

# CHAPTER VI

## THE WORK AND CHANGES OF RECENT YEARS, 1866-1899



THE HISTORY *of* the Thirteenth, since the Fenian Raid of 1866, is mainly a record of conscientious, hard work at local headquarters and the rifle ranges, which has resulted in a long series of well-deserved triumphs with the rifle and at inspection.

In the summer of 1866, the muzzle-loading Enfield rifle, with which the Battalion had been armed since its organization, was replaced with the Spencer repeating rifle, but this was discarded in December, 1867, for the Snider Enfield breechloader.

By a general order of the 23rd of May, 1867, the Dundas Infantry Company, under Captain Wardell, and the Waterdown Infantry Company, under Captain Glasgow, were attached to the Thirteenth Battalion as Nos. 7 and 8. The annual drill for 1867 and 1868 was performed at local headquarters, and in the Adjutant General's report for the latter year the Thirteenth is specially distinguished as " a very good regiment, conduct good."

The ladies of Hamilton presented the Battalion, on March 4th, 1869, with a very valuable and appropriate drum-major's baton. The annual drill was that year once more performed at local headquarters, and the Adjutant General, Colonel Robertson Ross, in his official report, referred to the Thirteenth in the most gratifying terms.

" I afterwards inspected the Thirteenth Battalion, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Skinner, numbering 24 officers and 388 men. The inspection in the drill shed at Hamilton, in the evening, was attended by a large number of spectators. Lieutenant-Colonel Skinner is one of the most zealous officers in the active militia ; he has devoted much time and money for the good *of* the service, and has succeeded in bringing his battalion to a very high state of efficiency.

" The appearance of this battalion on parade bore a striking resemblance to a regiment of the regular army, their arms, accoutrements, and clothing being in an excellent and praiseworthy condition. They went through the manual and platoon exercise, under the command of Major H. E. Irving, perfectly, and afterwards were exercised in battalion drill by Lieutenant-Colonel Skinner in a most satisfactory manner."

On September 29th, the Battalion paraded to receive H. R. H. Prince Arthur and the Governor-General, and furnished guards of honor for both during their stay in the city.

In April, 1870, a general order was published, calling for volunteers for special service in the Red River country, now forming the Province of Manitoba. The quota required from the Thirteenth was eight men, but the number that offered was so great that it was subsequently increased to thirteen. The following non-commissioned officers and men were finally selected :—Sergeants James McArthur, John A. Murray and John Emslie ; Corporals John Faulkner and Nathaniel P. Bell ; Privates W. S. Nixon, S. Kilvington, Humphrey Filheahault, James Ayr, Rodney Wetenhall, William Metcalfe, Charles Gilkison, and W. B. Balmer.

The battalion performed its annual drill in a regimental camp at Grimsby, beginning on July 23rd, of which the Adjutant-General made the following favorable report :—" The first instance, I believe, of a city battalion performing its annual drill in camp was very successfully carried out by the 13th Battalion, from Hamilton, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Skinner. This corps marched from Hamilton to Grimsby, a distance of twenty miles, in the latter part of the month of July, moving into camp the same day, remaining under canvas for ten days, and marching back to Hamilton on the tenth day without any casualties, in a manner which reflected great credit on the commanding officer and those under his command."

The Deputy Adjutant General, who inspected the battalion, described it in his report as " a very fine, even-sized body of young men, very steady under arms, move very soldierlike and well."

In 1871, Lieut.-Colonel Skinner organized and commanded the team of Ontario riflemen which went to Wimbledon, on which the Thirteenth had no less than six representatives, Lieut. Little, Color-Sergeant R. Omand, Sergeant F. Sache and Privates George Murison and Joseph Mason. The battalion went into a brigade camp at Niagara on June 6th, 1871, which was composed of 4,795 officers and men. The Thirteenth was commanded by Major Irving, in the absence of Lieut.-Colonel Skinner, who was at Wimbledon. Its strength in camp was twenty-three officers and 389 non-commissioned officers and privates. Lieut. (afterwards Major) J. J. Mason, who acted as supply officer, was specially noticed for zeal and ability in the performance of his duties.

By a general order of May 23rd, 1872, the Dundas and Waterdown companies were detached, and became a part of the 77th Battalion, reducing the strength of the Thirteenth once more to six companies.

A divisional camp for sixteen days was formed at Niagara on June 12th of this year, which consisted of 435 officers and 5,438 non-commissioned officers and privates, divided into three brigades, the second of which was commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Skinner. Captain (afterwards Lieut.-Colonel) A. H. Moore, acted as Brigade Major ; Dr. Ryall as Brigade Surgeon. Lieut. (afterwards Major) J. J. Mason, as Supply Officer. Major Irving commanded the Thirteenth during this camp.

The battalion team won the Merchants' Challenge Trophy, and No 2 company the Tait-Brassey Company Cup at the Ontario Rifle Association meeting in 1872, thus auspiciously beginning a long list of successes.

Lieutenant-Colonel Skinner commanded the brigade camp formed at Niagara on June 23rd, 1874, at which Captain A. H. Moore was Brigade Major, and Captain Boice was Supply Officer. The Thirteenth was once more commanded by Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. Irving.

The battalion again went into camp at Niagara in 1875, as it proved for the last time for many years.

