry him.

A Blow at Slavery.

It is impossible to draw too much attention to the fact that the greatest of all uses to which the naval and military forces of Great Britain and Europe could be employed would be as vigorous and persistent action towards the suppression of the accursed traffic in human bodies and souls which makes Africa in truth the "Dark Continent." In this connection it is pleasing to note that British forces have recently placed a new Sultan on the throne of Zanzibar, on the east coast of Africa, a kingdom which has since 1890 been under the protectorate of England. On the death of Ali bin Said recently his son Kalid claimed the throne. He seized the royal palace and fortified himself against attack. According to the Mohammedan law as recognized in Zanzibar, Hamid bin Thwain, the son of a deceased brother of the late Sultan, had a prior claim to the throne. The commander of H. M. S. *Philomel* landed a body of marines, surrounded the place, and demanded the abdication of Kalid. Being intimidated by the presence of British soldiers the usurper surrendered, and Hamid was proclaimed Sultan in his stead. To all intents and purposes this makes Zanzibar a British possession, and means the immediate total suppression of slave-trading in that district. May the end of this century see such a crusade undertaken by all the Great Powers as will sweep Africa from sea to sea, and purge it of the damnable system which mocks the christianity and civilization of the age.

The Petition from the Lower Canada Veterans of 1837-8.

As will be seen by reference to another column, Major Alex. Daly, who for many months has had in hand the obtaining of signatures to a petition to the Queen from the surviving loyal veterans of '37-8, died suddenly a short time ago. A few days before his demise he entrusted us with the document to make the necessary arrangements for its being forwarded, in due time, through the proper channels, for transmission to Her Majesty, and his executors have, since his death, confirmed this action, and given over to us all the correspondence and papers on the subject. In a few days the petition will be sent forward; should this reach the eye of any one who has not yet signed, they are requested to communicate at once with the editor of this paper. Full particulars of the movement will from time to time be published in our columns.

The officer commanding one of the leading infantry battalions in New Brunswick, writes us as follows:—

"The information asked for by you for publication in the *MILITARY GAZETTE*, from the commanders of corps throughout the Dominion, will be the placing on record of many interesting facts connected with the early settlement of various localities in the Provinces, the distinctive features of which will be of great value to the historian. Every officer and man in the force will be profited by reading of brave deeds performed by his brother in arms, when opportunities have been offered, and an *esprit de corps* aroused to vie with each other in what is good or great, either as citizen or soldier.

* * *

Those who imagine that service in the Army is unpopular, will be surprised to learn that the total number of recruits enlisted during 1892 was 42,000, an increase of 6,000 over the figures of 1891. There's no end of life in the old dog yet.

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, gattling 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.

* * *

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.

* * *

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.

* * *

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.

* * *

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.

MONTREAL.

THE MONTREAL MILITARY INSTITUTE.

This association is now an accepted fact and reality. As noted in our last issue, the meeting held on the 18th ult. decided on immediate organization, adopted a name, and appointed a committee to formulate constitution and by-laws. This latter course was duly carried out, and the adjourned meeting of the Institute, to receive the report, and for general business, was held in the quarters of the Sixth Fusiliers on Saturday evening, 4th inst. Lieut.-Col. Burland and his officers were the hosts on this occasion, and the reception of their guests was a most cordial one. At 8:30 Lieut.-Col. Butler, the *pro tem* president, called the meeting to order. In the absence of Major Radiger through illness, Captain Edwards acted as secretary. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and adopted, the chairman read the report of the committee on name, constitution and by-laws. The name is to be the Montreal Military Institute. The constitution (with some slight changes) is similar to that of the Institute at Toronto. The entrance fee was placed at three dollars for resident members, and two dollars for non-resident members; the entrance fee being in place of the first years' dues, which will be the same amount annually. The annual general meeting is to be held on the fourth Monday in February. The constitution was put through clause by clause, and then the whole was carried unanimously. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Lieut.-Col. Butler; 1st vice-president, Lieut.-Col. Prevost; 2nd vice-president, Lieut.-Col. Massey; 3rd vice-president, Lieut.-Col. Starke; secretary, Major Radiger; treasurer, Lieut.-Col. Cole; committee, Lieut.-Col. Burland, Lieut.-Col. McArthur, Lieut.-Col. Dixon, Major Strathy, Lieutenant Costigan, Lieut.-Col. Aubry, Lieut.-Col. Brosseau, Lieut.-Col. Turnbull, Capt. Edwards; auditors, Major Seath and Capt. Ross.

With regard to subscription, there was some discussion on the subject of making it permissible for a battalion to enter its officers for membership *en bloc*, on payment of a certain sum; it was decided to leave the matter over for the present.

At the conclusion of the business, Lieut.-Col. Prevost invited the Institute to hold their next fortnightly meeting at the quarters of the Sixty-fifth Battalion, on Saturday, 18th March; needless to say the invitation was accepted.

Lieut.-Col. Burland and officers now led the way into the supper-room, where a splendid collation was spread. After full justice had been done to this, songs and general conversation formed the wind-up to a very pleasant and profitable evening.

Among the officers present were Lieut.-Cols. Mattice, B. M., Butler, Massey, Prevost, Brosseau, Turnbull, Starke, Cole, Dixon, Burland, Surgeon-Major Campbell, Majors McArthur and Seath, and about thirty-five junior officers.

