

56th Battalion.

The 56th Battalion "Lisgar Rifles," County of Grenville, seven companies, Lieut. Colonel Jessup, mustered six companies in battalion camp at Prescott, on 10th September, with the following strength :

	Officers.	N. C. Officers & Men. (Five Horses).
Staff	8	4
No. 2 Company, Capt. Bennett	3	39
" 3 " Major Campbell	2	17
" 4 " Ensign Chambers	1	45
" 5 " Captain McCuaig	2	25
" 6 " " Checkley	1	16
" 7 " " Carmicheal	3	46
Total.....	20	192

I inspected this battalion on the 17th September, and was much pleased with the cleanliness and order of the camp, and military bearing of both officers and men. The corps paraded very clean and soldierlike, and the drill as detailed in tabular return, was performed very satisfactorily. The brass band of twelve performers is efficient.

The course of target practice was carried out during the encampment.

I will send a special report on number one company at an early day.

Total number of companies which have performed the drill, 20 (twenty). Showing 68 officers, 690 non-commissioned officers and men, and 141 horses present. Average per company, officers and men, 37.90.

Corps which have not yet performed Drill.

The following corps have yet to complete or perform the drill, viz :—

Gananoque Field Battery Artillery—Captain McKenzie. All of the officers and some of the non-commissioned officers have passed through the school of gunnery at Kingston. The corps will perform the drill as soon as the equipment is received.

Iroquois Battery Garrison Artillery—Captain McDonell. I will forward special report on this corps at an early day.

The five city batteries of the Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery, Lieut.-Col. Forrest, are performing the drill under the General Orders of the 30th May last, at their headquarters, and will not be prepared for the inspection until about the end of June next.

The *Governor General's Foot Guards*, six companies strong, Lieut.-Col. Thos. Ross, are performing the drill at their head-quarters under the General Orders of 30th May last, and will not be prepared for inspection until about the end of June next.

The *18th Battalion*, County of Prescott, six companies strong, Lieut.-Col. Shields, purpose going into camp in June next.

The balance (four companies) of the *41st Battalion*, Lieut.-Col. Cole, are performing the drill at local head-quarters, and will probably not be prepared for inspection before the end of June next.

The *42nd Battalion*—Lieut.-Col. Buell, seven companies strong, purpose going into camp in June next.

The *59th Battalion*—Lieut.-Col. Bergin, seven companies strong, purpose going into camp in June next.

Permit me to say, in conclusion, that I do not think rural corps can perform the drill satisfactorily at the local company head-quarters. I consider the best mode Brigade Camps, next to that Battalion Camps.

I find that forty rounds of ball ammunition, per man, cannot be expended with advantage at target practice during the annual drill. I think that the number ought not to exceed twenty rounds, per man; the balance to be fired at the company head-quarters, at such times as directed by the Captain.

The men complain very much at not being supplied while in camp with more than one blanket. The surgeons of the several corps say that, not only the comfort, but the health of the men require at least two, more particularly if in camp after the first of September.

I make the usual periodical inspections of all stores throughout the District, which, as a rule, are kept clean and orderly in the armories. There are some instances, however, where the Captains allow too many articles to be kept by the men; this practice I at all times discountenance, and in some instances have had to withhold the certificates in favour of the allowance for care of arms until the Captains collected and certified that the stores were all in the armory.

I may add that the usual pay muster is never dispensed with and the District Paymaster, Lieut.-Col. MacDougall, with his usual promptness, has paid the several corps before they left camp.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Your most obedient servant,

W. H. JACKSON, Lieut.-Colonel,
Act. Deputy Adjutant General, Mil. Dis. No. 4.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 5.

HEAD QUARTERS, MILITARY DISTRICT, No. 5.
MONTREAL, 17th December, 1873.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that the quota of Active Militia, required to be furnished from the District under my Command, is 3,628.

The total actual strength of the Force which has completed its annual training for the year 1873-74, is as follows, viz. :—

	Officers.	Troopers.	Horses.	
St. Andrew's Troop Cavalry.....	3	48	51	
Mississquoi	3	35	38	
Huntingdon	2	35	37	
Brome	3	34	37	
Drilled in camp as a Provl. R. Co. {	Stanstead	3	34	37
	Cookshire	2	51	53
	Sherbrooke	1	41	42
	Compton	2	34	36
	Staff	2	3	5
N. C. Officers				
	Officers.	and men.	Horses.	
Shefford Field Battery.....	3	71	45	
St. John's Garrison Artillery....	3	38	—	
11th Battalion, Nos. 2, 3, 4 & 5 Comps.....	10	176	—	
21st " Nos. 1, 2 & 4 Comps.....	9	153	—	
50th "	30	265	5	
51st "	28	316	5	
52nd "	22	229	4	
53rd "	12	197	—	
54th "	14	82	4	
58th "	15	325	—	
60th "	23	213	4	
79th "	27	173	4	
Wakefield Infantry Company.....	3	37	—	
Eardley	2	26	—	
Aylwin	3	50	—	

Recapitulation of Corps drilled.

	N. C. Officers		
	Officers.	and men,	Horses.
Cavalry	21	315	336
Field Battery	3	71	45
Garrison Artillery	3	38	—
Infantry	198	2,248	26

The Corps in the District which have yet to complete the annual drill for 1873-74, are as under:

Montreal Troop of Cavalry.
 „ Field Battery.
 „ Engineers (2 Company's).
 „ Brigade of Garrison Artillery.
 1st or "Prince of Wales Battalion" Rifles.
 3rd "Victoria Volunteer Rifle" Battalion.
 6th "Hochelaga Light Infantry."
 Nos. 1, 6, 7 & 8 Companies of 11th Battalion.
 No. 3 Company of 21st Battalion.
 No. 3 „ 53rd „
 No. 3 & 4 „ 54th „
 Nos. 1, 6, 7 & 8 Companies 58th Battalion.

These Corps I estimate, will aggregate 77 Officers, 1,125 Non-Commissioned Officers and men, 90 horses, should this estimate be realized and I have every reason to believe it will, the total for the annual training for 1873-74, will be about 302 Officers, 3,373 Non-Commissioned Officer's and men, and 497 horses: this as regards numbers will compare favorably with last years training.

The force in the district, with the exception of the Montreal Troop of Cavalry, Field Battery and Garrison Artillery, the 1st, 3rd, 6th, 11th, 21st, 53rd and 58th Battalions, and the independent Companies of Infantry, formed regimental camps and performed the drill in eight consecutive days of six hours each, and were generally well carried on, the ground for the camps was invariably well chosen, and the tents nicely pitched; the target practice so far as possible was completed, but experience shews that 40 rounds of ammunition per man is too much to expend profitably in so short a time as eight days. Many of the Battalions fired in squads from the commencement to the finish of the encampment, and were then unable to finish the firing.

The Montreal force is at present laboring under very great disadvantage, and has been ever since the fall of the Drill Hall, and it will be necessary to make some provision to replace this loss, if it is considered desirable to keep up the force; and it is only fair to say, that hitherto it has always answered most heartily to the call for active service.

I beg leave to refer you to my tabulated annual report for details of Inspections, and to the District target practice return for the abstract of the firing. Until the firing is completed, it is of course impossible for me to name the best shot.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS BACON, Lt.-Col.,
 Acting Deputy Adjutant General Mil. Dis. No. 5.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 6.

MONTREAL, 18th Dec., 1873.

SIR,—In conformity with your instructions I have the honor of forwarding you my annual report for 1873-74.

This report is short: the greatest part of the corps in Military District Number Six not having as yet performed their annual drill; some intending to do so during this winter, others in the spring.

None of the corps in the 4th Brigade Division, under the command of Lieut.-Col. D'Orsonnens, Brigade Major, have as yet begun the annual drill, except the "Mont Royal" battalion, which is now doing so at head-quarters, Montreal.

In the 5th Brigade Division, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Hanson, Brigade Major, two companies only have performed their annual drill—they are number two Three Rivers Provisional Battalion, Captain Lambert, and number four Three Rivers Provisional Battalion, Captain Bouvier.

Number two company was inspected at Riviere du Loup en Haut on the 19th July last. There were present on parade: officers, non-commissioned officers and men, 49.

The state of drill was very satisfactory—well up in skirmishing. The state of arms was good, with a trifling exception.

Number four company was inspected at St. Gabriel de Brandon, on the 17th July last.

Present on parade—officers, non-commissioned officers and men, 54.

The clothing is quite unserviceable.

The other corps in this Division will perform their annual drill during winter or in the spring.

The target practice return for this Division will be forwarded you in a few days.

In the 6th Brigade Division, under the command of Lieut.-Col. de Bellefeuille, Brigade Major, the 55th Megantic, Lieut.-Col. Barwiss in command, went into camp, and were inspected on the 9th July last.

There were in camp on said date of inspection—officers, non-commissioned officers and men, 274.

The independent companies of Ste. Gertrude, Victoriaville, Gentilly, Sorel, St. Simon, St. Pie, St. Gregoire, Becancour, Nicolet, Arthabaska, St. Hyacinthe, Wotton, Wolfestown, St. Norbert, Bulstrode, will drill some time during this winter, others during the coming spring.

I have offered the Government two troops of cavalry, a battery of sixty-seven men at Nicolet, and a battalion of foot artillery under Major Labranche at Montreal; that is to say, "they are all ready to enlist and go to work," but, as it seems, they are not wanted.

In the 4th Brigade Division, the three companies of the North—St. Placide, St. Benoit and St. Eustache—are getting rather disorganized; the men have served their three years. I think it would be desirable for the benefit of the service that they be replaced by a "field battery," under the command of (Doctor) Captain Marsil, of St. Eustache, a man who has done a great deal for the service, and a man who has made a special study of artillery, &c., &c., &c.

