

## MILITARY DISTRICT No. 3.

RETURN shewing the Establishment; the Number who performed Annual Drill; Figure of Merit of Battalions; Figure of Merit of the best Company in each Battalion, and the best Shot; together with the Amount paid by the District Paymaster.

Porta.	Establishment.		No. actually Drilled.		Figure of Merit of Battalion.	Musketry.		Remarks.
	Officers.	Non-commiss'd Officers and Men.	Officers.	Non-commiss'd Officers and Men.		Figure of Merit of best Company in each Battalion.	Best Shot.	
3rd Regiment Cavalry.....	13	136	4	60	30-28	Sergt. Stodhart (70).....	984 00	Not detailed for drill. do do
4th do.....	15	168	12	103	No practice.	.....	1,572 00	
Durham Field Battery.....	6	75	6	75	.....	.....	1,398 12	
Kingston do.....	6	75	3	60	.....	.....	1,166 16	
Cobourg Garrison Battery.....	2	42	3	38	34-15	Captain Hooper (68).....	264 00	
Napanee do.....	2	42	3	38	.....	.....	276 00	
Port Hope do.....	2	42	2	42	.....	.....	1,682 00	
Trenton do.....	2	42	2	42	.....	.....	1,728 00	
14th Battalion.....	20	252	16	251	23 71	Sergt. Hume (51).....	1,654 50	
15th do.....	20	252	19	250	No return received.	.....	1,938 00	
16th do.....	24	336	11	254	do	.....	1,640 00	
40th do.....	26	378	15	293	do	.....	1,362 00	
45th do.....	20	252	17	241	No returns.	Sergt. Miller, No. 5 Co. (67).....	1,398 00	
46th do.....	20	252	10	207	36-70	.....	1,640 00	
47th do.....	22	294	10	207	.....	.....	1,398 00	
48th do.....	20	252	12	219	16-74	Pte. Bush, No. 6 Co. (40).....	17,062 78	
49th do.....	18	210	14	130	.....	.....	.....	
57th do.....	20	252	12	219	.....	.....	.....	
Total.....	258	3,342	130	2,093	.....	.....	.....	

Kingston, 1st December 1877.

BOWEN VAN STRAUBENZEE, Lt.-Colonel,  
Deputy Adj.-Genl., M. D. No. 3.

[B.]

## DISTRICT ORDER.

DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
KINGSTON, 5th June, 1877.

1. The undermentioned corps in Military District No. 3, have been selected for Annual Drill of 1877-78:—

	Officers.	N.C.O. and Men.	Total.
3rd Regiment Cavalry.....		60	60
4th " ".....		90	90
Kingston Field Battery.....	6	74	80
Durham Field Battery.....	6	74	80
Napanee Garrison Battery.....	2	42	44
Trenton Garrison Battery.....	2	42	44
14th Battalion.....	16	252	268
15th ".....	14	252	266
16th ".....	18	336	354
40th ".....	16	294	310
46th ".....	14	252	266
47th ".....	10	168	178
57th ".....	14	252	266
Total.....			2,306

2. The drills to be carried out in such manner as commanding officers may deem best in the interest of their respective corps, and in accordance with the General Order on the subject. The Deputy Adjutant General must be notified of the date of commencement of the drill and the date on which the corps will be ready for inspection.

3. Tents and blankets will be issued to any corps wishing to perform the drill in camp, provided the officer in command is prepared to defray the cost of transport, and to make good any loss or damage.

4. Service rolls will be forwarded to all corps ordered to drill, and officers in command are requested to see that the names of all men enrolled are properly filled in and signed by both officers and men. The roll to be produced when the corps is inspected by the District Staff Officer.

5. Twenty rounds of ball and twenty rounds of blank ammunition per man will be issued to all corps ordered to drill. The ball ammunition to be expended—ten rounds at 200 yards, standing position, the remainder at 400 and 500 yards; five rounds per man at each range and in any position. Target Practice Returns will be forwarded to all corps demanding ammunition, and it is particularly requested that commanding officers will be most careful to have the practice carried out in a proper manner. The return of the firing correctly made out and forwarded to the Brigade Major on the completion of the practice.