Since 1875 the annual drill has been performed at headquarters, until the summer of the present year, 1899, when the battalion went into camp for three days (June 30th to July 2nd), under command of Lieut.-Col. Henry McLaren.

Lieut.-Colonel Skinner commanded the Infantry Brigade at the review at Toronto in 1879, when the Thirteenth mustered 273 of all ranks.

In 1880, Lieut.-Colonel Gibson had the well deserved honor of being selected to command the Wimbledon team, on which the Thirteenth was represented by eight men. The team succeeded in winning that coveted trophy, the Kolapore Cup.

On the 24th of May, 1884, the Battalion entertained the Royal Grenadiers of Toronto, and both battalions were reviewed in Dundurn Park. The visit of the Grenadiers was returned on Dominion Day, when a volunteer force of more than 4,000 men paraded in Toronto, composed of the Governor-General's Body Guards, the Hamilton, Toronto, and Welland Field Batteries, Governor-General's Foot Guards, Queen's Own Rifles, 6th, 7th, 10th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 34th, 36th and 77th Battalions.

By a general order, dated April 24th, 1885, when the excitement created by the Northwest Rebellion was at its height, two companies were added to the establishment of the battalion. When inspected on June 24th, 341 of all ranks were present. The Battalion was very anxious for active service at the front, but in this they were doomed to disappointment.

The Battalion sustained a serious loss by the burning of the old drill shed

on May 23rd, 1886, when the whole of its arms, stores, and band music was consumed. The colors were saved, and many of the trophies of the battalion, which were fortunately stored elsewhere. The loss to the battalion was estimated at \$4,000, and that of the Government at \$20,000.

On August 28th, 1885, Lieut.-Colonel Skinner retired from the battalion after thirty-one years service, during twenty of which he held command. During his connection with the force Lieutenant-Colonel Skinner had done much to promote the volunteer movement, and especially to encourage rifle practice. He was one of founders of the Ontario Rifle Association, and had commanded the team sent by it to the first Dominion Rifle match at Laprairie. The team from Ontario, that went to Wimbledon in 1872, was chiefly organized by his exertions, and he was deservedly selected to command it. This was the first team of riflemen that had represented any British colony at Wimbledon, and thus the honor of making the Wimbledon meeting a genuinely Imperial event may be said to be due, in the main, to him. He was succeeded by Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. John Morison Gibson.

Lieutenant-Colonel Gibson had won deserved distinction in many ways in civil life. When he graduated from Toronto University in 1863, he had carried off the Prince's Prize, Silver Medals in Classics and Modern Languages and a prize in Oriental Languages. After being called to the Bar in 1867, he entered the law course of the University, and was granted the degree of L. L. B. in 1869, at the same time winning the gold medal. After commencing the practice of law in Hamilton, he soon secured a leading position at the bar of the Province. He had been a Senator of Toronto University since 1873. For five years he had been President of the Hamilton School of Art, which he was instrumental in founding. Since 1879 he had represented the city in the Provincial Legislature, and in 1889 entered the Cabinet as Provincial Secretary. His connection with the volunteer force dated from 1860, and he had been present with the battalion at Ridgeway in 1866. For three years he had been President of the Ontario Rifle Association, and in 1893 he was elected President of the Dominion Rifle Association, an office which he still worthily holds.

The new commanding officer, besides being himself a marksman of the foremost rank, was endowed with almost unlimited zeal and energy. He threw himself heartily into the work of command with the best results. The old Canada Life Assurance Buildings were secured as a drill hall, and when the battalion was inspected on December 30th, 355 of all ranks answered to their names.

Twenty-five thousand dollars were placed in the estimates in 1887 for the construction of a new drill shed, and work was begun upon it during the year. It was finished during 1888 at a cost of nearly \$50,000, was occupied on the 14th of September, and formally opened by a most successful concert on October 17th, which was attended by over 1,500 persons. The battalion is

now housed in this modern armory, with comfortable quarters for the officers, and rooms for the different companies and the band.

Lieut.-Colonel Gibson, ever anxious to encourage proficiency in the use of the rifle, ordered a number of Morris tubes for the battalion in the autumn of that year.

The adoption of a plan by which the whole of the drill-pay was funded for the benefit of the battalion, early in 1889, produced the most beneficial results. A considerable number of men took their discharge in consequence of the change, but their places were immediately filled with the most desirable class of recruits.

For the first time the Thirteenth took part in the Thanksgiving Day field manoeuvres at Toronto on November 7th, 1889, mustering 393 of all ranks.

At the Thanksgiving manoeuvres at Toronto on November 6th, 1890, the Thirteenth turned out 400 of all ranks, under Lieut.-Colonel Moore, forming the attacking force in conjunction with C Company, Royal Regiment Canadian Infantry and the Royal Grenadiers, under Lieut.-Colonel Gibson as Brigadier.