In some of my former reports I have taken the liberty of drawing the attention of the Department upon a few other subjects. I shall not repeat that in this, but will be as short as possible, and pray to be considered.

Yours truly,

A. C. DELOTBINIERE HARWOOD, Lieut.-Colonel,
 Deputy Adjutant General, Mil. Dis. No. 6.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF MILITIA,
 Ottawa.

MILITARY DISTRICT, NO 7.

QUEBEC, 7th November, 1873.

SIR,—In pursuance to the instructions contained in your circular memorandum dated Ottawa, October 24th, 1873, I have the honor to forward (enclosed) an inspection report

of the corps of Active Militia in this district who have performed the annual drill for 1873-74; also a list of such corps as had not been inspected on the 1st November, 1873.

I also forward herewith a detailed statement of the nominal strength of such corps as have put in their drill, and one of their actual strength on parade inspection, which will show that the average attendance has so far been very good. The total nominal strength of all ranks for all the corps who have been inspected up to date being 2,066, and the total actual strength 1,976. This great improvement on the attendance of last year can, I believe, be partly accounted for by the fact of companies and corps being allowed to select their own time and place of drill, which of course facilitates attendance and interferes least with private avocations. I am happy to state also that in most corps I noticed a considerable change for the better in proficiency at drill and attendance to their duties.

I also forward herewith a return of target practice of such corps as have performed their drill for this year. The country corps of this district, through want of targets, had been unable to give much attention to firing until last year. The large percentage of recruits in the different companies has made the average rather low. I would in this connection respectfully beg to submit the advisability of not having untrained men firing so many rounds during one period of training, as the short time they must necessarily devote to it has a tendency to their hurrying their firing or leave a part of it undone. Unskilled men require more time in aiming than practiced soldiers, and tolerably quick firing with them means nothing but waste of ammunition. Most battalions have only one six hundred yards target, and if all the men of five or six companies are to fire forty rounds in eight days, having to travel sometimes a considerable distance to their range, it seems obvious that the men must either be hurried through their firing or have little time left for anything else. Two of the battalions inspected this year have found it impossible to complete the prescribed course.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

L. A. CASUALT, Lt.-Col.,
D.A.G., Commanding,
Military District, No. 7.

Lt.-Col. W. POWELL,
Acting Adjt.-General,
Ottawa.

LIST OF ALL THE CORPS OF ACTIVE MILITIA in Military District No. 7. not inspected up to the 1st November, 1873:

NAME OF CORPS.	Probable time when these Corps will perform their Annual Drill for 1873-74.	Nominal Strength.
Quebec Squadron of Cavalry	During Winter.....	179
Beauce Field Battery of Artillery.....	{ No guns, saddlery, or equipments, only the small mountain guns.....	33
Quebec Prov. Brigade of Garrison Artillery.....	Not re-organized.....	237
8th Battalion "Stadacona Rifles".....	Have commenced their drill.....	296
9th Battalion "Voltigeurs de Québec".....	{ Not known if the Battalion will be recruited up to strength.....	413
No. 4 Company of the 17th Battalion ("New Liverpool" Company)	Before July next	58
No. 6 " " " " " ("St. Michel" Company)	Do.	58
Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Cos. 23rd Battalion.....	Do.	290
No. 3 Co. Dorchester Prov. Battalion.....	Do.	58
Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Cos. Portneuf Prov. Battalion.....	Do.	174
No. 4 Co. County of Quebec Prov. Battalion.....	Do.	58
Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5 Cos. Rimouski Prov. Battalion.....	Do.	232
Nos. 3, 4 and 5 Cos. Charlevoix Prov. Battalion.....	Do.	174
"Fox River" Infantry Company.....	During next winter.....	58
"Maria" " "	{ Never armed nor equipped; never drilled.....	
Métapédia " "		
Bonaventure Marine Company.		
Carleton " "	Not organized.....	
New Carlisle " "		
Trois-Pistoles Co., No. 2 of Temiscouata Battalion....	Do.	
Matane Co., No. 2 of Rimouski Battalion	Do.	
		2,318

L. A. CASUALT, Lieut.-Col.,
D.A.G., Commanding,
Mil. District No. 7.

Quebec, 3rd November, 1873.

STATEMENT of the nominal strength of the Corps of Active Militia in Military District, No. 7, having undergone Annual Training for 1873-74, up to the 1st November, 1873.

CORPS.	No. of Officers.	No. of N.C.O. and Men.	Total No. of Officers, N.C.O. and Men.
Quebec Field Battery of Artillery.....	5	74	79
Grosse Isle Detachment	1	24	25
Infantry :—17th Battalion, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 Cos. with staff.....	25	110	135
23rd " No. 6 Co.....	3	55	58
61st " (The whole Battalion with staff).....	21	275	296
70th "	25	276	301
Dorchester Prov. Battalion, Nos. 1, 2, & 4 Cos., with staff.....	13	165	178
Rimouski " No. 3 Co.....	3	55	58
Kamouraska " (Whole Battalion with staff).....	16	220	236
Temiscouata " Nos. 1, 3, 4, & 5 Cos., with staff....	16	220	236
Portneuf " Nos. 4 & 5 Cos.....	6	110	116
County of Quebec Nos. 1, 2 & 3 Cos.....	9	165	174
Charlevoix " Nos. 1 & 2 Co.....	6	110	116
Gaspé Company.....	3	55	58
	152	1914	2066

QUEBEC, 3 Nov., 1873.

L. A. CASAULT, Lieut.-Col.,
D.A.G., Commanding,
Military District, No. 7.

STATEMENT of the Actual Strength of the Corps of Active Militia in Military District, No. 7, having undergone the course of Annual Training for 1873-74, up to the 1st November, 1873.

CORPS.	No. of Officers.	No. of N.C.O. and Men.	Total of Officers and N.C.O. and Men.
Quebec Field Battery of Artillery.....	5	69	74
Grosse Isle Detachment	1	22	23
Infantry :—17th Battalion, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, & 8 Cos.....	22	263	285
23rd " No. 6 Co.....	3	48	51
61st "	12	220	232
70th "	25	269	294
Dorchester Prov. Battalion, Nos. 1, 2, & 4 Cos.....	10	148	158
Rimouski " No. 3 Co.....	3	46	49
Kamouraska "	11	199	210
Temiscouata " Nos. 1, 3, 4, & 5 Cos....	8	185	193
Portneuf " Nos. 4 & 5 Cos.....	5	87	92
County of Quebec Nos. 1, 2, & 3 Cos.....	9	153	162
Charlevoix " Nos. 1 & 2 Cos.....	5	108	113
Gaspé Company.....	1	93	40
	120	1856	1976

QUEBEC, 3 Nov., 1873.

L. A. CASAULT, Lieut.-Col.,
D.A.G., Commanding,
Military District No. 7.

MILITARY DISTRICT, No. 8.

HEAD QUARTERS, FREDERICTON,
6th November, 1873.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that the quota of Active Militia required to be furnished from the Military District under my command is 3,264 of all ranks.

The total nominal strength of the force in the District, were the respective effective Corps complete to their established strength as authorized, would be 2,795.

The total actual strength of the force, when mustered at the time of the annual drill for 1873-74, was 2,154. There are five (5) companies whose drill is in progress—290. Total, 2,444.

There are 820 officers and men wanting to complete; and to meet this discrepancy, new corps have been recommended as shewn below, *vice* others become non-effective.

The Active Militia in the District consists of the following corps, which at the time of the annual drill, turned out as follows :

	Officers.	N. C. Officers & Men.
<i>8th Regiment of Cavalry.</i>		
Lieut.-Colonel Saunders (7 troops)	19	275
<i>Newcastle Field Battery.</i>		
Captain Call	4	50
<i>New Brunswick Brigade Garrison Artillery.</i>		
Lieut.-Colonel Foster (7 batteries)	25	363
<i>62nd, St. John Battalion of Infantry.</i>		
X Lieut.-Colonel McShane (6 companies).....	20	230
<i>67th Battalion Carleton Light Infantry.</i>		
Lieut.-Col. Upton (10 companies)	35	472
<i>71st York Battalion of Infantry.</i>		
Lieut.-Col. Marsh (5 companies)	22	252
<i>73rd Northumberland Battalion of Infantry.</i>		
Lieut.-Col. Ferguson (4 companies)	8	157
<i>74th Battalion of Infantry.</i>		
Lieut.-Col. Beer (4 companies).....	16	165
<i>Dalhousie Infantry Company.</i>		
Captain Barberie	1	40
Total	150	2,004

The undermentioned corps have not yet completed their drill, but will do so during the winter months :

New Brunswick Engineers—Captain Parks.
St. Stephen Infantry Company—Captain Hutton.
Deer Island Infantry Company—Captain Lloyd.
Bathurst Infantry Company—Captain Burns.
No. 1 Company, 73rd Battalion—Captain Hutchinson.

The following Corps, though recommended, have not yet been accepted:

N. B. Brigade Garrison Artillery—Captain Beckwith.

Provisional Battalion—Major McAdam, (4 companies, one of them a new company).

71st Battalion—Captains Ross and Clayton, (one new company added).

The annual drill was performed in accordance with the general orders of the 30th May, and 23rd June, 1873, and in order to give a full detailed account here, I propose advertising to the force of each brigade division separately, instead of by seniority of corps in the district.

The drill having been carried out for the most part at company head-quarters instead of at battalion or brigade camps, as heretofore, my report must necessarily be brief.