6. The Deputy Adjutant General trusts that commanding officers will not demand ball ammunition unless they have a fair range in the vicinity of their headquarters, enabling their men to expend the ammunition in a proper manner.

7. The blank ammunition may be expended during the drills in such manner as commanding officers may think best; five rounds per man being retained for the day of inspection.

8. All Officers commanding Corps are requested to instruct their men in movements of fours and skirmishing drill; they will be called upon to tell off and prove

their companies, to put them through the manual and firing exercises and a few company manoeuvres.

9. All corps armed with the long rifle must be instructed in the exercise prescribed for that arm, with the exception of Rifle Corps and Garrison Batteries of Artillery.

10. It is requested that officers in command of corps entitled to new clothing will make their demand with as little delay as possible, and the Deputy Adjutant General hopes to find all Volunteers in his District properly clothed in uniform, as nothing gives a body of men such an unsoldierlike appearance as a few in the ranks improperly dressed. He also begs to call the attention of all officers to the necessity of enforcing discipline whilst under arms. On the occasion of his last inspection he regretted to observe many companies very slack in this respect, the men being allowed to slouch about and talk in the ranks as much as they pleased without rebuke from their officers. The accoutrements of some companies were very badly put on, shewing a want of care on the part of the officer in command. The Deputy Adjutant General hopes to find a marked improvement this year.

11. The instructions contained in the General Order relative to the pay and allowances and number allowed to drill, must be strictly adhered to by all concerned.

13. All officers are referred to paragraphs 169 and 170, Regulations and Orders of Active Militia, relative to Drill and Target Practice.

B. VAN STRAUBENZEE, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Deputy Adj. Genl., M. D. No. 3.

[C.]

KINGSTON, 10th November, 1877.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that, in compliance with your instructions, I inspected the Durham Field Battery on the 29th of June, in camp, at Port Hope, accompanied by the Inspector of Artillery, Lieut.-Colonel Irwin. The arms, accoutrements, harness and clothing were in good order, and fairly clean. The guns, however, were not well horsed, having several undersized horses in the ranks, and I have reason to believe that Lieut.-Colonel Irwin is unable to report favorably of this battery. I should say the discipline was slack and unsatisfactory. I have since had occasion to inspect the stores of this battery, when I found many deficiencies in clothing, principally great coats, showing that Captain Graham does not pay the attention to *orders* he should do.

On the 30th June I inspected No. 3 Company, 40th Battalion, Captain Bonycastle. Arms, accoutrements and clothing in good order and very clean. The company drill was well performed; skirmishing fair; manual and firing exercise fair. They are a fine body of men, and are a credit to the Force. They were all present at muster, and the men were enrolled and sworn in for three years. My principal duties this year having been the inspection of arms, accoutrements and clothing in the District, I have the satisfaction of reporting in most cases an improvement in care of arms and stores, but there is still room for *improvement*, and I trust next year I may be able to report more favorably on this head.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

P. W. WORSLEY; Lieut.-Colonel,  
Brigade Major M. D. No. 3.

The Deputy Adjutant-General,  
Military District No. 3.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 4.

DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
BROCKVILLE, 3rd December, 1877.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit, for the information of the General Officer commanding, this my annual report on the state of the Active Militia in Military District No. 4 for the present year, together with "Abstract Inspection Report."