On May 24th, 1891, the battalion visited Berlin. This visit aroused much enthusiasm among the officers and men, as it was the first time that the battalion had left the city on the Queen's Birthday for some years. On Saturday afternoon, the 22nd inst., the regiment, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Gibson, paraded at the "Gore" 445 strong, proceeding from thence to the depot and entraining for the trip. Upon arriving at Berlin the corps marched to the Exhibition grounds, where ample accommodation was provided in one of the large frame buildings. After depositing their arms and accoutrements the men were marched to the hotels for dinner. A pleasing feature of the first evening in Berlin was the concert given by the bands of the 13th and 29th Battalions. A splendid programme was rendered, giving much enjoyment to all present. The church parade on the following Sunday was a most imposing ceremony. It was what is termed a "field service." The battalion formed three sides of a hollow square, with the band in the centre and the bugle band on the right flank of the opening. The Rev. A. G. Forneret, using the regulation pulpit of stacked drums, conducted the service. Monday's celebration was a "red letter" day for Berlin. Every train brought crowds of visitors, and before the day was far advanced the streets were thronged with the holiday makers. All along the route of the procession the sidewalks and every possible point of vantage were occupied, cheer after cheer greeting the boys as they marched past. On arrival at the market place the "feu-de-joi" and royal salute were given. In the afternoon the battalion proceeded to the Athletic grounds, where different manoeuvres were gone through, followed by a programme of sports, confined to the men of the battalions, under the direction of Lieut.-Colonel Gibson. The band concert was again enthusiastically received. At the conclusion of the con-

cert the battalion paraded, embarking on the train for Hamilton, where they arrived about 2 o'clock the next morning, and were dismissed at the drill hall. Everyone concurred in the opinion that they had spent a most enjoyable time, and could not have been better used by the people of Berlin.

On the Queen's Birthday, 1892, the Thirteenth mustering 417 of all ranks, visited Toronto as the guests of the 48th Highlanders, and were reviewed by the Governor-General, Lord Stanley. A most enthusiastic welcome was given them by the people of Toronto, and one of the most pleasant of the Battalion's trips was the result.

In the year 1889, Lieut.-Colonel (then Major) McLaren suggested that company competitions should be started, and a shield and money prizes be given to the three companies obtaining the highest marks during the whole season's drill. At an earlier period a similar system had been applied by Lieut.-Colonel Irwin, of the Canadian Artillery, to the field batteries under his command. Major McLaren's suggestion was approved of, and with slight variations as to conditions, was carried out until the close of 1895.

Marks were divided as follows :

0*	1. Armouries, condition of arms, accoutrements, stores and books		100
	2. Class Firing (a) attendance ..	100	
	(b) scoring company's average	50	150
	3. Attendance at drills ..		350
	4. Clothing and accoutrements ..		50
	5. Drill competitions ..		600
	6. Written examinations (a) officers .. ..	75	
	(b) non-commissioned officers ..	75	150
	7. Field day .		100
			<hr/>
			1,500

NOTE.-60 per cent. of marks must be obtained to entitle to a prize.

The first competition for general efficiency was won in 1889 by A Company, in 1890 by D Company, in 1891 by B Company, in 1892 by A Company, in 1893 by A Company, in 1894 by A Company, and in 1895 by B Company.

There is no question but that this series of competitions did much to increase the general efficiency of the corps, and perhaps. more especially of the non-commissioned officers, who had more work assigned to them than previously, and consequently took a keener interest in their companies, and more especially in their own particular sections. The Battalion efficiency competitions having, in the meantime, been introduced, it was thought better to drop the company competitions for the time being at least, and devote all available energy to the former.

To Lieut.-Colonel Otter belongs the credit of introducing this system into the infantry battalions of No. 2 Military District. In the year 1891 he induced the late Sir Casimir Growski, that great friend of the Canadian Militia, to offer a challenge cup to be competed for by the city corps in No. 2 District. The competition during the first year was based largely on a battalion figure of merit.

Major-General Herbert approved 'so highly of Lieut.-Colonel Otter's idea that he introduced it into other districts, and ultimately applied it to the whole militia force ; changing, however, the system of working, and basing it entirely on a company figure of merit—his theory being that too much attention had been paid to battalion and brigade drill, to the neglect of squad and company drill. During the last few years, however, marks have been added for battalion drill under the commanding officer, and this, no doubt, is the happy medium, and takes all points into consideration.

Later on another " Growski cup " was given to be competed for by the rural corps in No. 2 District. Prominent men in other districts also came forward and imitated Sir Casimir's example—so that now most districts have " an efficiency cup " to compete for.



Growski CUP  
FOR  
GENERAL EFFICIENCY.

Major-General Hutton takes rather an opposite view of matters from General Herbert, thinking that too much time is devoted to squad and company drill, and that the Canadian militia should push forward into brigade drill and field manoeuvres. There is no doubt, however, that the last eight years work, which has been principally squad and company drill, now places the militia force in a better position to appreciate these higher and more extended movements than it would otherwise have been. The general standard of efficiency among non-commissioned officers has, without doubt, been greatly elevated by these battalion competitions.

From lack of time, owing to more extended work, it was found necessary to drop the efficiency competitions during the present drill season, and it is doubtful whether they will be continued again in their present form.

During the eight years that efficiency competitions have been held among the city corps of No. 2 District, the "Growski Cup" has been won five times by the Thirteenth Battalion, and three times by the Queen's Own Rifles. As the latter, however, won it in 1898, they now have possession of the coveted prize. Whether there will be weeping or rejoicing if these competitions are finally abolished, is a matter of opinion. There is no doubt that all concerned have felt it a terrible grind at times, and that an amount of polishing and cleaning has been done that could not otherwise have been accomplished. There is also no doubt that these competitions have done a great deal towards bringing the regiment up to its present standard, and have been particularly valuable in developing efficiency and responsibility among the ranks of the non-commissioned officers, a most desirable thing to accomplish.