I must say, however, that while I am of opinion that many good results have been produced this year, I by no reason consider this method of performing the annual drill as effective as the former system.

In proof of the good results, may be mentioned,

(1) Although brigade camps had become almost an indispensable institution, and had been rendered attractive to the force and beneficial to the country, this being the commencement of a new period of service, in many corps, by having drill at company head-quarters, ample opportunity is afforded the captain to *recruit to the full strength*; and the time being spent almost entirely at squad and company drill, men will in future *more eagerly assemble in camp*, and they will be better prepared for battalion and brigade drill and field manoeuvres, and the people generally, as time goes on, will I doubt not, more and more appreciate the advantages of having camps of instruction *periodically* formed in their midst.

(2) Our late Adjutant-General has justly pointed out that, as a rule, "reduced militia estimates means reduced efficiency and power of defence;" and while I am sure none will allow that the force of the Dominion is in process of deterioration, as on no better foundation could it be placed than that on which it now stands, and the best spirit pervades the force. Our rulers, however, may consider that "there is need for economy in any system intended to last," and, in this view of the question, it may be desirable to have the annual drill performed at *stated periods* in the same manner as it has been this year—say 1st year, at company or battalion head quarters, at the option of officers commanding corps; 2nd year, in battalion camp; 3rd year, in brigade camp.

It must be added that at all my inspections during the year, commanding officers of corps, and captains of companies, expressed themselves in favor of the brigade camp system. As regards the present not being as effective a system of carrying out the annual drill, as that which hitherto prevailed,

I may say (1) that men, who for two successive years had attended the more attractive brigade camps, and had found—even the most busy—that they could attend them with advantage to themselves, and without inconvenience to their employers, having this year returned to the routine of squad and company drill, now find this plan neither as interesting nor instructive as the former.

(2) However careful the "supervision" of officers commanding corps may be, and however great the desire on the part of captains of companies to carry out drill and target practice "regulations" both in letter and spirit, it becomes apparent that one corps cannot vie with another, and, while loyalty and patriotism never flag, there is at local drill a want of the enthusiasm that characterises our battalion and brigade camps. It is, however, due to officers of all grades to say that I consider they conscientiously performed their duty at this drill, and at target practice. In the absence of Government prizes, local subscriptions were obtained to further this important object.

(3) It is impossible to have the inspection and payment of each company on the last day of training in every instance, as the drill of several companies, many miles apart, may take place at the same time, and it is a serious drawback not being able to pay the men on completing their period of drill.

It should be stated, in conclusion, that, although it was left optional this year to commanding officers to assemble their corps in battalion camps under the old system,

in consequence of the prevailing rumor that there were to be "no camps," arrangements for drill were made accordingly, and when the general order was published, but one commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel Saunders) availed himself of it.

1ST BRIGADE DIVISION—Lieut.-Colonel Inches, Brigade Major.

No. 5 Battery Garrison Artillery Woodstock—Lieutenant W. P. Donnell.

This battery was inspected by Lieut.-Colonel Jago and myself on September 9th.

Lieut.-Colonel Jago reports that the commanding officer, Lieut. Donnell, appears to be active and energetic, and has got a large number of men on his roll, whilst many others are anxious to join. I saw some shot practice, made from one of the two six-pounder guns with which this battery is armed. The carriage of the other gun is so worn that it is impossible to fire it; and I should recommend that the gun used at this inspection for shot practice, should not on any account be used again, except in a case of urgent necessity.

Lieut.-Colonel Jago adds, "I trust that before another year's drill takes place, that this battery will be turned into a field battery. I can only repeat what I stated last year, that the country about Woodstock is more suited to a field battery than any other part of the Province; that the facilities for obtaining horses are good; and that the officers and men are willing and anxious to serve. The battery, as at present constituted and arranged is of no advantage, neither to the country nor itself." I am happy to state that the battery has re-enrolled as a field battery, and the recommendation to that effect will shortly be submitted.

67th Carleton Light Infantry—Lieut.-Colonel Upton.

Lieut.-Colonel Inches, Brigade Major, inspected the nine (9) out-station companies of this large battalion during my temporary absence on duty in King's and Westmoreland, from 8th to 15th July; and that officer's report will be transmitted so soon as received by me.

I inspected the Head Quarters Company No. 1, Captain Bourne, on the 9th of September, and though its drill was not completed on that day, I have much pleasure in reporting favorably, as to the efficiency then attained, reflecting much credit upon the Captain and his subaltern officers.

In fact, efficient as the battalion as a whole is, it is only what may reasonably be expected from the class of men of which it is composed, representing one of the finest farming counties in the Dominion.

71st Battalion.—Lieut.-Colonel J. Marsh.

Accompanied by the Lieut.-Colonel and other members of the battalion staff, I inspected the different companies of this battalion at their respective head-quarters on the following dates:—

Fredericton	Lieut. Cropley	13th August.
Smith's Corner.....	Captain Christy	15th September.
St Mary's.....	" Staples	20th "
Fredericton Junction	" Alexander	26th "
Stanley.....	" Wilkinson	2nd October.

I cannot speak too highly of the manner in which the captains and subalterns appear to have carried out the "Regulations." It evidently required but little "supervision" on the part of the Lieut.-Colonel to ensure their doing so; and though separated widely, each company seemed eager to excel, while the best spirit prevails; and, on my part, it is hard to say which is the best drilled company. The 71st Battalion has a very efficient band.

The recommendation for disbanding certain non-effective corps in this Brigade Division, and substituting others, submitted on and referred to in my last report has not, I regret to say, as yet been acted upon.

2ND BRIGADE DIVISION—Lieut.-Colonel Otty, Brigade Major.

8th Regiment of Cavalry—Lieut.-Colonel J. Saunders,

Camp, Apohaqui, 16th July, 1873.

This being the only corps in the Military District under my command that assembled in camp for the performance of its annual drill, it deserves especial mention.

The camp occupied the same site as last year: on the grounds of the Lieut.-Colonel. No more desirable situation could be selected.

Each year's experience brings fresh enthusiasm, and increased *esprit de corps* to this fine regiment so frequently commended for its efficiency by the highest authorities; and as a result of my inspection on the 16th July, I have only to repeat what I have often said, that the corps is in the "most satisfactory" condition, considering the very limited time annually at its disposal for drill.

The assistance rendered to the Lieut.-Colonel by the Brigade Major, Lieut.-Colonel Otty, last year, in regulating the system of interior economy of the regiment, had the desired effect at this camp; both officers and men appeared to know their duty, and to do it.

In proof of the popularity of this corps, I may add, that besides the Member of Parliament of the county, J. Domville, Esq., and several officers from St. John, there were large numbers of county ladies and gentlemen present to witness the inspection.

With the exception of 50 sets of saddlery lately issued, the equipment is old and nearly unserviceable.

In the Veterinary Surgeon's (M. P. Greene, Esq.) report, he states that "there are a great many saddles totally unfit for use, and they are the cause of keeping many horses off parade, owing to injuries from the saddle." A fresh issue of saddlery is urgently required.

Mr. Greene also states that, "a medicine chest (for horses) is indispensable, as horses are very liable to accident and disease, from their being exposed to the open air, and congregated in such numbers." I beg to support this officer's suggestions, and to submit his report (A.) for favorable consideration, as it contains a list of medicines required.

As regards the health of the men in camp, Surgeon Sharp reports that, "we have never had so healthy a camp since the organization of our regiment. This, we think, attributable to two causes; first, the cool dry weather it has been our fortune to experience; and secondly, to the men becoming inured to camp life; thus taking better care of themselves."

New Brunswick Brigade of Garrison Artillery.—Lieut.-Colonel Foster.

Lieut.-Colonel Jago and I inspected the four Batteries at St. John, on the 11th September, and that officer reports (Report B., herewith enclosed), "That this year they performed their drill at days and hours chosen by themselves, on the guns mounted in position at this place (St. John). The result has been in every way satisfactory, and the shooting made by each Battery, in its own practice, and at the annual competition on the day of inspection, has never been excelled. I append the Practice Reports of the different Batteries, and also those for the days of the competition, and I should wish particularly to draw attention to the shooting made by the winning Battery, (Major Cunard's), in the first competition, when 5 rounds were fired in 6 min. 30 sec., 32 p'rs., sea service carriages, at a range of 1,500 yds., with the most excellent effect."

Lieut.-Colonel Jago adduces strong arguments in favor of "all the Garrison Batteries in this Province performing, during the coming year, 8 days' drill at their own head-quarters, and 8 days, either in Camp or Barracks, in St. John," in all which arguments I entirely concur.

And, he adds "that he considers the Artillery Force in New Brunswick is steadily advancing in excellence and efficiency, and the greatest credit should be given to Lieut.-Colonel Foster, Commanding the Brigade, and all the Officers of the Artillery in New

Brunswick, whilst thanks and credit must also be given to the N. C. officers and men, who by their hard work and cheerful sacrifice of their time for small remuneration, make the force in New Brunswick one it is a pleasure to inspect."

62nd St. John Battalion.—Lieut.-Colonel MacShane.

I inspected this corps in the Barrack Field at Saint John, on the 16th October, and not only was the attendance large (per Company), the men clean and soldierlike in their appearance, the arms and accoutrements in excellent condition, but the drill was creditable alike to the Lieut.-Colonel, his officers and men, even a marked improvement since last inspection. Among the many spectators present at inspection, were several of the old officers of the Battalion, including Lieut.-Colonel Ray, who expressed themselves much pleased at the satisfactory state of efficiency of the corps.

The absence of the Regimental Band was accounted for—it has recently been reorganized—I have already adverted to the Competitive Drill successfully carried out in this corps.