The strength of the force as organized, (three officers and fifty-five non-commissioned officers and men per company,) including the Governor General's Foot Guards, is:—

Officers and men, all arms.....	3,142
Horses.....	247

Strength authorized to perform the drill for 1877-78, as per General Orders 11th May, 1877:—

Officers and men, all arms .....	1,500
Horses.....	126

Pursuant to the above General Orders, in presence of Lieut.-Col. Buell, commanding 42nd Battalion, the companies to perform the drill were selected by ballot, which resulted as follows:—

The number shewn after each corps being the strength of officers and men who actually performed the drill:

	Horses.	Officers and Men.
Prescott Troop of Cavalry.....	35	39
Ottawa " ".....	35	37
Ottawa Field Battery.....	28	80
Gananoque Field Battery.....	28	78

*Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery.*

Nos. 1, 2, 6 and 7 Batteries.....	...	160
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*Governor General's Foot Guards.*

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 Companies.....	...	277
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*18th Battalion.*

Nos. 1, 5 and 6 Companies.....	...	133
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*41st Battalion.*

Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 Companies.....	...	178
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*42nd Battalion.*

Nos. 1, 3, 6 and 7 Companies.....	...	178
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*56th Battalion.*

Nos. 2, 5 and 6 Companies.....	...	120
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## 59th Battalion.

Nos. 2, 5, 6 and 7 Companies.....	...	...	178
Goulburn Infantry Company.....	...	...	42
Total.....	126		1,500

*Prescott Troop of Cavalry—Captain John Raney.*

This troop performed the drill in consecutive days at Prescott, the troopers being quartered in Fort Wellington, provision having been made by themselves, under the direction of the Captain, for rations and forage. The officer commanding procured the services of Lieut.-Col. Lovelace, Instructor of Cavalry, Montreal, to assist during the training. The troop presented a creditable appearance, physique good, horses fair, appointments clean; drill, as detailed in Inspection Report, all fairly well done; target practice was completed; clothing requires to be renewed; troop efficient.

*Ottawa Troop of Cavalry—Captain J. A. Slater.*

This troop performed the drill in camp with the Ottawa Field Battery, on the Slater Farm, which Captain Slater kindly placed at the disposal of the two corps free of charge. Lt.-Col. Lovelace, Instructor of Cavalry, was also present with this corps. The troop presented a creditable appearance; physique good, horses fair, appointments clean, clothing serviceable; drill, as detailed in Inspection Report, all fairly well done, except pursuing practice, which was indifferent; improvement very noticeable since last year; troop efficient.

*Ottawa Field Battery—Captain John Stewart.*

This corps performed the drill in camp with the Ottawa Troop of Cavalry, and presented its usual smart appearance; harness and guns clean; clothing serviceable; drill, as detailed in Inspection Report, well done.

The Inspector of Artillery subsequently inspected this corps and superintended the firing. For names of prize winners, and other details, I beg to refer to his Report. There is an efficient band connected with this battery.

*Gananoque Field Battery—Major Wm. McKenzie.*

This corps performed their drill in camp about two miles west of Gananoque. The Inspector of Artillery accompanied me at this inspection, and superintended the firing. For names of prize winners and other details, I beg to refer to his Report. Harness fairly clean, but requires oiling; guns clean; men and horses good; drill, as detailed in the Inspection Report, fairly well done.

Major McKenzie had to become personally responsible for rent of camp ground, which cannot be procured in that neighborhood without pay.

*Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery—Lieut.-Colonel Jas. Egleson.*

By special permission Nos. 1, 2, 6 and 7 Batteries were allowed to perform the drill in camp on Nepean Point, convenient to the battery of mounted big guns, in eight consecutive days, the men providing their own rations. Many men were of poor physique, appearance indifferent, clothing all old and much worn, except that of No. 7 Battery, which is good. Marching past, and column movements fairly done; manual and firing exercises not attempted.

A detachment from each battery worked and fired the big guns smartly and well, the principal part of the time having been devoted to that part of the instruction.

The same difficulty still exists in the corps as reported last year with reference to the officers qualifying for promotion. If arrangements were made by which they could qualify and be examined at Ottawa, it would be a great boon, it being impossible for business men to attend the School of Gunnery at Kingston.

This corps has fired all the salutes at the Capital during the year, and the band is efficiently maintained.

*Governor General's Foot Guards—Lieut.-Colonel Ross.*

(Headquarters at Ottawa.)

Owing to instructions received from headquarters, provision was made for the drill of the whole six companies of this corps, which was inspected by the General Officer commanding.