Those who have signed the first papers, and who become the Charter members, are as follows:—Lieut.-Cols. Houghton, D. A. G.; Mattice, B. M.; Cole, M. G. A.; Butler, 1st Batt.; Starke, 3rd Batt.; Burland, 6th; Prevost, 65th; Aubry, 85th; Dixon, 86th; Turnbull, R. L.; Massey, R. L.; Surgeon-Major Campbell, C. R. I.; Majors Roy, B. M., McArthur, 6th Cavalry; Cooke, 1st Batt.; Finlayson, 1st; Radiger, 3rd; Blaiklock, 5th; Macaulay, 6th; Seath, 6th; Des Trois Maisons, 85th; D'Orsennens, 85th; Captains Reid, M. G. A.; McEwan, M. G. A.; Lefebvre, 1st Batt.; Bartlett, 1st; Porteous, 1st; Simpson, 1st; Rodden, 3rd; Lydon, 5th; Mitchell, 6th; Newman, 6th; Ostell, 65th; Carriere, 85th; Macpherson, R. L.; Edwards, R. L.; Lieuts. Costigan, M. F. B.; Baldon, M. G. A.; Verry, M. G. A.; Dobbin, 1st Batt.; Mackeand, 3rd; Findlay, 6th; Denison, 6th; Dansereau, 65th; Pelletier, 65th; Parent, 65th; Roy, 65th; Beauchamp, 65th; Lippe, 85th; Belanger, 85th; Lefebvre, 85th.

* * *

On 9th inst, Lieut.-Col. Cole, delivered the third of the series of regimental lectures to the members of the Montreal Brigade of Garrison Artillery. There was a large attendance of members of the Brigade and their friends, including many ladies; Lieut.-Col. Turnbull presided, and Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D. A. G., and other representatives of the city corps were present.

The subject of the lecture was "The Fortified Stations of the British Empire," and its intrinsic interest was greatly increased by the exhibition of a large number of lantern views illustrating many of the forts and stations mentioned by the

lecturer. The paper began by calling attention to the growth and magnitude of the British Empire, its liberties, its naval and military strength. A beginning was then made at London, and the attention of those present was then directed to all the fortified stations on the British Isles. The particulars of these were entirely new to most, if not to all, of the audience, and were of extreme interest as showing the very great attention that has been paid to the defence of the "tight little island" during the last half century.

Leaving Britain, the lecturer gave some details of the defences of Heligoland and the Channel Islands. Gibraltar was then reached and a very full and interesting description of this renowned fortress was given. One of the most attractive illustrations of the series was presented in this connection, showing a fine view of the Rock and in the foreground the parade of the Indian Army before H. R. H. the Prince of Wales some fifteen years ago. After Gibraltar, Malta was described and illustrated; then came Alexandria, Aden, Zanzibar, Cape Colony, Cape Coast Castle, Sierra Leone, and the Islands of Mauritius and St. Helena. In connection with several of the African stations, mention was made of the late Capt. Huntley Mackay, R. M. C., who had proved such an excellent representative of Canadian skill in the Imperial service, and whose death two years ago was so universally regretted. The lecturer informed us that the fortifications at Sierra Leone were chiefly erected under Captain Mackay's superintendence.

Crossing to India, the defences of Ceylon were first touched on and then came Bombay, Calcutta, Quetta, Delhi, Cawnpore, Lucknow, Agra, and other Indian cities and forts. Many of these possess an especially sad interest from the massacres and bloodshed by the Sepoys during the Indian Mutiny. The history and present condition of these points were well summarized and the illustrations very appropriate. Burmah (India's latest acquisition) was next referred to, followed by descriptions of the chief cities and forts in Australia. Our attention was then directed to the British West Indies, the Bermudas, British Guiana, British Honduras, finishing up with our own country, from Victoria to Halifax. Many particulars of the fortifications at Esquimalt, Kingston, Quebec and Halifax were given, especially of the last mentioned important station.

This brought the very entertaining lecture to a close and a vote of thanks, proposed by Lieut.-Col. Houghton, and seconded by Capt. Edwards, was unanimously carried.

The lantern views shown were clear and effective; those of Alexandria and the Egyptian campaign of 1882 were especially good, while the *esprit de corps* of the Brigade was well brought out at the exhibition of some views of the M. G. A. when at Regina during the North-West Campaign of 1885.

* * *

The 16th Annual Meeting of the 5th "Royal Scots of Canada" Rifle Association was held at the Armory, on Monday evening, 13th inst, Major Strathy in the Chair. Amongst those present were Majors Strathy, Ibbotson and Blaiklock; Captains Rankin and Ibbotson; Color-Sergt. Currie, Pipe-Sergt. Clark, Pte. D. Smith, Bugler Broadhurst, Sergt. Moore.

The minutes of the last annual meeting having been read, the secretary-treasurer presented his financial report, showing a balance on hand of \$4.11.

The following were elected office bearers:—

Hon. President—Lieut.-Col. Caverhill.

Hon. Vice-President—Major Lyman.

President—Major Strathy.

Vice-President—Major Ibbotson.

2nd Vice-President—Capt. Gault.

Committee—Major Blaiklock, Capt. Cameron, Sergt.-Major Niven, Col.-Sergt. Currie, "A" Co., Sergt. Bethune, "B" Co., Hospital-Sergt. Moore, "C" Co., Pipe-Sergt. Clark, "D" Co., Bugler Broadstreet, "E" Co., Col.-Sergt. Goldsack "F" Co.

Secretary-Treasurer—Capt. Rankin.

Assistant Do. —Color-Sergt. Currie.

Executive Officer—Capt. Lydon.

Auditors—(Qr.-Master-Sergt. Tabb,
Pte. W. A. Smith.

Representative to P. Q. R. A.—Major Ibbotson.

Do " M. A. R. A. { Major Blaiklock,
Major Ibbotson,
Bugler Broadstreet,
Col.-Sergt. Currie.