Following is a table showing the scores made by the different city battalions each year in competition for the " Growski Cup " :

	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898
2nd Queen's Own Rifles, Toronto ..	*755	91+	*107+	125	101.43+	143.45	133.97	*150.06
10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto .....	645	76	83	96.21	88.26+	138.59	126.39+	147.30
13th Battalion of Infantry, Hamilton	742	*984	105+	*125.25	*115.62+	*144.84	*137.16	141.09
38th Dufferin Rifles, Brantford .....	593	55	*55+	69.88	62.94k	132.06	107.98	110.39
48th Highlanders, Toronto .....		70	94	102.13	99.841	104.10	129.77	128.55

\*Winner.

On May 24th, 1893, the Forty-Eighth Highlanders returned the visit of the Thirteenth. Unusual good fortune in the matter of weather attended their visit to Hamilton. It was neither too warm nor too cold, and although at times the sky was somewhat overcast, no rain fell. The city presented a busy appearance as thousands of people who, failing some special local attraction, would have probably have gone on some of the many excursions, stayed, with the knowledge that they could have " just as good a time " in Hamilton, on account of the extensive programme furnished by the Thirteenth.

At 10.40 on the morning of the 24th, the visiting battalion arrived and were escorted to the Drill Hall by the Thirteenth. The grand street parade of the day commenced at 11.25, and all along the line vociferous cheers greeted both regiments. The Highlanders were under command of Lieut.-Colonel Davidson, with Majors Cosby and McDonald as field officers.

Dundurn park was not reached until a few minutes after noon. After firing the " feu-de-joie," the two battalions partook of a substantial luncheon served to them at the grounds.

Shortly after 2 o'clock the Brigade, under Lieut.-Colonel Gibson, entered the ball grounds, and as each company passed the saluting point, where the staff was assembled, cheer after cheer greeted them, on account of the soldier-like appearance and steady bearing of every man. The trooping of the colour, physical drill and bayonet exercise as presented by the Thirteenth was beyond criticism. Some of the crack dancers of the Forty-Eighth, accompanied by the bag-pipes, furnished some excellent dancing.

The band concert and fireworks in the evening were witnessed by large crowds who pronounced both items excellent in every respect. At 11.10 the Highlanders paraded at the depot, and, in taking their departure, expressed themselves as more than satisfied with the good time they had and the treatment accorded them by the citizens.

At the Thanksgiving manoeuvres at Toronto in this year, the Thirteenth paraded 440 of all ranks, under Lieut.-Colonel Moore, and with the Royal Grenadiers and Forty-Eighth Highlanders formed the attacking force in the sham battle, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Gibson.

At the annual muster and inspection, 460 of all ranks were present, or ninety-two in excess of the establishment.

On the Queen's Birthday, 1894, the Thirteenth, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Moore, visited Galt. The morning was a fine one, and at about eight o'clock on the morning of the 24th, the battalion paraded at the drill hall 500 strong, in review order. The turnout, which is spoken of as being the largest of that season, was most gratifying to all. To quote from a newspaper report of the day, " Too much credit cannot be given to the Hamilton red-coats for their fine appearance, soldierly bearing, and large parade." The journey by train was rather tedious owing to several delays on the road, but the general good humor pervading all ranks was in nowise marred by this cause. On the arrival at Galt the regiment was met by a deputation of the Foresters, under whose auspices the celebration was held. The battalion formed on Water Street, and marched to the Town Hall, where they were dismissed for the purpose of partaking of dinner, which was served for the rank and file in the Skating Rink, the officers being quartered at the different hotels. The 10th Royal Grenadiers, of Toronto, who were also taking part in the celebration, had arrived some time before the Thirteenth. After dinner the parade formed for the purpose of proceeding to the Fair grounds, where a very attractive programme of sports had been arranged for, but the weather, which had been threatening for some time, now declared itself in a steady downpour of rain. It was decided, in consequence, to curtail the proceedings by limiting them to the different manoeuvres and exercises of the two regiments. The first item on the programme was the " march past," to the music of the brigade bands. This was splendidly done, and elicited vigorous applause from the spectators. Exhibitions of physical drill and bayonet exercise by squads from the Thirteenth followed, and as the rain showed no signs of abating, the remainder of the programme was cancelled, and a return to the town ordered. A concert by the combined bands of the Thirteenth and Grenadiers had been announced for the evening, and great disappointment was felt when it was found necessary to cancel it on account of several of the instruments having been rendered temporarily useless by the rain. A kindly hospitality was extended on all sides to the members of both corps, and, apart from the wetting received, reminiscences of the trip can not be otherwise than pleasant. The regiment entrained for the return journey at 10.30, arriving in Hamilton shortly before 12 o'clock. In dismissing the men, Colonel Moore thanked them for the good conduct they had observed throughout the day, and expressed his pleasure in having been able to assume command of the battalion on the largest parade in its history.

On Nov. 22nd, the battalion again took part in the Thanksgiving manoeuvres at Toronto, numbering 428, of all ranks, under Major Henry McLaren, Lieut.-Colonel Gibson having leave of absence, and Lieut.-Col. Moore being ill.