*18th Battalion of Infantry—Lieut.-Colonel A. Urquhart.*

(Headquarters at Hawkesbury Mills.)

Nos. 1, 5 and 6 Companies performed the drill in consecutive days at their local headquarters. Owing to the boat on the Ottawa River having been detained by fog, it was impossible for me to make the inspection, consequently I authorized Lieut.-Colonel Urquhart to inspect Nos. 1 and 6 Companies for me, which he kindly did, and reports very favorably of the appearance of the men and of the drill performed.

Brigade-Major Mattice inspected No. 5 Company, which he reports as being well organized and composed of good men, but owing to the large number of recruits (re-enrolment having just taken place) and short period of drill, the movements were indifferently performed. A band has now been organized in connection with this battalion.

*41st Battalion of Rifles—Lieut.-Colonel W. H. Cole.*

(Headquarters at Brockville.)

Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 Companies performed the drill in consecutive days at local headquarters; all paraded clean and soldierly, and performed the drill, as detailed in Inspection Report, in a very creditable manner, Nos. 2 and 4 Companies being particularly good.

Lieut.-Col. Cole accompanied me at all of the company inspections. The battalion band is efficiently maintained.

*42nd Battalion of Infantry—Lieut.-Col. J. D. Buell.*

(Headquarters at Brockville.)

Nos. 1, 3, 6 and 7 Companies performed the drill in consecutive days at local headquarters, Nos. 3 and 6 Companies were under canvas, the tents having been provided by their respective commanding officers, Captains Douglas and Gould. Guards were mounted and the usual detail of camp carried out. All paraded clean and performed the drill as detailed in Inspection Report. Nos. 1 and 6 Companies fair, 3 and 7 good; the latter two very smart and soldierlike. The battalion band is efficiently maintained.

Owing to inattention to Brigade Orders, six men performed the drill with No. 7 Company (Pembroke), in excess of the number authorized for the whole battalion, consequently the pay for that number had to be withheld.

*56th Battalion, The Lisgar Rifles—Lieut.-Col. H. D. Jessup.*

(Headquarters at Prescott.)

No. 2, 6 and 7 Companies performed the drill in consecutive days at local headquarters. Drill as stated in Inspection Report. Nos. 2 and 7 Companies good. No. 6 very good. There is no band connected with this Battalion.

Private Samuel Baldwin, of No. 6 Company, refused to wear the regulation forage cap on parade, and was insolent to Captain and Brevet-Major Checkley, who had him taken before the Police Magistrate at Brockville and fined \$10 and costs, and four days' pay was stopped for absence.

*59th Battalion, Stormont and Glengarry Infantry—Lieut.-Col. D. Bergin,*

(Headquarters at Cornwall.)

Nos. 2, 5, 6 and 7 Companies performed the drill in consecutive days at local headquarters. Drill as detailed in Inspection Report. Nos. 2 and 5 Companies fair, No. 6 good, No. 7 very good.

There is an efficient band connected with this corps.

*Goulburn Infantry Company—Captain Wm. Garvin.*

(Headquarters at Munster.)

This company was encamped under canvas and performed the drill in consecutive days. Owing to a very heavy rain on day of inspection it was impossible to see but little drill. Physique good, men clean and soldierly. Company appeared efficient.

The Metcalfe Infantry Company, Captain Ira Morgan, and the Vernon Infantry Company, Captain Robt. McGregor, were not authorized to perform drill for the present year. Both companies drilled last year, at which time they were properly organized and fairly efficient.

GENERALLY.

The companies as a rule have been kept full without any difficulty, more particularly in towns, villages and country parts, many more men offering than could be accepted. The physique has also been fully up to, and in most cases above, that of former years.

The authorized target practice has been carried out during the training, but there seems to be a falling off in local practice outside of the cities.

The several Rifle Associations at Ottawa, also those respectively at Hawkesbury, Almonte and Brockville, have, as usual, held their annual competition, and, with the exception of the latter, have been well patronized by members of the force.