It was unanimously decided to run the Association this year without asking the friends of the regiment for prizes either in money or kind.

It was moved, seconded and carried, "That if the League Matches were to be shot this year with the Snider rifle, that the 5th Royal Scots should take no part in them."

It was decided that the annual matches be held on the Saturday before the day fixed for the inspection of the corps, and that the Martini rifle only be used in all competitions except the "Nursery."

Major Ibbottson was appointed captain of the team for 1893.

There being no further business the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

* * *

In the Royal Scots it has been decided to drill weekly by half-battalions, the right-half battalion every Tuesday, the left half every Thursday.

* * *

Messrs. Kenneth Campbell, jr., and Dixon Miller have been appointed Second-Lieutenants in the Royal Scots. The first-named gentleman is a son of Major Kenneth Campbell, who was so long and honourably connected with the regiment in days gone by.

WINNIPEG.

With the usual military discipline and promptitude the officers and men of "A" company, 90th Batt., responded to the call given for the annual dinner which took place in Clougher's dining hall on night of 6th inst., and a rare time was spent. The number present, judging from the remarks covering weekly drills, was much larger than at any meeting of the company that has taken place recently and from all that was said it is thought this enjoyable event will be an incentive to make all future drill nights an encouragement to both officers and men, by a full attendance.

The invited guests were Col. Villiers, D.A.G., Col. Boswell, Major Arnold, Major Ruttan and Capt. Billman. After the supper was satisfactorily disposed of, the toasts of the Queen, commanding officer, officers, non-commissioned officers and rank and file followed.

The toast of the Commanding Officer was replied to by the gallant Colonel, and the boys received many compliments for the interest displayed in the company and of the company itself he gave them wise advice and hoped to see them all work together. The roll showed that the company had recruited more men than any other company in the battalion during the past three years.

The Colonel then proposed the toast of the Officers, which was heartily drunk, and followed with the strains of "They are jolly good fellows." Capt. Chambre, Lieut. Goulding and Jackson made suitable replies.

Capt. Chambre gave a short sketch of the progress made by the company and said that besides being the largest, numbering 49 officers and men, it was the best attended of any company of the battalion at their regular drills.

Lieut. Goulding spoke in a pleasing way of his connection with the company and the interest he had in all the drills.

Lieut. Jackson was very humorous and said he was going to stay with the company until he was permitted no longer to be connected with it. He also felt that if a young shot was sent to Ottawa it was a foregone conclusion that such would necessarily be found in the ranks of "A" company, and that it was a foregone conclusion that the prize was to be won. Sergt. Smith replied to the toast of the non-commissioned officers, and privates Tuson and Milton on behalf of the men, spoke very entertainingly. The press was the last toast and the company adjourned to the parlors, where the distribution of prizes took place, followed by a short programme.

The prizes which were won at the rifle range last autumn were presented as follows by Col. Boswell:

First aggregate—Corporal Stead.

Second aggregate—Private Worthington.

Third aggregate—Sergt. McAllister.

500 yards—1, Corporal Hall; 2, Privates Worthington and Robinson.

300 yards—1, Sergt. Robinson; 2, Private Fyfe.

200 yards—1, Corporal Stead; 2, Private Patton.

100 yards—1, Sergt. McAllister; 2, Corporal Stead.

Amongst those who donated prized were R. W. Woodroffe and F. Kent.

The evening's entertainment was concluded by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the national anthem.—*Tribune*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The organization of the new troop of cavalry, to be known as the Manitoba Dragoons, is being completed at Portage la Prairie and Virden. The military spirit is instinct in the young farmers and farmers' sons of Manitoba, and with their splendid horses, still more splendid physique and familiarity with exercise in the saddle, it can well be imagined that they will present an inspiring sight on review. The uniform of the new corps is to be a handsome scarlet tunic with buttons and flaps, heavy yellow braid and white facings, dark blue trousers with white stripes on each leg, brown belts, white helmets and gloves. The forage cap is round. The Virden Troop have already ordered 50 saddles.

* * *

A few days ago Sergt.-Major A. Stewart arrived at Regina from Macleod, on his appointment to the position of Regimental Sergt.-Major vacated by the promotion of Inspector Belcher. Sergt.-Major Stewart has been many years in the Mounted Police, and first came to the country with Lord Wolseley in 1870.

* * *

The dance which took place at the Barracks, Regina, was in no way behind former ones. Indeed in some respects it excelled them. Nearly two hundred people were present on this occasion. An additional room was thrown open for dancing, so that the floor space, although well occupied during the evening, was not uncomfortably crowded. It is needless to say that all the dancing people, both of the town and the barracks, were there, and the assemblage was a brilliant and fashionable one. Some very elegant costumes were worn by ladies present. The music, which is always good, was even better than usual, and no one seemed to tire of dancing to it. The members of the N.W.M.P. Depot Division Quadrille Club are certainly to be congratulated on the success of the dances during the season—a success which is largely due to the energetic officers of the club, who have earned the thanks of all lovers of dancing in Regina.

* * *

The officers of the 69th "1st Annapolis" Battalion held their annual meeting at the Grand Central Hotel, Bridgetown, on the 10th of March. There was a large attendance of officers, Lieut.-Col. Starratt presiding. The following Committees were elected for 1893: Regimental, Capt. Quade, Morse and Lieut. Fitch; Mess, Capt. Elliott, Paymaster Miller, Major Cole; Band, Capts. Le Cain, Buckler and Charlton.

There is considerable activity in the Regiment as it is going into camp in September. The reports of the various committees were read and showed that the Battalion is in a flourishing condition.