When recently supporting Col. Evans' suggestion as to allowing "a limited number of *bonâ fide* volunteers of both arms married, and of unexceptionable character, to occupy the Infantry and Artillery Barracks at St. John—now vacant—rent free, under such rules and restrictions as may be considered necessary," I had much pleasure in stating that I consider that at no previous time was the volunteer force of St. John in as efficient a state as at the present moment."

74th Battalion of Infantry.—Lieut.-Colonel Beer.

Lieut.-Colonel Otty, B. M., inspected the Head-Quarters Company at Sussex, on the 30th October, 1873, and he reports as follows: "That this Company is now composed of a large number of recruits, consequently neither company or skirmishing drill was as well performed as on former inspections."

Accompanied by the Lieut.-Colonel, I inspected the three Companies in Westmorland County, 3rd Brigade Division, on the following dates: Sackville, Captain Baird, 15th July; Baie Verte, Captain Harper, 18th July; Murray Road, Captain Murray, 18th July.

The physical appearance of this half Battalion drew forth high praise from our late Adjutant-General, at Camp Ross, 1871, and in that respect it is still second to none in my District, and as regards proficiency, while it appears invidious to make any distinction, I consider the Sackville and Murray Road Companies deserve special mention—the latter Company had assembled for continuous drill, at a picturesque spot on the sea coast, near Shemogue, and they had evidently made good use of the time at their disposal.

I hope soon to be in a position to recommend the acceptance of two new Companies in this Battalion instead of two Companies become non-effective.

3RD BRIGADE DIVISION—Lieut.-Colonel McCulley, Brigade Major.

In addition to the troop of 8th Regiment of Cavalry, No. 7, and the half Battalion 74th Battalion already referred to, 2nd Brigade Division, I inspected the following corps:—

Newcastle Field Battery.—Captain Call.

Lieut.-Colonel Jago and I inspected this Battery, at Newcastle on August 29th, and that officer reports, "that this battery appears to be still in a transition state, the great difficulty being to provide horses and drivers. Captain Call is an officer who has spared neither time, money, nor trouble in trying to remedy this defect, but I regret to say that he has not hitherto met with success. The shot and shell practice made by this Battery was good, and the saddlery, stores, &c., were in good order. The Battery, however, certainly wants the power of mobility, but as it is only armed with the 9 pounder S. B. gun, I question greatly whether the country would be much the gainer "if it had it."

While the difficulty about horses and drivers has not yet been overcome, it is, I think, satisfactory to note that Captain Call has lately had a valuable addition to his list of gunners in the transfer of some efficient members of the late No. 1 Company, 73rd Battalion, whom I hope may ere long become trained artillerymen.

At the end of the continuous drill, Captain Call reported that "the men returned to their homes delighted with their drill. Not one had a single fault to find."

No. 7 Battery Garrison Artillery.—Brevet Major Gillespie.

Lieut.-Colonel Jago and I inspected this Battery at Chatham on the 28th August. That officer reports that "owing to an unfortunate detention arising from a destructive storm, the ammunition for the Battery did not arrive till after our inspection, so that I had no opportunity this year of seeing them at shot practice. The Battery showed a marked improvement in marching drill, and their standing gun drill was fair. I cannot but regret that my recommendation of last year as to platforms being laid on a point at the river bank, where the guns mounted might really assist at the defence of the Miramichi, has not been carried out, as not only would a permanent advantage have been obtained by doing so, but also the Battery would have been able to make much better use of their hours of drill."

Lieut.-Col. Jago adds: "Major Gillespie is a most efficient and zealous officer, and would I am convinced join heartily in the idea of sending a strong detachment annually to St. John; the effect of which on his Battery could not but be beneficial."

73rd Battalion.—Lieut.-Col. Ferguson.

Accompanied by the Brigade Major and the Lieut.-Colonel, I inspected the different companies of this Battalion (except Buctouche Company lately accepted) on the dates below named:

Black Brook, Captain Blake, 23rd July.
Black River, Captain Templeton, 24th July.
Chatham, Captain Fenton, 24th July.
Bay du Vin, Captain Cameron, 24th July.

When last inspected, one company had become non-effective, one company was nearly so, and the Battalion was in consequence below its authorized strength. This want, I am glad to state, has since been supplied, and I was entirely satisfied at the proficiency attained, more particularly in the Black River, Bay du Vin, and Black Brook Companies.

By a somewhat long march on the part of the last named company, I was enabled to witness some battalion drill at Bay du Vin, which, considering the many recruits in the ranks, was well executed.

Lieut.-Colonel Ferguson may justly feel satisfied at the successful result of his efforts to re-organize the Battalion.

Dalhousie Infantry Company.—Capt. Barberie.

I inspected this company at Dalhousie on the 26th July, and as it was inspected by the Brigade Major last year, and there was some error in the printing of that officer's report, I had formed an incorrect idea of the Company's efficiency. I found at this inspection, however, that besides being composed of as fine a body of men as any in the Province, a very fair degree of efficiency had been attained, and it only requires the attendance of the Captain, who is a very intelligent officer, and his subalterns at the military school to raise the corps to a most efficient state.

VISIT OF H. E. THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

In the month of August last, during my temporary absence from Fredericton, being out of reach of telegraph communication, His Excellency the Governor General unex-

pectedly visited New Brunswick. Lieut.-Colonel Otty, backed by Lieut.-Colonel Inches, at once assumed command of the Militia, and ordered the assembly of the necessary guards of honor; and while I take this opportunity of thanking these officers for their energetic actions in the matter, I must record the promptitude and alacrity with which guards of honor were formed at the following places by the corps named:

St. John, Brigade of Artillery and 62nd Battalion.
Fredericton, Battery of Artillery and 71st Battalion.
Woodstock Battery of Artillery, 67th Battalion.
Chatham, Battery of Artillery, 73rd Battalion.
Grand Falls, Captain Bosse's Company.
Dalhousie, Barberie's Company.

I regret extremely to have to report that a fatal accident occurred at Chatham, while the salute in honor of the Governor General was being fired, by which two gunners (J. Murray and R. Steel) were killed.

I lost no time in convening a court of enquiry to investigate the cause of this accident. The proceedings have been transmitted to head-quarters.

Lieut.-Colonel Jago's remarks on the proceedings of the court, he states "that it appears to him that the premature discharge of the gun was an unavoidable accident, such as will sometimes occur. All human precautions to avert accidents seem to have been taken. The detachment was complete in number, and perfectly sober," &c.

VOLUNTEERS FOR MANITOBA.

On the 21st May last, I received orders to enrol fifty (50) men for service in the North-West. I at once called for a quota from the Active Militia Force in each Brigade Division. The men assembled at Fredericton, were medically examined and attested, and on the 10th June they proceeded in charge of Lieut.-Colonel Otty to Manitoba, and it is due to that officer to say that he performed this somewhat onerous duty in the most satisfactory manner.

Subsequently, on the September, 25 mounted police, also for service in the North-West, were enrolled in this Province, and proceeded in charge of Capt. Carrell.

OFFER OF SERVICES.—ASHANTEE EXPEDITION.

On the return from Manitoba of Lieut.-Colonel Otty, both he and Lieut.-Colonel Saunders offered their services to join Sir Garnet Wolesley's staff in the British expedition to the Gold Coast of Africa against the Ashantees. Although I should deeply regret the loss to my district of these two officers of much experience in the organization of our local forces I fully expected that their services would have been accepted, on the ground that the active militia—the "Advance Guard" of the Dominion—is now an important part of the auxiliary forces of Great Britain, and that Sir Garnet Wolesley, knowing well by experience the many valuable qualities of the Canadian soldiery, would desire to have our force represented on his staff. There is, however, no immediate prospect of their being so employed.

RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS.

New Brunswickers may well be gratified at the selection made in placing Lieut.-Colonel B. L. Peters in command of the team sent to Wimbledon this year to represent the Dominion.

On retiring from the Presidency of our Provincial Rifle Association, and on appointment as one of its patrons, the mantle of Lt.-Colonel Peters has fallen on a worthy representative of the Active Militia Force, Lt.-Colonel E. Beer, and not only has the Provincial Competition been conducted in the most satisfactory manner, but the Rifle Association generally, including its branches,—County Rifle Associations,—appears to be in a very flourishing condition; increased interest taken in the matches, and local aid more liberally granted. The only drawback to the success of this year's Provincial

Match was a sad accident that occurred at Sussex, a marker in the butt having been severely wounded in the neck by a bullet. I am glad to say the bullet has since been extracted and the man is steadily recovering.

This is the first accident that has occurred at our Rifle Matches, and I consider this was caused partly by a slight defect in the construction of the butt, and partly by the man not sitting in the proper position of a marker in the butt, through his zeal to mark correctly.

It has shewn that every precaution should be taken at target practice, to secure the safety of the markers as well as those engaged in the practice.

In arranging for future Matches I hope that steps may be taken to ensure the attendance of a larger number of competitors than heretofore, as comparatively few "2nd Class shots" think it worth their while competing. It is also most desirable that the Government grant to County Rifle Associations be issued annually at a sufficiently early day to allow their Matches being held preparatory to the Provincial Match.

The following Associations held competitions this year :

1. New Brunswick Artillery Association—formed 1872.
2. New Brunswick Provincial Rifle Association.
3. Charlotte County "
4. St. John "
5. Carleton "
6. King's County "
7. York "
8. Northumberland "
9. 62nd Battalion Rifle Club "
10. King's County "
11. 71st Battalion "
12. N. B. Engineers "

New Brunswick Artillery Association.