As previously reported, on the 2nd of August, No. 7 Company, 42nd Battalion, (Pembroke), Lieut. Moffat, was called out in aid of the civil power to repress riotous raftsmen, of whom five of the leaders were arrested. The local civil authorities think a serious riot was averted by the prompt response of the Militia, who remained on duty until about ten o'clock on the following morning.

The present distribution to the Field Batteries of Artillery does not appear to be advantageous. Owing to the men being so largely in excess of the horses, they are able to accompany the batteries during field movements, consequently a great portion of their time is wasted. A band has been organized in connection with the Ottawa Battery which utilizes fifteen of the number. Notwithstanding this, many idle men were noticed about the camp. If eight additional horses were authorized, per battery, one caisson could be detailed to each Division, which would be a great improvement.

The present system of shot and shell practice seems to cause the gunners who are not selected to compete for the prizes to take but little interest in that part of the training.

Year by year it becomes more difficult to secure qualified officers for all branches of the service. A few young men may qualify at the School of Gunnery, but the permanent residents who officer the force, upon whom devolves the responsibility of procuring the men, cannot go so far from their business to attend those schools. Therefore the establishing of a school in the District where both Cavalry and Infantry (and if not both, by all means the latter) could be instructed, would result in great benefit. The large drill shed either at Prescott or Perth could be utilized for the purpose, and if a school were opened during the winter months and moved annually to different parts of the District, much military knowledge could be disseminated with but little expense, and the officers of the Force would doubtless avail themselves of the instruction which might thus be offered, and if forage were provided, officers and troopers would bring their own horses free of charge while attending the Cavalry School.

In May last, pursuant to General Orders, the usual board, composed of the Deputy Adjutant General and Inspector of Artillery, inspected the articles in the Government stores and magazine at Ottawa, which were fully reported upon at the time.

During the year a small sum has been expended in necessary repairs on the respective drill sheds at Cornwall, Prescott and Perth, by which they have been much improved. The armories at Cornwall were much required, and the repairs at Prescott and Perth have secured the sheds at those stations from deterioration for the present.

On the whole, considering the short period of drill, and the large deduction in the number authorized to train, the condition of the force in the District may be looked upon as satisfactory. Although movements on a large scale could not be practised, an improvement in company drill is noticeable, and as the organization is kept up, the whole Division could be turned out in a short time if their services should be required.

The Staff, consisting of the Brigade Major and District Paymaster have rendered the usual assistance.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

W. H. JACKSON, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Deputy Adjutant-General Military District No. 4.

The Adjutant-General of Militia,  
Ottawa.

## MILITARY DISTRICT No. 5.

HEADQUARTERS,  
MONTREAL, 5th December, 1877.

SIR,—In compliance with the General Order of the 11th May, 1877, I have the honor to forward, for your consideration and for submission to the General Officer in command, the Annual Report of Military District No. 5, under my command.

The nominal enrolled strength of the force in the District is as follows:—

	Officers.	N. C. O. and Men.
Cavalry (9 Troops).....	27 ..	315
Field Batteries (3).....	18 ..	225
Garrison Artillery (7 Batteries)....	29 ..	385
Engineers (2 Companies).....	6 ..	110
Rifles (2 Battalions).....	52 ..	660
Infantry (12 Battalions).....	335 ..	4,510
“ Independent Companies (3).....	9 ..	165
Total.....	476	6,370
Total of all ranks.....		6,846

According to General Orders of 11th May, 1877, 180 officers and men of corps who had not drilled for 1876-77, were allowed to drill for that year, previous to the 30th June, 1877. Four companies of the 51st Battalion were selected, and drilled 180 of all ranks, and were inspected previous to the 30th June. These companies were relieved from drill for 1877-78.