The battalion, in 1894, was again awarded the Growski Cup for general efficiency. The following extract from Major-General Herbert's report will serve to indicate that this distinction was well earned :

" The Thirteenth Battalion was inspected by the Deputy Adjutant-General on Oct.31st and Nov. 7th by companies. Drill, arms, etc., very good. Answers to questions, excellent. Took part in a field-day at Toronto (paying its own transport), at which advance-guards and the attack were practised, afterwards inspected by the Major-General commanding. The battalion is in excellent order and very enthusiastic ; complete in officers, and over strength in men. In this corps a most efficient system of target practice exists."

On the 26th of December, 1894, the late commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel Skinner was buried with military honors, the battalion assembling in strength.

The marked success which attended the trip to Galt, naturally elicited an almost unanimous assent on the part of the officers, when invited to attend the demonstrations to be held on the following Queen's Birthday at London. The battalion, in command of Colonel Gibson, paraded at the Drill Hall at 5.45 on the evening of the 23rd, and proceeded in heavy marching order to the T. H. & B. Station. Large crowds gathered there, many with the desire of seeing the first passenger train run on the new road, as well as getting a glimpse of the regiment entraining. On arriving at London, the corps was received by the assembled corps, consisting of No. 1 Company Royal Canadian Infantry, Seventh Battalion of London, "A " Troops of the London Hussars, London Field Battery, and the 38th Dufferin Rifles of Brantford.

The Thirteenth were apportioned most comfortable quarters in the main Exhibition building. The proceedings opened with a review of the brigade, which mustered, all told, 2000. Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. J. M. Gibson was the Brigadier in command. It may be mentioned with a certain amount of pride that out of the total of 2000 the Thirteenth contributed over a quarter, having that day a parade state of 504 officers and men.

The firing of the " feu-de-joie " by the infantry and rifle battalions elicited unbounded admiration and applause from the spectators, on account of the regularity with which it was discharged.

In the march past the Thirteenth were awarded the decision on every point. Seldom had the citizens of London or their visiting friends heard such music as that furnished by the band, headed by Bandmaster Robinson, and as the regiment marched past with every company in perfect line, betraying careful training on the part of the officers, and equal attention on that of the men, they presented an inspiring sight, and cheer after cheer greeted their efforts. The trooping of the colour by the battalion was an event of the day.

The military tournament following was no the least important part of the day's programme, and the members of the Thirteenth, who participated, acquit-

ted themselves most creditably, carrying off a good proportion of the events. The band concert in the evening, followed by the spectacular representation of the seige of " Tel-El-Kebir " afforded much pleasure to all, and brought the celebration to a close.

A complimentary banquet was tendered by the citizens to the officers of the visiting and the local military corps, and in replying to a toast Colonel Gibson thanked Colonel Lindsay, the 7th Fusiliers, and the citizens generally for the kindness shown to the Thirteenth during the day, and extended an invitation to Colonel Lindsay and his battalion to visit Hamilton at an early date.

On November 8th, 1895, Lieut.-Colonel Gibson, having completed thirty-five years service as a volunteer, and thirty-three in the Thirteenth, retired from the command, but " in view of Lieut.-Colonel Gibson's long and faithful service in the militia," the general order added, " and in recognition of his zealous efforts in promoting and encouraging rifle shooting in the force, that officer is permitted to retain his rank as honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of this battalion." By a subsequent general order of March 4th, 1899, Lieut.-Colonel Gibson was appointed an honorary aide-de-camp to the Governor-General, the Earl of Aberdeen.

He was succeeded in command by Lieut.-Colonel Alexander Huggins Moore, a very able and energetic officer, to whose activity while acting as Adjutant, and skilful management of its finances for many years, the battalion owed much of its efficiency.

Lieut.-Colonel Moore had graduated from the Military School during Colonel Peacocke's period of command, and had seen varied and arduous service on the frontier in 1866. On several occasions, as already noticed, he had been selected to act as Brigade Major at successive camps of instruction. In 1876 he had been attached to the School of Gunnery, taking a first-class certificate in gunnery, and in the course of the same year was offered, and declined, an Inspectorship in the North West Mounted Police. He became Brevet Major in 1875, and had been a major in the battalion since 1883.

When one considers the fact that the winning of the " Queen's Prize " at Bisley means that the successful competitor must prove himself the best marksman from a picked 2,000 men, a fair realization of the skill required for such a performance will be obtained. The honor of winning this much coveted trophy for 1895 fell to Canada, and more particularly to Hamilton, Private Hayhurst, of the Thirteenth Battalion, outshooting all his opponents and thereby winning everlasting fame for himself, his corps and Canada. Hayhurst was born in Kendal, Westmoreland, England, in 1868, came out to this country, and eventually settled in Hamilton in 1893, joining E Company of the Thirteenth Battalion on June 9th of the same year. It is therefore but natural that Canada should claim the honor of his

achievement, as much of his experience, assisted by his ready ability, was gained during his service with the Thirteenth Battalion.

Before coming to Canada he won the Prince of Wales' prize at Bisley. In 1894 he shot with the Ontario eight for the "London Merchants' Cup." He was fourth in the grand aggregate at Ottawa and first of the Canadian Bisley team for the "Kolapore Cup" in both 1894 and 1895.

When the news of his victory reached Hamilton the joy of all classes, both military and civilian, was unbounded, and preparations were immediately commenced to ensure him a fitting reception on his arrival. The final struggle for the prize was intensely exciting, Boyd, of the Third Lanark Rifle Volunteers, having tied Hayhurst's score of 279. The last round for the decision then commenced.