With respect to the formation of the "New Brunswick Artillery Association," Lieut.-Colonel Jago states, that "on the 8th March, 1873, he forwarded a letter to me" (mentioned in my last Report), which I transmitted to head-quarters, "informing me of the formation of this Association, and applying for a grant of ammunition and money for the same, he also reported the formation to the two Dominion Inspectors of Artillery, who were good enough to accept the position of Vice-Presidents of the Association.

"Being President himself, he feels diffident in speaking of its efficiency, but he can not help regretting, at finding from my letters that the Government cannot aid it either in ammunition or money, and Col. Jago trusts," in which I join most earnestly, "that another year a grant may be given it in both, that will enable it to do good work among the Artillerymen in this Province."

In his Report (B) hereto appended, Lieut.-Colonel Jago offered some suggestions as to the desirableness of serving out the Gatling gun to Field Batteries, in the proportion of two to a Battery, all of which I beg to submit for favorable consideration.

TARGET PRACTICE.

In submitting the accompanying Return showing "Figure of Merit" and names of best shots of corps in my District, so far as the Annual Drill has as yet been completed, I must express regret that the Battalion and Company money prizes have not been granted this year; the amounts though small, \$10 and \$5, respectively, had been granted for two years in succession, except in the case of the Artillery, who received money prizes for shot and shell practice for many years past, and, the prizes were closely contested, and when won were much valued, accompanied as they were with badges.

Lieut.-Colonel Jago, speaking on this subject, states, "that the loss of the small

annual prize for the best shot in each Battery, this year, has been a great disappointment to both officers and men."

KREIGSPEIL CLUB.

"While much is being done in various directions to become more skilful in the use of the rifle, it is satisfactory to notice that an important step has been taken in this district with its object, "skill in the handling of troops," in the formation of Kreigspeil Club.

"Lieut.-Colonel Beer, President of the Provincial Rifle Association, is also President of this Club, and though its formation cannot be expected to produce immediate results (nor can the club at once become a popular institution), a proof is thus afforded that we have in our midst zealous, intelligent officers, eager not to be left behind in the trial of skill, now going on at home and abroad in drill and tactics, as well as in attaining accuracy in rifle shooting."

COMPETITIVE DRILL.

Competitions in company drill have been held during the past year—in the 62nd Battalion, for the first time systematically carried out in this district. This, to my mind, is another important step in the right direction, if the competitive drill be carried out in the same good spirit that prevailed in the 62nd Battalion, it must be productive of the best results, as, besides taking into consideration the intelligence and ability of the officers and non-commissioned officers, the umpire gives credit for steadiness in the ranks, and general efficiency on the part of the men.

SCHOOL OF MILITARY INSTRUCTION.

The attendance at the Military School at Fredericton during the past half-year has been very good, sixty-two cadets having obtained "2nd class certificates."

Having recently had occasion to submit this subject for your consideration, I need but repeat that which I stated in my letter of the 16th September last, viz., "that, although I have done all in my power to ensure a large attendance of officers of the active militia at the Military School under my command, but a small proportion of them have joined, as they prefer to pass an examination before a Board of Examiners (*vide* my report for 1872), which examination must necessarily be unsatisfactory. Moreover, however careful the Board of Officers for Examination of Candidates for admission may be in testing the competence of such candidates for the position of commissioned officers of the militia, it has been too frequently found that many cadets join the school and receive gratuity, whose services are not subsequently available either as officers or non-commissioned officers of the active force, although I am of opinion that as large, if not a larger, proportion of past cadets of the Fredericton School, are useful members of the force, as in any Military School in the Dominion.

In view of the above statement, I respectfully suggested that the rules for the Board of Examiners for admission be amended; that the new rules be more stringent, that none but officers of the active militia, and such candidates as may be specially recommended by officers commanding corps—intelligent young men, who may be required to replace officers of the force, on their retiring—be admitted.

Lieut.-Colonel Otty, B. M., has discharged the duties of Adjutant for two years in succession; Captain McKenzie those of 1st Instructor; and Lieutenant Howe, 71st Battalion, a passed cadet of the previous year, acted last year as 2nd Instructor. I take this opportunity to offer my best thanks to these officers for their efficient services.

DRILL IN COMMON SCHOOLS.

It is needless for me to adduce arguments in support of the question of extending drill to the common schools of the country. It is one which has frequently been brought forward, and is deserving of the most serious consideration, more particularly at the present time when much thought is given to the intellectual and physical training of the

young, when the thing to be desired is to preserve the "sound mind in the sound body," and not to develop the intellect at the expense of the body.

It is true that drill associations have been formed in connection with colleges and schools, but something more, I think, is required to give general effect to that plan, and I respectfully suggest that a joint arrangement be made between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, the better to carry it out. That licensed schoolmasters be specially invited to attend our schools of military instruction, and on obtaining the necessary certificates of fitness, and on carrying out to the satisfaction of the Deputy Adjutant-General, a prescribed course of drill in each school, that a small Government grant be made the schoolmaster.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
GEO. J. MAUNSELL, Lt.-Col.,
Deputy Adjutant-General,
Commanding Military District No. 8.

(A.)

Submitted with Report on 8th Regiment of Cavalry—Geo. Maunsell, Lieut.-Colonel.

CAMP, APOHAQUI, July 15th, 1873.

"To Lieut.-Col. SAUNDERS, Commanding Officer of 8th Regiment, Y.C.

"I have examined the horses in camp, and find the majority of them fit for service; only a few are in a state unfit for service, from disease contracted in camps and from injuries from the saddles. There are a great many saddles totally unfit for use, and are the cause of keeping many horses off parade.

"A medicine chest is indispensable, and should contain the following quantities of medicines:—

Pu Aloe Bbd.	lbj.
„ Gentian or Rad	lbiss.
„ Zingib.	lbss.
„ Capsici	lbss.
Tr. Opii P. B.	lbij.
„ Aconiti Flemings	lbss.
„ Arnica Mont	lbij.
Spt. Æth Nit.....	lbij.
„ Ammon Arom	lbiss.
Chloroform	zvj.
Ol. Terebinth.....	lbij.
Lig. Ammon, Fort 880	lbj.
Lig. Plumbi Subacet P. U. S.	lbiv.
Plumbi Acet	lbss.
Pu. Digitatis	lbss.
„ Ipecacuhana	lbss.
„ Potass. Nit	lbij.
„ Ferri Sulph	lbj.
Hydrarg. Chlor.	ziv.
Linseed Oil, cold drawn	congj.
Oli. Olvæ	oij.
Tow	lbss.
Cotton bandages	Four Sets.
Wollen do.	„
Antimo. Tart.....	lbss.
Ac. Nitro. Hydrochlor., P.B.	lbj.
Æth Sulph	lbiss.

Ac. Nitric	lbiss.
Adeps	lbij.
Sapo Mollis, P.B.	lbiss.
Pu. Resinæ Flava	lbij.
Spatulos	2.
Mortar and pestle	1, No. 7.
Grain scales and weights	
1 ziv. Granulated measure	

"It is necessary to have the above quantities, as the horses are very liable to accident and disease, from their being exposed to the open air at nights, and congregated in such numbers.

(Signed,) "M. P. GREENE,
"Veterinary Surgeon.

Forwarded for the favorable consideration of the Minister of Militia.

J. SAUNDERS, Lieut.-Colonel,
8th Regiment of Cavalry

(B)

SAINT JOHN, N. B., Nov. 3, 1873.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward to you, for transmission to the Adjutant-General my Annual Inspection Report of the New Brunswick Artillery.

The five Batteries in Saint John this year performed their drill at days and hours chosen by themselves, on the guns mounted in position at this place. The result has been in every way satisfactory, and the shooting made by each Battery, in its own practice, and at the annual competition on the day of gun inspection, has never been excelled. I append the Practice Reports of the different Batteries, and also those for the days of the Competition, and I should wish particularly, to draw your attention to the shooting made by the winning Battery, (Major Cunard's), in the first Competition, when 5 rounds were fired in 6 min. 30 sec., from 32 prs., on sea service carriages, at a range of 1500 yds., with the most excellent effect.

Though the principle of doing without continuous drill in camp or barracks has done well in St. John, this year, I would not have you infer that I agree with it entirely, and I look upon its success here simply as a proof of the great interest taken in the Force by the officers and other well wishers of the Brigade, and also of the *esprit de corps*, and great interest felt by the men, in the annual competition, which, in my opinion, has done more for the good of the Artillery Service in New Brunswick than can be imagined by persons living at a distance.

Though I am willing to admit that during this year the Artillerymen in St. John have in no wise deteriorated, (though there were many recruits among them,) from last year, I have already given reasons why I consider this to be a special case, and that the system of head-quarter drill of each battery, when extended to out station batteries is productive of harm, and will, in time, lead to inefficiency. I should therefore, propose that all the Garrison Batteries in this Province should perform, during the coming year, 8 days drill, at their own head-quarters, and 8 days either in camp or barracks in St. John. With the out-station batteries, I think this proposition would be received favorably, and with the St. John Batteries, if timely notice was given that the drill would be performed in this manner, I believe that it would be received in an equally favorable spirit.

In company with you, I inspected No. 7 (Major Gillespie's) Battery, at Chatham, on

August 28th, 1873. Owing to an unfortunate detention arising from a destructive storm, the ammunition for the battery did not arrive till after our inspection, so that I had no opportunity this year of seeing them at shot practice. The battery showed a marked improvement in marching drill, and their standing gun drill was fair. I cannot but regret that my recommendation of last year, as to platforms being laid at a point on the river bank, where the guns mounted might really assist at the defence of the Miramichi, has not been carried out, as not only would a permanent advantage have been obtained by doing so, but also the Battery would have been able to make much better use of their hours of drill. Major Gillespie is a most efficient and zealous officer, and would, I am convinced, join heartily in the idea of sending a strong detachment annually, to St. John, the effect of which on his Battery could not but be beneficial.