* * *

A meeting was held in the European hotel, Guelph, on 9th inst., for the purpose of taking steps to organize a band in connection with the 30th Battalion. Lieut.-Col. White, the new commanding officer, and his brother officers are anxious that the band should be stationed in that city. At this meeting committees were appointed to consult the leading musicians and seek financial encouragement from the City Council.

* * *

The Minister of Militia was waited upon recently by a deputation from St. Thomas, who asked that the Peabody rifles, now used by the cadet corps of the St. Thomas Collegiate Institute, be changed for the short Snider rifles, owing to the former being found too heavy and cumbersome. Hon. Mr. Patterson promised favorable consideration.





Royal Military College Club.

The ninth annual meeting of the Royal Military College Club of Canada, was held on Friday, the 24th of February, in the St. Lawrence Hall, Montreal, and proved to be, in point of numbers, the best attended meeting in the history of the Club, as well as a most representative one. The business transacted touched upon many points of interest to the members, and showed a marked increase over former years, serving to establish the fact that as the existence of the Club becomes better known, its sphere of usefulness is increased in like proportion.

The following officers and members were in attendance :

President, Captain V. B. Rivers, Kingston; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Fred. W. White, Ottawa, and Capt. A. H. Van Straubensee, R.E., Kingston; Secretary-Treasurer, Captain Ernest F. Wurtele, R.L., Quebec; Members of Managing Committee, Capt. D. Macpherson, R.L., Montreal, Mr. R. W. Leonard, C.E., Niagara Falls, and Mr. D. C. Campbell, C.E., Ottawa, and the undermentioned members :—Captain H. S. Greenwood, Cornwall, Capt. R. G. Edwards Leckie, Torbrook, N. S., Captain W. B. Carruthers, Kingston, and Messrs. A. K. Kirkpatrick, C.E., Smith's Falls, C. P. Newman, Lachine Locks, John G. Gibson, Cowansville, H. A. Panet, C.E., Smith's Falls, C. R. Coutlee, C.E., Vaudreuil Station, J. Houlston, Three Rivers, B. H. Fraser, Ottawa, George E. Rose, Morrisburgh, A. J. Matheson, Coteau Landing, W. H. Sullivan, Cornwall, W. E. Cooke, R. C.A., Quebec, Arthur Hamilton, Montreal, E. H. Drury, C.E., Island Falls, Maine, B. Gilmore, Ottawa, R. M. Courtney, Montreal, D. B. Pruyn, Picton, Francis Joseph Dixon, Toronto, T. H. Browne, Montreal, L. Homfray Irving, Toronto, Geo. M. Kirkpatrick, R. E. Chatham, England, Bartlett McLennan, Montreal, W. G. Heneker, Connaught Rangers, Portsmouth, England, N. B. McLean, Coteau Landing, O. C. Macpherson, Hazen Ritchie, E. C. Amos and L. A. Amos, of Montreal.

The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m., by Captain A. H. Van Straubensee, Vice-President, in the chair, who filled the position during the temporary absence of the President.

After the adoption of the minutes of the last annual meeting, the Secretary-Treasurer, Capt. Ernest F. Wurtele, presented a very carefully prepared and exhaustive report, which showed that 53 new members had joined the Club in 1892, making a total membership of 153. The appointments obtained, honours and distinctions gained by ex-Cadets during the past year were all noted, and much other information, which is of interest more especially to the members themselves, was given.

Captains V. B. Rivers, A. H. Van Straubensee, D. Macpherson and others voiced the feelings of the Club by thanking Captain Wurtele for the zeal and energy with which he had managed their affairs during the past year.

The question of the distinctive badge to be worn by members was then taken into consideration, and a committee appointed to adopt a suitable badge, which could be worn by all ex-Cadets. Messrs. L. Homfray Irving, Francis Joseph Dixon and Capt. J. Chas. MacDougall, all residents of Toronto, were appointed to form this committee.

The report of the Mackay, Robinson and Stairs Memorial Committee was presented by Capt. Van Straubensee, from which it appeared that the Club had joined forces with the friends of the deceased officers in the Corps of the Royal Engineers and intend to erect two brasses to their memory—one in St. George's cathedral, Kingston, and one in the historic cathedral of Rochester, England. It must be a matter of gratification to all Canadians that a memorial has thus been raised from a Colonial to an Imperial tribute. In addition to the brasses enlarged photographs of all three are to be given to the Royal Military College. That of Capt. Mackay has already been presented.

Resolutions of sympathy were passed by the Club with the families of the late Capt. Robinson and Stairs.

The meeting adjourned at one o'clock, and re-assembled at 3.30 with Mr. Fred. W. White, vice-president, in the chair. A few alterations were made in the By-Laws, after which Major-General E. O. Hewett, C.M.G., R.E., formerly Commandant, and Col. E. Kensington, late Royal Artillery, and formerly Professor of Mathematics and Artillery at the Royal Military College, were elected honorary members of the Club.

Capt. Van Straubenzie was then requested to read a paper which he had been asked to prepare, giving a short sketch of the lives and services of the late Capt. Mackay, Robinson and Stairs. It was resolved that the paper be printed, and it was decided to ask some member to read a paper at the next meeting on the North-West Mounted Police.

The election of officers for the current year was then proceeded with and resulted as follows :—

President—Mr. R. W. Leonard, C.E., Niagara Falls, Ont.

Vice-Presidents—Capts. J. B. Cochrane, R.M.C., Kingston, and H. S. Greenwood, Cornwall, Ont.

Secretary-Treasurer—Capt. Ernest F. Wurtele, R.L., Quebec (re-elected).

Managing Committee—Capt. D. MacPherson, R.L., Montreal (re-elected); W. A. H. Kerr, Toronto, Ont.; Fred. W. White, Ottawa, Ont.; D. C. Campbell, C.E., Ottawa, Ont., (re-elected); L. Homfray Irving, Toronto, Ont.