Hayhurst scored with an outer ; Boyd followed with an inner. Hayhurst was perfectly cool for his second shot and taking a slightly longer aim scored an inner. Boyd's next shot was a clear miss. The decision practically rested on Hayhurst's third shot, and when he fired, scoring an inner, a great shout arose from the assembled Canadians, "Canada Forever." The match was over and the prize came to Canada. Well done, Hayhurst. Boyd's next shot found the bulls-eye, but did not save him from defeat.



STAFF-SERGT. T. H. HAYHURST, G. M.  
WINNER OF THE QUEEN'S PRIZE AT BISLEY, 1895.

Hayhurst was tendered a most enthusiastic reception on his arrival at Montreal, and an equally hearty welcome at Toronto and other cities.

The ovation given to the returning team by the citizens of Hamilton was one that will never be forgotten, and is naturally so well known to all that a description is scarcely necessary. A grand procession was formed to escort them to the reception at Dundurn Park. The following corps took part: Thirteenth Battalion, under Lieut.-Colonel Gibson ; Hamilton Field Battery, under Lieut.-Colonel Van Wagner ; Queen's Own Regiment, Tenth Royal Grenadiers and many local societies. The Thirteenth has at all times been well represented at the Bisley meet, and the fact of the Queen's Prize having been

captured by one of its members should be an incentive to still stronger effort on the part of its marksmen to repeat the performance.

The approach of the Queen's Birthday of 1896 was heralded by preparations of a somewhat different character, on the part of the battalion, than those undertaken at that period for the two preceding years. This time they were to be the hosts, where hitherto they had been the guests, and there were busy times for all in order that the visiting corps, the Forty-Eighth Highlanders, of Toronto, the Seventh Fusiliers, of London, and the Thirty-Eighth Dufferin Rifles, of Brantford, might be well and fittingly received, and carry away with them a good impression of Hamilton and its citizens. A grand field day was arranged for the holiday. The Highlanders arrived on Saturday evening, May 23rd, and took up camp at Dundurn Park. The Fusiliers reaching the city the following evening, and the Dufferins, of Brantford, completed the contingent, arriving on the morning of the 24th. Sunday was the scene of one of the largest church parades ever held in Hamilton. The Highlanders had a total of all ranks of 412, exclusive of those on picket duty at the camp. The Thirteenth mustered 424, and the Field Battery 39 of all ranks. Lieut.-Col. Gibson was senior Brigade officer of the day. The total parade state of the brigade, including staff, was 877. The chief feature of the field day, held on the holiday, was the sham battle at the grounds of the Jockey Club. The attacking force, termed the "Red Brigade," under Lieut.-Col. Moore, consisted the Thirteenth, under Major McLaren, the Seventh Fusiliers, under Major Beattie, with two guns of the Field Battery, under Lieut. Alexander Duncan. The defence, under Lieut.-Col. Davidson, was composed of the Highlanders and the Dufferin battalion, with two guns of the Field Battery, under Major Hendrie. Although the grounds were somewhat too small to permit of any extensive manoeuvring, each move was performed to perfection, the Red Brigade eventually carrying the day as arranged. In the subsequent proceedings the Highlanders came in for a large amount of praise, their marching and general appearance leaving nothing to be desired. A combined concert by the different bands was held in Dundurn Park in the evening, but, unfortunately, before the programme was completed, the rain, which had been threatening for some time, descended in torrents, calling a rather abrupt termination to the entertainment. Speaking of the Highlanders' visit the Toronto Globe said: "The officers and men are unanimous in saying that they were never made more comfortable, and that they could not have spent the time more pleasantly." The members of the other visiting corps were equally pleased with the trip and reception to the city.

The battalion took part in the field day at Toronto on the 26th of November, 1896, (Thanksgiving), parading 405 of all ranks.

In 1897 Color-Sergeant W. H. Whateley, Sergeant D. V. Gardiner,

Corporal John Leith and Private W. Richmond, were selected to represent the battalion on the Jubilee contingent which went to England on the occasion of the celebration of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign.

The trips taken by the battalion on the Queen's Birthdays of former years had always been characterised by the fact that the corps was *going* somewhere where they were, at least, not entire strangers, on account of the comparatively short distances that separated the towns they had visited from Hamilton. Kingston, however, being a considerable distance, and, at the same time, essentially a military town, extra preparations were made to have the the battalion at its best in every possible way on its trip to that city in 1897. With a parade state of 510, the corps entrained at 10 o'clock on the night of Saturday, the 22nd, arriving in Kingston the following Sunday morning about 5 o'clock. One hour later the troops were all detrained and proceeded to the fair grounds, where, under the direction of Major Mason, seventy-five large tents and three marquees had been erected for their accommodation. That day probably the largest church parade ever witnessed in Kingston took place. The Brigade consisted of exactly 1,200 officers and men. The Brigade Review held on Monday, the 24th, Lieut.-Col. Cotton in command, was successful in every re-



THIRTEENTH BATTALION REPRESENTATIVES TO HER MAJESTY'S DIAMOND JUBILEE.

spect. The Brigade line was as follows : "A" Field Battery on the right, the Thirteenth and Fifteenth Battalions in the centre, and the 14th Prince of Wales' Own Rifles on the left. After the " feu-de-joie " and three cheers for Her Majesty, column was formed for the march past, in which the Thirteenth acquitted itself most creditably. The trooping of the colour by the Thirteenth was a new feature to most of the Kingstonians, as only red-coated regiments are privileged to perform this ceremony, and the local regiment is a blue-coated one. The applause that followed it was deafening. After a parade through the town the regiments were dismissed, the Thirteenth assembling at the station at 9.45, all entraining for home in good order. Lieut.-Colonel Cotton, Brigade

officer of the day, said that he was proud of temporarily commanding a brigade in which the Thirteenth formed a part. The officers and men of the battalion received unbounded kindness during their visit, more especially from the members of the Prince of Wales' Own Rifles, who were unremitting in their endeavors to make it a pleasant one.