The Newcastle Field Battery, (Capt. Call), was inspected on Aug. 29, 1873. This Battery appears to be still in a transition state, the great difficulty being to provide horses and drivers. Capt. Call is an officer who has spared neither time, money, nor trouble, in trying to remedy these defects, but I regret to say, that he has not hitherto met with success. The shot and shell practice made by this Battery was good, and the saddlery, stores, &c., were in good order. The Battery, however, certainly wants the power of mobility, but as it is only armed with the 9 pr. S. B. gun, I question greatly whether the country would be much the gainer if it had it.

Taking this question into consideration, and also the large amount of money necessarily expended on a Field Battery, and also the peculiarity of the country in this Province where it is hard to find a range of open country of any extent that is not bordered with thick woods, I would suggest that the Gatling gun should be served out to Field Batteries, in the proportion of two to a Battery.

The size of the Battery might thus be greatly decreased, and with it the expense of maintaining it, whilst my idea is, that as nearly all the fighting done here must be skirmishing work, the possession of one or two of these Mitrailleuse would often be as useful to a Commanding Officer as a Battalion of Infantry.

I am unacquainted with these guns myself, but I think that the question might with propriety be referred to the Dominion Inspector of Artillery.

No. 5 Battery at Woodstock, was inspected on Sept. 9, 1873. The Commanding Officer, Lieut. Donnell, appears to be active and energetic, and he has got a large number of men on his Roll, whilst many others are anxious to join. I saw some shot practice made from one of the two 6 pr. guns with which this Battery is armed. The carriage of the other gun is so worn out that it is impossible to fire it, and I should recommend that the gun used at this inspection, for shot practice, should not be used again except in a case of urgent necessity.

I trust before another year's drill takes place, that this Battery will be turned into a Field Battery. I can only repeat what I stated last year, that the country about Woodstock is more suited to a Field Battery than any other part of the Province, that the facilities for obtaining horses are good, and that the officers and men are willing and anxious to serve. The Battery as at present constituted and armed, is of advantage neither to the country nor itself.

On the 8th March, 1873, I forwarded a letter to you informing you of the formation of the New Brunswick Artillery Association, and applying for a grant of ammunition and money for the same. I also reported the formation to the two Dominion Inspectors of Artillery, who were good enough to accept the position of Vice-Presidents of the Association.

Being President, myself, I feel diffident in speaking of it officially, but I cannot help regretting at finding from your letters that the Government cannot aid it either in ammunition or money, and I trust that another year a grant may be given it in both, that will enable it to do good work among the Artillerymen in this Province.

Whilst on this subject I may mention that the loss of the small Annual Prize for the best shot in each Battery this year, has been a great disappointment to both officers and men.

In conclusion, I may state that I consider the Artillery Force in New Brunswick is steadily advancing in excellence and efficiency, and the greatest credit should be given to Lieut.-Colonel Foster, Commanding the Brigade, and all the Officers of the Artillery in New Brunswick, whilst thanks and credit must also be given to the N. C. officers and men, who by their hard work and cheerful sacrifice of their time, for small remuneration, make the force in New Brunswick one it is a pleasure to inspect.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedt. servant,

DARELL R. JAGO,

Lieut.-Colonel.

Lieut.-Col. G. Maunsell,
Deputy Adjt.-General,

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 10.

FORT GARRY, January 2nd, 1873.

SIR,—In forwarding to you my report for the past year on the state of the Militia in this Province, I have, so far as the local corps are concerned, little or no change to note.

The nominal and actual strengths, remain as reported by me in January last, viz :

Corps authorized, 36 officers and 660 non-commissioned officers and men.

Corps actually raised, 18 officers and 330 non-commissioned officers and men. Of these the "Headingley" Troop of mounted Rifles is organized, but not yet equipped or uniformed.

The "Field Battery" of Winnipeg is organized, and partially uniformed, and equipped for purposes of drill, with two 7-pounder mountain howitzers.

The "Winnipeg Rifle Company" is uniformed, but not yet officially inspected, and is not armed.

The "Lisgar" Rifle Company, the "Mapleton" Rifle Company, and "Poplar Point" Rifle Company are complete in organization, uniform and equipment. These companies, with the exception of the "Mapleton Company" which has gone through a portion of it, have not as yet performed the drill for the year ending June 30th 1874; but since my last report performed and were inspected for the annual drill of 1872-73, and with the following strengths.

	Officers.	N. C. O. & Men.
"Lisgar" Rifle Co :.....	3	55
"Mapleton" "	2	30
"Poplar Point" "	2	44

These three are fine companies, and give promise of great efficiency.

The Winnipeg Field Battery consists of a superior class of young men, and if fully equipped, and that arrangements for horsing the Battery were made, would be a useful corps.

Circumstances have delayed the complete organization and equipment of the Winnipeg Rifle Company; but from a late communication with the commanding officer I am led to believe that it will soon be on a satisfactory footing.

With regard to the various other corps authorized in 1871, in this Province, none have organized, and can be considered but paper companies. My special report called for from the Adjutant General's office, on the 18th of June last, will have fully informed you on this subject; and, in connection with my various previous reports, have placed you in possession of my views as to a more satisfactory organization of the militia in this Province, than has as yet been found practicable.

I would, however, respectfully suggest, that instead of the desultory system of drill as at present authorized, that the annual drills be consecutive, and, when practicable without

any considerable expense, that the local companies should perform such drill in camp attached to the Provisional Battalion on service here, in such manner as may be deemed advisable.

By this means the force on service here, in addition to its other duties, may be utilized as a valuable training school for local corps.

I have also respectfully to recommend that a School of Instruction, at which officers of the Local Active Force may be enabled to obtain certificates in this Province, may be established.

In the Dominion Forces serving here, there has been a considerable change in organization since my last report, the Detachment of Artillery having been increased to the strength and constitution of a Battery; and the Provisional Battalion proportionately reduced, in order that the Force may come within the prescribed strength, which at the present date is returned as follows:

	Officers.	N. C. Officers & Men.
Battery of Artillery	3	80
Provisional Battalion of Infantry—including in Regimental Staff the Surgeon and Paymaster, acting for both corps	17	244

The duties and discipline of these corps are carried on as in H. M. Regular Service.

A considerable amount of extra duty has fallen on these corps during the past year in consequence of requisitions in aid of the civil power. The principal occasions on which such services were given, being, first, in March last, when at the time of the prorogation of the Provincial Legislature, it was considered necessary to maintain an officers' guard in the Parliament Buildings, as well as strong inlying piquets in barracks. Again, on the 2nd of July last, a detachment of fifty men had to be rapidly despatched by night to White Horse Plains, to repress riots, and to aid in effecting the capture of rioters, a duty which was satisfactorily accomplished.

Immediately after this occurrence, the services of the troops were required for a special guard, which was maintained for some time over the building in Fort Garry used as a prison, in which a party of men from the United States were confined, awaiting trial on a serious criminal charge.

Subsequently, fresh requisitions occasioned extra guards and a strong inlying piquet in aid of the civil power, whilst one Lepine was in custody on a charge of murder.

On all those occasions, proper legal requisitions were required, and obtained by me from the proper authorities; and the use of the troops was strictly confined to such purposes as are prescribed in the Militia and Defence Act.

In accordance with your orders, a company of the Provisional Battalion of Infantry was detached to the North West Angle of the Lake of the Woods, as an escort and guard for His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, during the negotiations for a treaty with the Ojibbewa Indians. This duty, which occupied about three weeks, was satisfactorily performed; the party returning to headquarters on the 9th of October.

On the night of the 3rd of December, a fire which totally destroyed the Legislative Buildings, occurred in the town of Winnipeg. The exertions of a strong party of Infantry and Artillery, who I thought it proper to employ for the purpose, mainly prevented the fire from spreading to adjacent buildings, where large quantities of powder and coal oil were stored, and which, if ignited, would have caused the destruction of the greater portion of the town.

As already specially reported to you, the services of the troops on this occasion procured them the thanks, by Minute of Council, of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, and the Provincial Government.

The general health of the troops has been good, although the sick returns have been greater than in previous years; this may be in a great measure attributed to the fact that of the drafts from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, numbering one hundred men, who replaced the time expired men, were growing lads whose physique was not suffi-

ciently established to fit them for the hardships which service in this country necessarily entails. It is right, however, that I should add, that in the soldierlike qualities of zeal for service, and amenability to discipline which distinguish our Dominion Forces, these young levies from the Maritime Provinces are in no wise inferior to the troops that they have replaced.

I would respectfully suggest that, unless under exceptional circumstances, no men should be engaged for service in the North West under twenty years of age.

It is with satisfaction that I am enabled to report to you that the whole of the troops are comfortably quartered in the new barrack huts, lately erected, and of which full reports, plans, &c., will be forwarded to you by an early mail.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. OSBORNE SMITH, Lt.-Col.

D. A. G. Mil., Military District No. 10.

The Acting Adjutant General,
Ottawa.

REPORT ON THE ARTILLERY OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

KINGSTON, November, 1873.

SIR,—The following batteries of Field Artillery have performed their drill for the year 1873-74, and have been inspected by me, viz:—

The Ottawa Field Battery; Kingston Field Battery; Toronto Field Battery; Hamilton Field Battery; and Wellington Field Battery.