By the above General Order a quota for the District, of 3,000 officers, non-commissioned officers and men, was allowed to drill for 1877-78. In selecting the corps to fill up this quota, the corps that did not drill in 1876-77, and were able and willing to drill this year, were first taken. The Field Batteries having been ordered to drill were, of course, included in the number. The Montreal corps having paraded in Brigade to celebrate Her Majesty's Birthday, were allowed to count that day as one of the annual drill, and they thereby acquired the privilege of drilling for the year. The number of troops and companies to complete the quota were selected by lot in presence of the Deputy Adjutant General and Brigade Majors Lieut.-Colonels Bacon and Aylmer. With a view to distribute the drill as widely as possible through the frontier and rural corps, an average of 30 per troop of Cavalry and 40 per company of Infantry was struck (that being the average of last year), and the number of troops and companies at that strength were balloted for. All the corps allowed have performed their drill and have been inspected. They mustered so well this year that the average is 34 per troop and 44 per company, of all ranks, thus causing an excess over the quota that could not well be avoided.

The following corps have drilled:—

Corps.	Officers.	N. C. O. and Men.	Horses.
<i>Cavalry.</i>			
Montreal Troop.....	3	26	29
Cookshire do .....	2	33	35
Sherbrooke do .....	1	34	35
Compton do .....	2	32	34
Stanstead do .....	3	35	38
Huntingdon Troop.....	2	32	34
Brome do .....	2	35	37
<i>Artillery.</i>			
Montreal Field Battery.....	6	70	28
Shefford do .....	6	75	28
<i>Engineers.</i>			
No. 1 Company, Montreal.....	3	40	
<i>Rifles and Infantry.</i>			
1st Battalion "Prince of Wales" Rifles, 6 Companies.....	20	252	
3rd do "Victoria" do 6 do .....	22	252	
5th do "Royal" Fusiliers, 6 do .....	22	243	
do do Band.....		42	
6th do Fusiliers, 6 Companies .....	18	222	
11th do Infantry, 5 do .....	10	192	
21st do do 2 do .....	4	80	
50th do do 4 do .....	13	166	
51st do do 4 do .....	14	167	
52nd do do 4 do .....	16	167	
53rd do do 4 do .....	14	168	
54th do do 2 do .....	6	80	
58th do do 5 do .....	13	209	
60th do do 3 do .....	13	123	
79th do do 5 do .....	19	209	
Eardley Independent Company.....	2	38	
Total .....	234	3,022	298
Total of all Ranks.....		3,256	

## CAVALRY.

The Cavalry drilled and were inspected at troop headquarters. The men were all active and able bodied. The horses are well fitted for cavalry work; all the troops passed a creditable inspection.

## FIELD BATTERIES.

*Montreal Field Battery.*

The Montreal Field Battery, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Stevenson, went into camp in July, for twelve days. The camp was pitched in a large field, Montreal West; the camp duties were regularly performed. The battery was inspected on the 30th July, by the Inspector of Artillery and the Deputy Adjutant-

General; the inspection was thorough and satisfactory. The gun practice was performed at the Island of Orleans, under the superintendence of the Inspector of Artillery; excellent practice was made, placing the battery at the head of the list for this year.

*Shefford Field Battery;*

Under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Amyrauld went into camp at Granby on the 26th August, the duties of the camp were carried out efficiently. The battery was inspected by the Inspector of Artillery, and subsequently by the Deputy Adjutant-General; both inspections shewed the corps to be efficient. The gun practice was held under the superintendence of the Inspector of Artillery, on the 5th September; the rain fell heavily all day, but notwithstanding this drawback, good practice was made.

The horses of both batteries were sound and of the right class for Artillery service.

A Field Battery has lately been formed and gazetted, headquarters Richmond, under the command of Major Hon. H. Aylmer, which will be in full working order for next year's drill.

GARRISON ARTILLERY.

The Garrison Artillery did not perform the annual drill this year. The Montreal Brigade has lately been re-organized, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Fraser. Some of the old officers have left, and their places have been filled by others, who have taken hold of the work with spirit. The batteries have been recruited up to their full strength with a good class of men, and are now drilling weekly; they meet in brigade once a week for battalion drill. The brigade bids fair to attain in a very short time a state of efficiency equal to that of any other corps in Montreal.

ENGINEERS.