The annual dinner was held on the same evening at the St. Lawrence Hall, in the room used as a Mess-room by the Scots Fusilier Guards when in Montreal thirty years ago. Rich in associations of a martial and jovial nature, the reputation of the room in these attributes was worthily upheld by the company whose sayings and doings we chronicle. From the first graduating class of 1880 down to the Battalion Sergeant-Major of 1893, each class of cadets was represented, and a jolly crowd they were. The fun began early, and the flowing bowl flowed at a highly commendable rate.

Capt. Rivers, R.C.A., presided, and there were some seventy members and guests present. Among the latter were Major-General Herbert, Lieut.-Cols. Houghton and Mattice, Major R. G. Leckie, Capt. Streatfield, Prof. Forshaw Day, R.C.A., of the College staff, Battalion Sergeant-Major Armstrong, and representatives of the CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE and city papers.

The list of graduates and ex-cadets present included, amongst others, Capt. Ernest F. Wurtele, R.L.; Capt. A. H. Van Straubenzie, R.E.; F. W. White, Militia Department; Capt. Duncan Macpherson, R.L.; R. W. Leonard, C.E.; D. C. Campbell, C.E.; A. K. Kirkpatrick, C.E.; C. P. Newman, John G. Gibson, H. A. Panet, C.E.; C. R. Coutlee, C.E.; J. Houlston, B. H. Fraser, Geo. E. Rose, A. J. Matheson, C.E.; W. H. Sullivan, Capt. H. S. Greenwood, Lieut. W. E. Cooke, "B" Battery, R.C.A.; Capt. Arthur Hamilton, V.R.C.; E. H. Drury, C.E.; L. H. Irving, B. Gilmore, R. M. Courtney, C.E.; T. H. Browne, Geo. M. Kirkpatrick, R.E.; B. McLennan, C.E.; Lieut. W. G. Heneker, Connaught Rangers; Capt. R. G. E. Leckie, 75th Battalion; D. B. Pruyn, Capt. W. B. Carruthers, 14th Battalion; O. C. Macpherson, C.E.; H. Ritchie, E. C. Amos and L. A. Amos.

The *menu* was an excellent one; Lieut.-Col. Hogan, proprietor of the Hall, has always a warm heart for the scarlet, and his military dinners cannot be excelled. After full justice had been done to the viands, toasts and speeches began, that of Her Majesty's health receiving due respect.

The Governor-General's health was next drank after which the secretary, Capt. Wurtele, read letters of regret from the Minister and Deputy Minister of Militia, Col. Powell, A.G., and others. Mr. Fred White then proposed the "Army, Navy and Auxiliary Forces," which was responded to by Major-General Herbert, who made the speech of the evening. After expressing pleasure at being present, the General paid a tribute to the usefulness of the R. M. College and of the Club which the ex-cadets had formed, stating that in all the countries of which he had had experience, the British nation was the only one that kept up old associations of this kind, which had all helped to make the history of England, a history which was not yet closed by any means. The country was young and was destined to go through a series of events of one kind or another, but undoubtedly there would be a time when the cadets and graduates of the Royal Military

College will appear among those who will govern and rule the affairs of this country. He then alluded to the success of the graduates, and paid a just tribute to the memory of Mackay, Robinson and Stairs. He approved heartily of the action the Club had taken in doing honor to their memory. The graduates were distributed over the face of the globe, and he was glad to see present that evening an officer (Lieut. G. M. Kirkpatrick, R. E.) who had just returned from a most important expedition to Morocco. Recently in Quebec he had met another officer (Lieut. P. H. Casgrain, R. E.) who had just come home from the N. W. frontier of India. He expressed the hope that he might often have the pleasure of dining with the Club.

"The Royal Military College" was next toasted, and great enthusiasm was shown by all. B. S. M. Armstrong, senior cadet, replied briefly, followed by Prof. Day who gave some most interesting personal reminiscences. The next toast was "Our Guests." This was ably responded to by Lieut.-Col. Mattice, B. M., and Major Leckie, (late 53rd Batt.) Good health and long life to "Our Absent Comrades" was then enthusiastically drunk, coupled with the toast to the graduates of the College now in the Imperial service. This was fittingly responded to by Capt. Van Straubensee, R. E., Mr. Kirkpatrick, R. E., and Mr. Heneker, Connaught Rangers. The ever popular toast of "The Ladies" was received with cheers, and was appropriately replied to by Capt. R. G. E. Leckie, who expressed his fondness for the fair sex and pleasure at being their champion on this occasion. "The Press" elicited brief responses from the representatives of the CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE, *Montreal Gazette*, *Witness* and *Star*.

This concluded the formal list of toasts, but a number of impromptu healths were proposed and some rattling good speeches were made and songs sung. Our reporter's notes are rather illegible as to names of those who spoke and sang, but we learn from him that they were received with the utmost enthusiasm. He informs us that he distinctly remembers Major Leckie promising a flag for the next dinner.

Shortly afterwards the members adjourned to the drawing-room where a number of College songs were sung by the old boys, Mr. Cooke, R. C. A., acting as accompanist. "Auld Lang Syne" and "God save the Queen" brought this most successful and enjoyable dinner to a close.

ECHOES.