The London Field Battery will probably carry on its annual drill in the month of June next; the Welland Canal Field Battery in March or April next, and the Durham and Gananoque Field Batteries, being still without either guns or equipment, it is difficult to say when they are likely to turn out.

The Ottawa Field Battery performed its annual training in eight consecutive days in September, being encamped at Ottawa. The weather was very unfavorable, and the rain greatly injured the harness and saddlery. I think it would be well for the future to issue to each battery going into camp a couple of extra tents for harness; as, not alone is it very annoying to the men having so much extra work thrown on them by having to remove daily a quantity of rust from the iron work of the harness, but the policy of allowing harness worth \$2,000 to be injured rather than issue a couple of extra tents, worth about \$20 apiece, is very questionable.

Notwithstanding the difficulties this battery had to encounter, both as regards the weather and being short of officers, I am happy to inform you that the non-commissioned officers and gunners were efficient at gun drill, and the drivers at driving.

Captain Stewart can instruct well at gun drill and field manœuvres.

Owing to very few of the officers, non-commissioned officers, or men of the battery having attended the School of Gunnery, there is not as great a knowledge of the use and application of artillery projectiles and stores as I should desire. This remark also applies to the Hamilton Field Battery.

The Kingston Field Battery was inspected by me on the 22nd September.

The battery was rather short of men during the training, and but little gun drill had been carried on. The greater portion of the drill was devoted to driving and field manœuvres, and consequently the battery was very efficient therein. The battery was very well horsed.

I inspected the Toronto Field Battery on the 30th September. The turn out, whether of men, horses, harness or guns, left little to be desired.

The gun drill and field manœuvres were remarkably well done. This battery has sent a large number of non-commissioned officers and men to the School of Gunnery at different times.

The officers are exceptionally good.

Lieutenant General Haly, C. B., commanding the troops in British North America was present on the occasion of the inspection. He was agreeably astonished at the ready way the battery manœuvred. The annexed letter (A) which he was kind enough to write to me a short time afterwards, expresses more fully his opinion on this matter.

I inspected the Wellington Field Battery on the 30th September.

A sergeant-instructor from the School of Gunnery, was present with the battery during the whole training. This was only the second turn out of this battery since its formation. Its progress has been remarkable, and I think will probably be still more so, as all ranks shew the greatest zeal for their work.

The Hamilton Field Battery performed its annual training in the early part of October. This battery was particularly well horsed. The harness was in excellent order. The men were well up in gun drill.

Cap ain Smith performed field manœuvres very well.

At the Niagara Camp, in 1871, I gave a small prize for the cleanest set of harness, and I am glad to say, that in most of the batteries the hint has been taken up, and the officers offer small prizes for the cleanest harness; as nearly all the drivers endeavour to obtain a prize, the general effect on the appearance of the battery may readily be imagined.

I have frequently pointed out that no provision has been made for a Government prize for drivers. I think it hard, that as a class, they should be debarred from all Government prizes.

A badge of crossed-whips, and \$10 to the best driver of each battery, would not appreciably affect the Militia expenditure.

GARRISON ARTILLERY.

Of the Garrison Batteries shewn on the Inspection State, the Toronto, Collingwood, Sarnia, Napanee, and Nos. 3 and 5 batteries of the Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery, performed the annual drill in eight consecutive days; the Goderich and Cobourg batteries in sixteen days, drilling at various times.

The particulars connected with the above batteries, will be seen on reference to the Inspection State.

The Toronto, Napanee and Cobourg Batteries turned out very creditably, and were well up in Garrison gun drill. The Collingwood and Goderich Batteries were fairly efficient, but the two batteries of the Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery gave me anything but satisfaction.

These batteries were encamped at Ottawa; their appearance on parade was not particularly good, and with the concurrence of the acting Deputy Adjutant-General, several names were struck from the Muster Roll, as the individuals were quite unfit for service, several of them being boys of fourteen and sixteen years of age.

I inspected several detachments at gun drill, but was not at all favourably impressed. I have reason to believe that the discipline maintained or attempted to be maintained, was of a very loose kind.

Unless Garrison Batteries are brought into forts and instructed at garrison gun drill, mortar drill, &c, under properly qualified instructors, I doubt very much if there is any advantage in retaining them on the strength of the force as *Garrison Artillery*.

In the Field Artillery of the Province there is much greater *esprit de corps* than in the Garrison. I would, however, even in the case of Field Batteries, recommend that the annual training be carried on in District camps, under proper supervision, and with the assistance of the staff of instructors from the School of Gunnery.

As I shall probably have no further opportunity of bringing forward any recommendations with reference to the artillery or warlike stores of the Dominion, I beg to submit the following matters, most of which I have previously recommended:—

- 1st. The appointment of a Major to each Field Battery.
- 2nd. The increase of the establishment of a Field Battery to 100 non-commissioned officers and men.
- 3rd. The enrolment of draught horses for Field Batteries.

4th. The simplification of the drill of Field Batteries, by manœuvring with the guns independently of the wagons.

5th. Granting prizes to drivers for proficiency in their own particular line.

6th. The removal of Garrison Batteries from their own headquarters to the most convenient forts and batteries for their annual training.

7th. The appointment of a Battery Sergeant Major to each Garrison Battery.

8th. Extension of the period of annual drill for both Field and Garrison Batteries.

9th. The manufacture of small-arm ammunition, and other warlike stores in the Dominion.

10. The encouragement of the manufacture of large grain gunpowder, by purchasing the powder required for annual practice in the Dominion.

11. The annual inspection of all warlike stores by competent officers.

12. The adoption of some fixed policy with reference to the fortifications and their armaments, as they are rapidly going to ruin.

Having, during the last three years, been brought much in contact with the Artillery of the Dominion, (but more particularly of Ontario), it gives me great pleasure in being able to testify that during all that time, I have ever been treated with the greatest kindness and consideration by all ranks, and I would respectfully request that I may be allowed, through the medium of your report, to return my sincere thanks to the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Militia Artillery generally, and particularly to Lieut.-Colonel Shanly, of London; Captain Gray, Toronto; Captain Macdonald, Guelph; Major Kirkpatrick, Kingston; Lieut.-Colonel Mackay, of Montreal, and Lieut.-Colonel Jago, of St. John, New Brunswick, hoping that during the period of my connection with the Artillery of the Dominion, I have generally conducted my duties to the satisfaction of the officers commanding the Militia of the Dominion.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

G. A. FRENCH, Lieut.-Col.,

Inspector of Artillery & Warlike Stores,

Dominion of Canada

The Acting Adjutant General of Militia,
Ottawa.

(A)

CITADEL, QUEBEC, 14th October, 1873.

My dear Colonel,—It was a great satisfaction to me during my tour in the upper Provinces, having the opportunity which you so kindly afforded me of seeing unofficially your batteries of the Dominion Artillery at Toronto, and at Kingston. As I verbally expressed myself on those occasions, I was very much pleased with what I saw of those troops. The Field Battery of four guns, which I saw on parade at Toronto, efficiently horsed and commanded by a smart and intelligent officer, gave most satisfactory evidence of the manner in which field artillery can be raised and formed, for which the Province of Ontario appears to me to possess special capabilities, both in men and horses. The manner in which that battery moved, evidences the zeal and intelligence with which it has been trained and instructed, and the turn out on parade of both men and horses was highly creditable to yourself, and those officers and soldiers serving under your command.

The battery and detachment at Kingston appeared equally efficient and well appointed. I was impressed with the feeling that both your officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers, appeared to me animated with a zealous and soldier-like spirit and bearing, and can only hope that increased opportunity and facilities may be afforded these troops of attaining to the highest degrees of efficiency commensurate with Imperial and Dominion military interests. Wishing yourself and them every success, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed,)

W. O. G. HALY,
Lieutenant General.

REPORT ON THE ARTILLERY OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

CITADEL, QUEBEC,
31st December, 1873.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit my annual report, under the following heads :—

Field Artillery,
Garrison Artillery,
Engineers,
Gunnery School,
Forts,
Armament and Warlike Stores.

FIELD ARTILLERY.

The tabular statement marked (A 1 and 2), on form supplied, shows that, of the four Field Batteries comprising this force, two only have guns, viz., the Quebec and Montreal Field Batteries, and I cannot report satisfactorily of the training.

The Quebec Field Battery, under Major Baby, whose report of drill and practice I enclose, marked (B), and the Shefford Battery, under Major Amyrauld, only turned out, the latter having no guns, his men were instructed in foot drill and riding drill.

In physique and intelligence they are the finest battery I have seen.

It is unfortunate they have had the discouragement of being two years without guns.

Their period of enrolment expires next year.

The Beauce Field Battery has only two seven-pounder muzzle-loading mountain guns, the other two with their equipment having been sent to Manitoba, as shown in last year's Militia Report, page 35.

The Officer commanding proposed to postpone his training until the end of the current year, with the hope of having a complete equipment by that time, and performing the two years' drill consecutively for 32 days.

As regards Field Artillery equipment, I beg to refer to the opinion expressed last year in my report, embodied in that of the late Adjutant General of Militia, Colonel Robertson-Ross, page 23. There are no Artillery or Engineers in Military District No. 6, and no Engineers in No. 7.

The proportion of the scientific arms (which require the longest training) is much below that supposed necessary to accompany the best Infantry.

The inadequate training of at least a large proportion of the Canadian militia might warrant a proportionate support from good field artillery, if such was procurable, in different field artillery being worse than an encumbrance.

I recommend a field battery being kept for permanent duty at each of the Gunnery Schools, to which detachments from the Militia batteries could be attached as supernumeraries for short courses. It is impossible to train field artillery properly with the eight (8) horses supplied.