During 1897 an ambulance corps was formed, and the battalion was re-armed with Lee-Enfield rifles.

Lieut.-Colonel Moore retired on November 10th, 1897, and was succeeded by Lieut.-Colonel Henry McLaren, who, during twenty-eight years connection with the battalion, had served in every capacity, from ensign up. Before joining the Thirteenth he had served as a private in the University company of the Queen's Own Rifles, and was one of a detachment from that company drafted into service in the Western Administrative Battalion, in the autumn of 1865. The company formed from the Queen's Own was stationed during the winter of 1865-6 at Sarnia, in anticipation of a Fenian Raid. In 1866 Mr. McLaren joined the home guard, in Hamilton, and three years later he was gazetted an ensign in the Thirteenth. He immediately qualified by taking a second-class certificate at the Military School, and obtained a first-class certificate the following year. In 1883 he performed the duties of Brigade Major at the camp of instruction at Niagara. He obtained a first-class certificate from the Toronto School of Infantry in 1887, and followed this up by taking a long course at Kingston in 1889.

The Thirteenth Battalion, with a parade state of three hundred and sixty-five officers and men, participated in the Thanksgiving field day at Toronto, on November 25th of this year.

Some dissatisfaction having been expressed by the people of Hamilton that the Thirteenth should leave the city on the holiday, it was decided that for the Queen's Birthday of 1898 the corps would remain in town, and contribute to the public celebrations. The Royal Grenadiers, of Toronto, " A " Company of the Seventy-Seventh Battalion, of Dundas, and the Royal Canadian Dragoons, were the invited guests of the day. A grand review of the troops and a sham battle was planned for the forenoon, to be followed in the afternoon with an exhibition by the Dragoons and manoeuvres and exercises by the troops, all under the auspices of the St. George's Society. The Thirteenth Battalion and the Fourth Field Battery paraded at the Drill Hall at 9.15 on the morning of the Queen's Birthday, where they were joined by the Dundas company of the Seventy-Seventh Battalion. On the arrival at the Jockey Club grounds the forces were divided in the following manner : The Thirteenth and the right section of the battery, under Lieut.-Colonel McLaren, formed the attacking force, and the Grenadiers, assisted by the middle and left sections of the battery, the defending force, under Lieut.-Colonel Mason. From a military standpoint the battle was

a perfect success, but some of the spectators expressed disappointment, as it did not last long enough, and was perhaps not quite up to their expectations in the way of noise and excitement. In the afternoon performance the hit of the day was made by the Dragoons, who went through many interesting and entertaining tactics. Physical drill by the Grenadiers, the trooping of the colour by the Thirteenth, and march past by the assembled troops, brought the day's proceedings to a close. In the evening the band concert and exhibition of drill by the Dragoons at Dundurn Park was a most enjoyable feature. At 9.45 the combined bands struck up the national anthem, winding up the celebrations at an early hour, by the desire of the committee.

A number of Maxim guns were purchased by the Canadian Government in 1897, and were given to certain of the city corps. The corps receiving them were required to qualify one officer and one non-commissioned officer in the use of the new gun. The Thirteenth Battalion was the first corps to receive a Maxim, and now has a very efficient detachment commanded by Lieut. John D. Laidlaw. The Maxim is the latest type of machine gun adopted by the British Government, and is doubtless the best and most accurate of these



THE MAXIM GUN AND THE GUN DETACHMENT,  
THIRTEENTH BATTALION OF INFANTRY.

death-dealing instruments. The gun fires, at its greatest speed, 600 shots per minute, through a single barrel. This barrel passes through a casing filled with water to keep the barrel cool. The water in the casing boils in about one and a half minutes, and the arrangements for the escape of steam and constant supply of water are all provided for in the most complete manner. The work of these guns during Lord Kitchener's recent campaign in the Soudan shows their terrible effectiveness.

The Thanksgiving manoeuvres in Toronto were attended again in 1898 by 358 of all ranks.

A pressing invitation having been received from the officers of the Nineteenth Battalion of St. Catharines, it was decided to take the Thirteenth to that town to assist in the local celebration of the Queen's Birthday of 1899. About

8.15 on the morning of the 24th, the Battalion paraded at the Drill Hall, showing a parade state of 464 of all ranks. In honor of the day in Hamilton, the regiment was marched to the "Gore," for the purpose of firing a "feu-de-joie," giving a royal salute, and three cheers for the Queen. The entraining at the Stuart St. depot was satisfactorily accomplished, all arriving at St. Catharines in good order at about 11.45. The regiment was escorted by the Nineteenth Battalion Band to "Montebello Park," where, after piling their arms, the companies were marched to the different hotels to partake of dinner. At about 2 p. m., the Brigade, which consisted of the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Battalions, "A" Squadron, Second Dragoons, and two guns of the Welland Field Battery formed up in Montebello Park, proceeding from there to the fair grounds. A royal salute of twenty-one guns by the Battery, followed with a feu-de-joie by the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Battalions, opened the days proceedings.