- "And me too".....Mr. Black.
- "Gentlemen, let us drink the health of }
Her Most".....} Mr. Waters.
- "I have been dead, absolutely dead, for }
twelve years".....} Mr. Gibfather.
- "Gentlemen, I will only detain you a few }
minutes more".....} Mr. Night.
- "My long and varied experience with the }
dear girls".....} Mr. Tearbrook.
- "I must again remind you of the neces- }
sity of circulating those cards".....} Mr. Fortyseven.
- "I am rapidly qualifying for the front }
rows in the Opera".....} Mr. Packmerson.
- "It's a way we have in the Army, you }
know".....} Mr. Sennecher.
- "I will cheerfully sacrifice all my wife's re- }
lations for my country".....} Mr. Reckey.
- "Every word of these brilliant speeches }
has been faithfully taken down."...} Mr. Box.
- "The new home of the only religious daily }
will shelter a military scribe.".....} Mr. Temoin.
- "The great half-penny paper of the uni- }
verse dotes on the milingitary..." } Mr. Luminary.
- "Where, O where, is my menu card }
gone.".....} Mr. Redwardes.
- "The intense mental labours of the '93 }
graduates.....} Mr. Mussel.



Personal Notes.

John Grant, M.D., who took an active part in the historic events of 1837-38, died at his residence, 278 Dundas street, Toronto, on 3rd inst. He had been actively engaged in the suppression of the rebellion as surgeon-major, and had held that rank in the Volunteer Rifles. His many friends will learn with sorrow the news of his death, and Canadians generally will feel a respectful regret that another of the loyal survivors of those troublous times has had to obey the last mu ter call.

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The late D. W. Gordon, M. P., for Vancouver Island, comes of fighting stock. His grandfather, John Gordon, emigrated from Coventry, England, to India, and thence to America, and after serving in the Royalist forces during the Revolutionary war, removed with other United Empire Loyalists to Canada and finally settled in the Township of Camden. His son Michael, father of the deceased, served in the Canadian Militia, under General Brock, at the taking of Detroit and was also at the battle of Chrysler's Farm, and other engagements during the war of 1812-14. His residence was destroyed by the American General Harrison, when he ascended the River Thames in pursuit of General Proctor and Tecumseh.

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Mr. C. J. Stackhouse, formerly an active member of No. 2 Battery, New Brunswick Brigade Garrison Artillery, died recently in East Boston.

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In June next Major Van Wagner, of the Hamilton Field Battery, will receive his brevet as lieutenant-colonel, having completed ten years' service.

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Surgeon Ryerson, M. P. P. (10th R. G.), who is at present in Ottawa, accompanied by Dr. Bergin, M. P., had an interview on 8th with the heads of the Militia Department with reference to the re-organization of the militia medical service. A full investigation will be made, including a visit, if possible, by Dr. Bergin, to all camps this year on a tour of inspection, and a complete revision of the rules of this branch of the service is altogether probable.

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Major Mayne, of the Royal Military College, Kingston, when presiding at a lecture in St. George's hall in that city, severely criticised the high school and public school histories of both England and Canada, for their treatment of the Anglican Church question.

* * *

Captain Maloney, an officer of the Royal Engineers in the Halifax garrison, who is of a religious turn of mind, inaugurated recently a series of lectures on the evidences of Christianity. When he had delivered one of them he received orders from his superior officer that he must not lecture again. The course was continued, however, by Rev. Dyson Hague, formerly of Toronto, who read the lecture Captain Maloney had intended to deliver. Lecturing on Christianity should not impair the usefulness of a soldier unless it is done with a view of starting acrimonious discussion. Men of the Vicars and Hammond stamp have proved that religious zeal in most cases goes hand-in-hand with professional skill and fearless intrepidity when on active service.

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Capt. Leckie, 75th Batt. was in Montreal last month attending the meetings of the Society of Mining Engineers.

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Mr. J. A. Moren, father of Lieut. Moren, of the Royal Military College, Kingston, died the other day at his residence, 33 Tower road, Halifax, after an illness of several weeks.

* * *

Of late years, and especially since the establishment of the Royal Military College, Canadians have come well to the front in the Imperial service. A recent case is that of Colonel E. L. Street, lately commanding the 1st Battalion of the

Devonshire Regiment, who has been appointed to the command of a Regimental District. Colonel Street is a native of St. Andrews, N.B., where his family has long been settled and holds a distinguished social position. He has seen much service and was with Lord Roberts in Afghanistan. Colonel Street is a cousin of Mr. C. F. Street, of the Department of Finance, Ottawa.

* * *

The last surviving New York veteran of the war of 1812, General A. S. Dally, died in Brooklyn on Feb. 15. Genl. Dally was in his ninety-eighth year, and until recently had been in very good health. He was born in New York City, Aug. 12, 1795. He served during the War of 1812 in the 11th N.Y. State Artillery and afterwards on the U.S. revenue cutter *Alert*.

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Mr. H. C. Heincke, formerly bandmaster of the 29th Batt. Band, has left Berlin for Woodstock, where he has secured a position as bandmaster.

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The habitual politeness of the great Duke of Wellington towards correspondents is exemplified by an anecdote related in the *Sunday Magazine*. When King George IV. was suffering from some ailment of the eyes, Dr. Newman Hall's father wrote to the Duke of Wellington, then Prime Minister, suggesting a trial of a small magnetic instrument, and received the following reply in the Duke's own handwriting: "The Duke of Wellington presents his compliments to Mr. Hall, and has received his letter. The Duke is responsible for a great deal, but that for which he cannot make himself responsible is the care of His Majesty's health, and most particularly of His Majesty's eyes. The Duke therefore begs leave to recommend to Mr. Hall to make his suggestion to His Majesty's physicians."

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Col. Graves, Royal Engineers, who was in charge of the British section of the coming Chicago Exhibition, died suddenly a few days ago. His death was a great loss to the British exhibitors and to the Royal Commissioners, whose entire confidence he enjoyed. Sir Henry Trueman Wood sails for Chicago Wednesday, and will himself take charge of the British section.