No. 1 Company, Montreal, under Captain Berry, drilled at headquarters, and was inspected in infantry drill by the Deputy Adjutant-General; the Company mustered in full strength and presented a soldierlike appearance; company drill good.

No. 2 Company, under Major Kennedy, has lately been recruited, is now drilling, and bids fair to attain its former state of efficiency.

RIFLES AND INFANTRY.

The Montreal Corps drilled throughout the summer and fall, by battalions. The 5th Battalion "Royal Fusiliers," under Lieut.-Colonel Crawford, went into camp for a period of twelve days on the camp ground, Montreal West. Tents and blankets were kindly furnished by the Department, but the corps provided their own rations. The camp and battalion were inspected by the General Officer in command, on the 24th August. He expressed himself well pleased with the corps and camp.

*6th Battalion "Fusiliers"—Lieut.-Col. Martin.*

This battalion was inspected by the Deputy Adjutant-General on the 29th Sept.; the battalion mustered strong, and looked well; the marching past was very good, and the parade movements well performed; the arms and accoutrements were clean and in good order.

*1st Battalion "Prince of Wales" Rifles—Lieut.-Col. Bond.*

This battalion was inspected by the General Officer in command, on the 3rd November. This old corps—the oldest in the Dominion—showed that it had lost none of its efficiency; the ranks were full, the men active and intelligent, and all the movements well executed; the marching past was very good.

*3rd Battalion "Victoria Rifles"—Lieut.-Col. Handyside.*

This battalion was inspected by the General Officer in command, on the 24th November. The battalion was over the strength allowed for drill. The men were smart and soldierlike, arms and accoutrements in fine order, and, notwithstanding the Champ de Mars was ankle deep in mud, the marching past and battalion movements were well done.

BRIGADE PARADES

The Montreal Brigade paraded on the 24th May to celebrate Her Majesty's Birthday. There were present on parade, of all ranks and arms, 1,329. After firing the "Feu de joie" and "cheers" were given, the Brigade marched past in column and quarter column, and were then put through a number of brigade movements, all of which were creditably performed. Military District No. 6 was well represented in the Brigade, by the Staff of that District and the 65th Battalion "Mount Royal Rifles." There were over 20,000 spectators on the ground.

The Brigade was called out by the Deputy Adjutant General on the afternoon of the 12th July, to protect the armories and to aid the civil power if required. The calling out of the force was considered a necessity from the intense excitement that prevailed in the city. The order was given at 3 p.m., and in two hours a force of 1,041 of all ranks was under arms fit for duty. The corps were kept under arms all night.

The Brigade was called out by requisition from Magistrates, in aid of the civil power on the 16th July, and were retained on duty until noon of the 17th. The strength of the force, out on this occasion, was 1,040. The disposition of the troops was approved of by the authorities, and the behavior of the men under arms was all that could be desired.

The want of a drill shed is more and more felt in Montreal. Some of the corps are put to the necessity of hiring the Skating Rink for the summer and autumn; some drill in the City Hall, and the armories are scattered in different quarters away from the drilling places. The rooms hitherto occupied as armories in the Old Quebec Gate Barracks, will have to be vacated in the spring, the city having sold the property.

The Montreal Brigade has proved its efficiency on more than one occasion, and is certainly deserving of more encouragement from the city authorities than it has lately received. A proper drill shed, with armories attached, is an absolute necessity to the maintenance and efficiency of the Brigade.

RURAL CORPS.

*11th Battalion "Argenteuil Rangers"—Lt.-Col. Hon. J. C. Abbott.*

Nos. 1, 4, 5, 7 and 8 Companies drilled at company headquarters, and were inspected by Lt.-Col. Bacon, Brigade Major, in September. The companies mustered strong; the men looked well, and the arms and accoutrements were clean.

*21st Battalion, "Richelieu Light Infantry"—Lieut.-Col. F. G. Marchand.*

Two companies, 3 and 4, drilled, and were inspected in October by Lieut.-Col. Aylmer, Brigade Major; the companies were full and shewed a good state of efficiency.