The Quebec Gunnery School has not been supplied with field guns, the only one in my possession having no carriage. There are four (4) muzzle loading rifle field guns completely equipped in the store at the foot of the Citadel Hill, but I have not been successful in obtaining the use of them for instructional purposes, as they form the equipment of the Quebec Field Battery, some of whose men have joined "B" battery for a "short course" of instruction, which it is difficult to give without the guns.

GARRISON ARTILLERY.

I see no reason to alter the recommendation made in last year's Militia report on this arm, to the Adjutant General, (Par. 24, 25, 26, & 27.)

The tabular statement (A) shows the Grosse Isle detachment Quebec Garrison

Artillery under Lieutenant Frederick Montizambert, and the St. John's battery under Major Drumm, are the only portion of the Active Militia Garrison Artillery who have completed their training as yet.

I have not been given an opportunity of inspecting the Grand Trunk Railway Brigade of Artillery, since my appointment as Inspector, though I have more than once expressed my wish to inspect them. I cannot, therefore, report on their state of efficiency.

ENGINEERS.

There are no adequate means of instructing the Engineer Companies. Lieut. Devine Montreal Engineers, is the only officer of this arm who has gone through a "Long Course" of instruction at the Gunnery School, Quebec.

He has forty (40) of all ranks regularly enrolled in his Company, No. 1, but not having received uniforms to which I am informed, the Company was entitled two years ago, the number attending drill was limited to the amount of old clothing available.

No. 2 Company, commanded by Major Kennedy has not trained this year.

Captain Clarke, Montreal, Grand Trunk Railway Engineer Company, is the only officer of that Brigade who has passed an examination by me previous to promotion, in accordance with General Order (12), No. 1, paragraphs 1 and 2, dated Head-quarters Ottawa, 10th May, 1872.

His examination was satisfactory.

ST. HELEN'S ISLAND, MONTREAL.

The absence of a winter drill room is a drawback to the instruction of the detachment from "B" Battery at St. Helen's Island. I beg to refer to page 28 of last year's Militia report, and to my letter of the 17th December, 1873, on this subject, in which I recommended a portion of the store-shed being partitioned off for this purpose. Last summer the prevalence of pic-nic parties on the island was a source of danger, the long grass on the island caught fire and the Government boat-house was burnt; further damage was prevented by the detachment "B" Battery using the fire-engine, in charge of the storekeeper, who, however, objected to its use, the serjeant in charge having taken it without orders (*vide* correspondence transmitted to Head-quarters, 20th August, 1873.)

If pic-nic parties are to be allowed the privilege of using the island, the strength of the detachment should be increased to 50 to allow of sentries on the powder magazine and armoury, as well as patrols (*vide* letter 12th November, 1873.)

The fire-engine should be placed in charge of the officer in command of the detachment, which should be practised with it periodically.

I need not comment on the serious consequences of fire where there is a magazine of powder and a valuable store of arms. I beg to refer to my letters on this subject.

The same remarks apply to the Citadel of Quebec, where there is no fire-engine, since the departure of the Imperial troops, (*vide* letter dated 17th September, 1872,) though a considerable amount of gunpowder and valuable arms are stored in the Citadel. An incipient fire in the quarters of His Excellency, which, for the want of a fire-engine, might have been productive of serious results, was fortunately extinguished at night by the officer on duty, going his rounds.

The services of the Battery have been freely rendered at large fires in the city, but the want of a fire-engine made their assistance of much less value than it might have been.

FORTS.

I beg to refer to page 28, Militia Report for last year, and regret to add that the ruinous condition of the unoccupied casemates has exceeded my worst anticipations, of the probable effects of this climate. Those casemates that have been constantly occupied have not suffered, but the rear walls of five casemates in Dalhousie, and four in

Richmond bastions are separating from the arches, and falling outwards. An expenditure of \$6 for timber supports was authorised for those in the latter bastion, (*vide* letter dated 21st April, 1873.)

The wooden covering of the water tank in the diamond ditch, was reported on the 14th May, 1872, as having fallen in, and being in a dangerous condition.

The masonry of the cavalier at the King's bastion was partially painted by the workmen employed under the Board of Works.

I would recommend that a subaltern officer of Royal Engineers, with rank and pay as a Captain, a sergeant-foreman of works and twenty-five enlisted artificers, receiving the same rate of working pay as in the Royal Engineers, should be maintained in the Citadel, as part of the establishment of the Gunnery School. The officer could also be employed as Instructor in military surveying and fortification. Such an arrangement would, in my opinion, be found the most efficient and economical method of preventing the ruin of the works, for want of the annual petty repairs, which are good economy in the end.

The forts at Point Levis and Engineer Park, are still in good order, having been looked after by non-commissioned officers as caretakers, who have been allowed fuel.

Hope and Palace Gates, which could not be said to have any military value, have been destroyed, also the guard houses, and the upper part of the walls of the town lines between those gates lowered to about two feet.

The emplacements for guns are not to be interfered with. The Grand Battery is on a natural escarpment of rock, and offers a most favorable position for guns, as does also the whole extent of the lines from the Legislative buildings to the Artillery barracks, commanding the river St. Charles and the opposite shore, which is open and easily swept by the fire of rifled guns. I think it imperative that the rights of the Federal Government in this locality should not be further interfered with.

I beg respectfully to submit that the ordnance lands and buildings having been given over by the Imperial Government for the purposes of defence, the moneys resulting from rents and sales of such properties, should be applied to purposes of defence. If such a course were pursued over the whole Dominion, the Militia estimates would be reduced to a mere trifle, and a fixed sum for defence placed beyond the fluctuations of party or political feeling.

A portion of such sums might be devoted to the purchase of land in such localities, as those recommended by Colonel Jervis, R. E., for detached works, beyond the present lines, to be thrown up on emergency; plans, sections and elevations having been previously fixed upon and drawn, so that a moderate degree of professional skill, with ample civil labor would, if necessity arose, produce formidable obstacles to an enemy, such as would enable us to keep the gate of Canada until assistance came from the mother country.

History has often repeated itself, and the flag that was swept from this continent, and waved alone on Cape Diamond (the Gibraltar of America) has spread from the Atlantic to the Pacific shore.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

T. B. STRANGE, Lieut.-Colonel,

Inspector of Artillery and Warlike Stores.

The Acting Adjutant General of Militia,
Ottawa.

(B)

QUEBEC, 20th December, 1873.

Lieut.-Col. Strange.

I. of A.,

The Citadel.

SIR,—I have the honor to report that the Quebec Field Battery turned out on Wednesday, the 10th September last, to perform the annual drill for the year, 1873-4, under canvas.

The battery was ferried over to the Island of Orleans on Thursday, the 11th September, moving by sub-divisions, at 8 and 10 o'clock a.m., and at 1 and 4 o'clock p.m., and encamped at St. Peter's.

The routine of camp life was as follows:—Reveille at 5½ a.m.; first post at 9, and lights out at 10 o'clock p.m. Breakfast at 8 o'clock, dinner at one, and tea at 6 o'clock. Drills, from 6½ to 7½ a.m.; stables, and standing gun drill; from 9½ to 11½ o'clock a.m. driving drill and gun drill; and from 2½ to 5 o'clock p.m., battery drill, mounted. The usual morning and evening gun was fired.

The camp at St. Peter's broke up on Wednesday, 17th September, and the battery marched to St. John, some fifteen miles distant, passing over a hilly country. The arrangements made to repair the bridge over the Rivière à Famine were dispensed with, the battery having arrived in time to ford the stream.

The annual ball practice took place on Friday, the 19th September. The usual precautions were taken against accidents. Enclosed will be found the range report.

The annual inspection of the battery was made by the Inspector of Artillery on Saturday, the 20th September. Lieut. Col.-Lamontagne, Brigade Major, was also present. After a minute inspection, the battery marched past in column of divisions at the walk and trot. A few manoeuvres were then executed, and the flank guns were dismounted and again mounted, Lieutenants Lindsay and De Lery being in charge.

The camp at St. John broke up on Monday, the 22nd September, and the battery marched to Ste Famille.

The battery marched from Ste Famille to the Bont de L'isle on Wednesday, the 24th September, remaining over night, and returned to town on Thursday, the 25th September, crossing over by sub-divisions at 8 and 11 o'clock a.m., at noon, and 4 o'clock p.m., returning into stores the armament, harness, clothing, and camp equipage.

The original intention of marching by the north shore to St. Joachim, and from thence crossing over to the Island of Orleans, had to be abandoned, the necessary authorization to pay for camping grounds not having been received in time. Awaiting this authorization, the battery encamped on the Government property at St. Peter.

After many difficulties, the services of two steamers were secured to convey the battery from St. John to St. Joachim on Sunday, the 27th September, but unfortunately, one of the steamers having been withdrawn at the last moment, the return march by the mainland was of necessity given up, the battery in lieu thereof moving around the island.

The conduct of the N. C. officers and men was exemplary, and the great zeal shown on all occasions was everything that could be desired. The services of Lieutenants Lindsay and DeLery are hereby acknowledged. The health, whilst in camp, was satisfactory, and there are no casualties to report.

The drill performed has to a certain extent tested the utility of field batteries in Canada. This corps, at an unfavorable period of the year, turned out seventy-six men and sixty-two horses, out of an establishment of seventy-nine men and sixty horses. The camp was raised on three several occasions, and the St. Lawrence was twice crossed during the sixteen days' drill. Whilst on the march, and on favorable occasions, the battery manoeuvred through the fields, coming into action to the front, flanks, and rear, care being taken to screen guns and gunners whilst in action, and also to place limbers