600 YARDS FIRING POINT  
AT NEW RANGES.

The brigade "march past" in column and quarter column was exceedingly well done and loudly applauded by the spectators. The trooping of the colour and physical drill, as performed by the Thirteenth, were notable features of the day. On conclusion of the programme, the brigade formed for the return march, the Thirteenth depositing their helmets and arms in the train on the way. In the evening a combined concert of the Thirteenth and Nineteenth bands took place. Nearly 2,000 people attended, and satisfaction was expressed on all sides at

the splendid renderings of both bands. The treatment accorded to the members of the Thirteenth by their sister corps was hospitable in the extreme. The battalion entrained for Hamilton shortly after 9 p. m., arriving without any special incident, after having spent what has been termed "one of the pleasantest days in its history."

The want of a modernly equipped rifle range had been a long-felt one for many years by the officers and men of the Thirteenth, and it was in consequence with feelings of the utmost satisfaction that arrangements were finally concluded for the construction of a new range on a site selected by Musketry Instructor Lieutenant Pain and Assistant Instructor Sergt. Hayhurst. The site was approved of by Colonel Otter, and is, without doubt, one of the finest ranges in the Dominion. The official opening took place on Saturday afternoon, Sept.

23rd, 1899. After the ground, ranges and targets had been inspected, and several speeches made and replied to, Mrs. McLaren fired the first shot, scoring a bulls-eye, and the official opening was declared. A very handsome and artistic souvenir, in the shape of a certificate of the first shot fired at the 600 yard range, the work *of* Captain Tidswell, was presented by that officer on behalf of the range officials to Mrs. McLaren. An interesting exhibition of quick firing by the Maxim gun detachment preceded the continuance of the Senior matches, which had been started early in the morning. To conclude the day a very pleasant "at home" was tendered by the officers to their guests in a large tent erected upon the grounds.

On Thanksgiving day, October 19th, 1899, the Battalion, with a muster of 356, attended the manoeuvres held at Toronto. In the sham battle, which was the principal event of the day, the Thirteenth, who formed part of the attacking force, acquitted themselves most creditably. The forces were divided as follows : The attacking, or southern force, consisted of the Thirteenth Battalion, G and K companies of the Queen's Own Rifles, the Royal Canadian Dragoons, and one section of the 9th Field Battery with two guns. Lieut.-Colonel Henry McLaren was in command of the attacking force. The defending or northern force consisted of the balance of the Toronto Field Battery, 1st Prince of Wales Fusiliers of Montreal, Queen's Own Rifles, 10th Royal Grenadiers and the Forty-Eighth Highlanders.



TARGETS AT NEW RANGES  
SHOWING SYSTEM OF MARKING.

Lieut.-Colonel Delamere was in command of this force. Many interesting tactics were performed, and the commanders of both forces expressed themselves as highly satisfied with the manner in which they had been carried out.

Canadians have ever been marked for their staunch loyalty to the Mother country, and when, towards the close of this year, war was declared between Great Britain and the Boers of the South African Republic, a wave *of* sympathy and excitement swept this country from coast to coast. Canada's duty was plain, and no time was lost in offering to Great Britain a contingent of her best soldiers to assist the British forces. The offer was gladly accepted, and in an incredibly short space of time a splendid regiment, representing all the military districts, was gathered together, armed and equipped at the country's expense, and despatched to South Africa. The quota from the Thirteenth

Battalion consisted of one officer and six men : Lieutenant W. R. Marshall, Pte. K. Cassell, Pte. W. C. Warren, Pte. J. H. Sutton, Lance-Sergt. F. H. Rutherford, Pte. A. Robson and Pte. W. Warrick. It was generally agreed that no better choice could have been made in appointing Lieutenant Marshall to represent the officers of the Thirteenth, as he was an officer of considerable military experience, devoted to athletics, and a thorough favorite in the corps. Colonel McLaren expressed his gratification at the spirit which had prompted



MRS. MCLAREN OFFICIALLY OPENING THE RANGES  
BY FIRING THE FIRST SHOT AT 600 YARDS.

these men to volunteer for service in so distant a part of the empire, and said, " I feel sure that they will not only uphold the honor of their own regiment, but also that of the Canadian militia in general, and I am sure that I echo the desire of every member of the corps in wishing them God-speed."

The formation of Canada's contingent to assist the British troops in the Transvaal has formed for this country a precedent which all Canadians have just reason to be proud of. In conjunction with the other colonies who have sent troops to fight for Her Majesty, this movement has furnished conclusive proof that Colonials are as truly British as were their forefathers, who left their homes to settle in the different portions of the empire's vast possessions. Not alone has it proven our loyalty to Great Britain, but, as an object lesson to the world at large, it is invaluable to the nation's interest, showing to those who would plot against it that they have not alone Great Britain to deal with, but also Greater Britain as constituted in her different colonies. In every sense we are truly soldiers of the Queen, ready to fight for her at all times, and proud of the privilege that enables us, as free-born subjects, to do so.