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Mr. Daniel Cahill, a well-known and esteemed citizen of Toronto, passed away on 13th inst. at the residence of his son, Mr. W. H. Cahill, of 257 Sackville street. The deceased was born in Queen's county, Ireland, 77 years ago, and served with credit in the British army. He has been in Canada for twenty years.

* * *

Sir Archibald Alison has just entered upon his sixty-eighth year and retires from the army. He is among the front rank of Britain's most distinguished soldiers. Appointed as ensign to the 72nd Highland Regiment when he was barely nineteen, he nine years afterwards led the bare-legged clansmen up the heights of Alma, and, after an eventful career right through the Mutiny and the Ashanti Expedition, he, under the fierce fire of Arabi's followers stormed the entrenchments at Tel-el-Kebir, for which he was promoted to the post of Lieut.-General. Sir Archibald was a firm believer from the first in the great volunteer wave which a quarter of a century ago passed over our country, and he has supported and encouraged the movement in every possible shape and form. He will be accompanied into his retirement by the regret of all connected with the Army, and it is a great pity that so competent an officer in the full possession of grand mental faculties should be compelled by an unnecessarily severe military rule to pass into the oblivion of private life. Sir Archibald is a ready speaker, and is the owner of only one arm, his other having been shot off at Lucknow. He can often be seen in Rotten-row during the season, and is the cynosure of all those who admire equestrianism of the first class.

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A WATERLOO CHARGER.

In a very interesting article appearing in the *Halifax Mail* entitled "Historical Bridgetown" there are many entertaining military reminiscences. Among them is the following:

One summer afternoon a large detachment of soldiers, en route for Annapolis, headed by a military band, marched through the town and took up a position on the green in front of the old tavern. Here arms were piled and preparations made for a halt until the next morning. In the evening, after tea, the people having flocked to the town in great numbers to see the troops, the unusual feature of a band adding to the attraction, the officers ordered the band to play for the amusement of those present. Among the sight-seers was a farmer named Rice, who had ridden into town on an old horse which had formerly been a Waterloo charger. Hitching him slightly to a fence half way between the Tavern House and the corner of Granville street, Mr. Rice strolled leisurely towards the troops. Directly the band struck up the old charger was seen to tug at his fastenings, and making his escape, trotted down the street with head and tail erect, wheeled into the green and took up a position beside the band in review order, the strains of martial music recalling to his recollection the manoeuvres of his military days.

Correspondence.

A PLEA FOR COUNTY BATTALION BANDS.

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE:

SIR,—Permit me, through the columns of the GAZETTE, to agitate for a little better treatment toward the Bands of our County Battalions. It cannot be denied, but that to have an efficient Band, the members thereof must be located in one place, within easy distance of a centre, for practice, at least once a week. As a natural result the members of a Band do reside near each other, know each other thoroughly, in fact are "Comrades." Such being the case would it not be far better, when attending Camps of Exercise, instead of dispersing the members among the several companies for subsistence and quarters, to have the Band placed on the strength of the Staff, tent by themselves and draw their own rations. After working (practicing) together week after week for one, it may be two years, the members have a decided objection to be scattered among the companies in which they probably do not know a single individual. As an example, I know of a battalion, some of whose companies are divided by a distance of over 70 miles. The Band some 20 or 40 strong is located in a village and practice weekly in winter—other seasons twice a week, pay a good salary to a Bandmaster and try to make the Band a credit to the battalion, but many of them are determined when their 3 years expire to leave the Band unless they are allowed to tent and mess together while in camp. Again, a bandsman should have some place to keep his instrument when not in use, and not leave it at the mercy of some ignorant or careless "Tommy Atkins" who, in many cases, cannot look properly after his own property. Tents which have their full complement of men and their arms and accoutrements, cannot be a safe resting place for delicate band instruments, some of which cost 60 or 80 dollars each. The better way would be for the "powers that be," to give each Band a marquee, where it would be a unit in itself—have sufficient room to dispose of its instruments—and practice in hot or wet weather, and be at all times under the superintendence of the Bandmaster. After many years of study, I have come to the conclusion that if the above changes were allowed, better musicians would be enrolled, and consequently the efficiency of the Bands greatly increased, without any more outlay than what is at present incurred.

TO SUMMARIZE.

At camp, place the Band on pay and subsistence sheet by itself.

Give it a marquee for their own use, in fact treat it as a company which contains men of more skill than the average company of a battalion.

AN OLD REGULAR AND FOR MANY YEARS A
CANADIAN VOLUNTEER.

A VETERAN OF '37 GONE.

We sincerely regret to have to announce the death on 24th ult., of Major Alex. Daly, a Loyalist of 1837-8, and who has taken the lead in having the petition to the Queen signed by all the surviving Veterans in this Province, praying for some measure of practical recognition of their services at that critical period. Major Daly died on 24th ult., after a very short illness; to the last, his thoughts were on the work he had set himself to do, and he was most earnest in requesting that the petition be forwarded with as little delay as possible. He had attained the great age of 86, but looked remarkably hale and hearty; he was an Irishman by birth, and came to Canada about 1830, settling first in Montreal, and subsequently in the township of Rawdon, Terrebonne County, at that time largely inhabited by English-speaking residents. A few weeks before his death, he prepared for us a short account of his services during the rebellion; we append some extracts from this, as of interest from a military and historical standpoint. As will be seen by reference to our editorial pages, the work of obtaining further signatures to the petition, and of forwarding it as soon as possible to the proper authorities, has been undertaken by the editor of this paper, and no efforts will be spared to carry out to a successful issue the praiseworthy work begun and so nearly completed by the loyal-hearted old veteran who has so recently gone from us.

* * *

Speaking of the insurgent party, prior to the outbreak, he says:—"They publicly, and in day time, assembled for drill near St. Denis street, near the St. James Church. Their drill instructors were some of the old volunteers of 1812, who defended Canada against the American army in 1812, and some of the old veterans of Waterloo. I have seen these parties at drill and plenty of the soldiers of the British army looking on. This state of things could not last long. Emissaries were sent to the country parts to raise the people by making speeches, etc., and then came the tug of war, the election of Papineau and Nelson, the Liberal candidates, against Walker and Danlan, the Conservative or Tory candidates, which gave the two parties a chance to meet in mortal combat. I was writing one night during the election when the Liberal party, three or four hundred strong, made an attack on the Conservative party in their stronghold in McGill street, routed their apparatus, spilt the liquor, went through the house, set fire to the house, and retired. The retreating party rallied, faced their opponents, a street fight took place with sticks and stones; the Liberals retreated to the Quebec suburbs or St Mary street, and Main street, St. Laurent, their stronghold. Later on many street fights took place at public meetings and on the streets."

Referring to a later date, after the first fighting he says:—"In the meantime active organization took place all over the country, amongst those who did not join the insurrection in Montreal and all through Lower Canada. I here refer especially to the Townships of Rawdon and Kildare, and other Townships north of the River St. Lawrence. Rawdon, a township ten miles square, raised five companies, forming a battalion of nearly five hundred strong. Rawdon is situated about 40 miles north of Montreal, in rear of the seigneurie of St. Esplée and Lavaltrie. It was then settled with emigrants composed of Irish, English and Scotch, with a population of about twenty-eight hundred souls. Immediately on the breaking out of the rebellion they assembled together to see what was best to do; a great many of them sympathized with the Liberal or Canadian party, but through the advice of their clergy they took the oath of allegiance, and took up arms in defence of the Government. They had no arms; but about 75 or 100 of them marched to Sorel in the month of November, 1837, through bad roads, crossed the river, (covered with floating ice,) obtained muskets and other equipments, and returned home, musket in hand, which surprised the country people as they passed along; the women and children were shocked at the sight of an armed force. The commissioned officers of the five companies, about 20 in number, went into drill under a drill instructor, and soon learned the manual and platoon exercise. In a short time they became well-disciplined and received the praise of their commanding officer, Major Swinburn, of the 83rd Regiment of Infantry, an excellent officer, who pronounced them a fine formidable body of men, fit for any service. In the spring of 1838 they were allowed to return home to their work, they re-

ceiving in cash the full amount of their board while they were in barracks. The men received pay, clothing and uniform the same as the regular soldiers in the army."

A MANLY OFFICER.

The lightning of criticism might strike almost anywhere in the militia service and expose necessity for reform. Canadians are fortunate in having had a General given them who has courage to point out grievous blunders in the militia, and skill as a strategist to recommend remedies. Col. Denison may, from his place in Parliament, talk contrary to the written opinions of General Herbert of efficiency in the militia. It is more than likely that he has Canada's best rifle regiment in his mind's eye when he speaks of efficiency. It is an excellent regiment. What would be the use of one fine corps in case of a sudden call for a campaign, no matter how brief? Paper boots and rotten harness would certainly not help them. That gun carriage which went to pieces at Cut Knife Creek, after a few rounds, so that the gun was useless afterwards, is only an incident. Men who have been compelled to stand in the mud and rain of a country road because of breakage of new but rotten harness of the field gun in advance of them would soon dispose of the matters suggested as necessary for reform in the General's report. "I am thoroughly convinced that if the country is to receive an adequate return for the military expenditure, a reorganization of the staff is necessary." This the General puts in italics, as though he desired to have it strike Parliament like a bugle blast. He should be trusted to see the reorganization made. The whole militia force requires reorganization. The rank and file are just as good men as ever citizen soldiers were made of. What they want is officers to properly lead them. As for the political contract system which General Herbert strikes at, it has always been the bane of the force. Fancy a camp being chosen in a swamp for troops supposed to be in face of the enemy, when high ground alongside was left unused, because the owner belonged to the less favored side of politics. This is the system pursued in giving the clothes contracts. If each regiment were permitted to purchase its own uniform, within regulations, as the General suggests, it would stop one leak in the militia service, even if the election fund suffered. General Herbert can be trusted to do his duty; that is plain.—*Montreal Witness.*

MANUFACTURERS AND THE MILITIA.

The following appeared in a recent issue of the *Empire*, and is well worth careful reading:

To the Editor of the *Empire*:

Sir,—While reading President McNaught's admirable address to the Manufacturers Association, I thought he might have sounded a warning to the manufacturers throughout the country, that they might be a little more liberal in assisting captains of volunteer militia companies to fill up their ranks with a desirable class of men who are willing to enroll themselves, but in many cases cannot get the consent of their employers to do so. It is to these men the militia look for some support in return for what they obtain in the way of protection to their manufactories. If these employers do not encourage the militia, from whom may we expect it? Take, for example, a manufacturer employing 100 men; a captain could get say 10 or 20 men in this establishment who are patriotic enough to enroll themselves as volunteers, but when the employer is approached he says emphatically that he cannot spare a single man, and adds that he does not see the use of the militia anyway, and discourages them all in his power. Yet he expects the Government to encourage his business by steadily protecting it. If the manufacturers would make up their minds at their annual meeting to allow a certain percentage of their men to put in the 12 days biennial drill the militia throughout the country could certainly make a much better showing.

Yours, &c.,
A CAPTAIN.

Toronto, Feb. 24.