*50th Battalion, "Huntingdon Borderers"—Lieut.-Col. McEachern, C. M. G.*

Four companies drilled, and were inspected in July by the Deputy Adjutant-General; Nos. 2, 3 and 5 Companies mustered for inspection at Huntingdon, and, under the commanding officers, went through battalion movements very creditably. No. 7 Company was inspected at company headquarters; arms and accoutrements were clean; all the companies were full.

51st Battalion, "Hemmingford Rangers"—Lieut.-Col. Rogers.

Four companies were selected to drill for 1876-77 in June; these companies drilled, and were inspected by Lieut.-Col. Bacon, Brigade Major. The companies were full, and in an excellent state of efficiency; accoutrements clean and well put on. The other companies drilled in July; Nos. 2, 5 and 7 were inspected by the Deputy Adjutant-General, and No. 8 by the Brigade Major; the ranks were full, the men clean and soldierlike; drill fairly performed.

52nd Battalion "Brome Light Infantry"—Lieut.-Col. Hall.

Four companies drilled; Nos. 2, 5 and 6 mustered on the 18th September at Bolton Pass for inspection by the Deputy Adjutant-General; some of the companies came 14 miles for this parade; the ranks were full; a fine body of men; several battalion movements were tried and fairly done, but the skirmishing with blank at the bugle call was done in good style. No. 4 Company was inspected at its headquarters, drilled well, and is well up in skirmishing.

53rd "Sherbrooke" Battalion—Lieut.-Col. Ibbotson.

Four companies drilled; three, Nos. 1, 3 and 6, mustered for inspection with band and colors at Sherbrooke on the 10th July, and were inspected by the Deputy Adjutant-General. The companies were full, active and able-bodied men; marching past good; drill fair, considering the companies had not been together for a year. No. 5 Company was inspected at Magog by the Brigade Major; reports a good company; arms and accoutrements clean; drill fair.

54th Battalion, "Richmond" Infantry—Lieut.-Col. Right Hon. Lord Aylmer.

Two companies only of this battalion drilled, 5 and 6, and were inspected by the Brigade-Major Lieut.-Col. Aylmer, in September; both companies are in a state of efficiency.

58th Battalion, "Compton" Infantry—Lieut.-Col. Cook.

Five companies drilled, viz.: 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 Companies, and were inspected in August and September at company headquarters, by the Deputy Adjutant-General, and the Brigade Major. These companies are filled with able bodied men; ranks full; company drill fairly performed; some of the companies skirmish well.

60th Battalion "Missisquoi" Infantry—Lieut.-Col. Rowe.

Three companies drilled; two of them, Nos. 1 and 2, performed their drill together in camp at Missisquoi Bay. An empty granary was secured; the men brought their bedding and blankets with them, and provided their own rations. The officers and men deserve credit for the spirit shewn in carrying out this camp so successfully; good progress was made in drill. The companies were inspected by the Deputy Adjutant-General on the 31st August; the inspection was satisfactory. No. 4 Company drilled, and was inspected at company headquarters in October, by the Deputy Adjutant-General and Brigade Major Lieut.-Col. Aylmer; good company; drill fair.

79th Battalion "Shefford" Infantry or "Highlanders"—Lt.-Col. Miller.

Five companies drilled at company headquarters. Two of them, 1 and 4, mustered for inspection by the Deputy Adjutant-General and Brigade Major, at Granby, on the 6th September. The Band was present. The parade was held on the camp ground of the Shefford Field Battery. The companies looked well, marched well and

drilled fairly. Companies 2, 5 and 6 were inspected in the same week by the same officers. They were all in full strength, good active men, and in a good state of efficiency.

INDEPENDENT COMPANIES.

"Eardley" Company—Captain Lawlor.

This company drilled in camp at Aylmer. Camp equipage was supplied from Ottawa. The company furnished its own rations. The company was inspected on the 30th September by Lt.-Col. Bacon, Brigade Major. The camp presented a neat appearance, the men clean and soldierlike; company drill well performed.

The drilling by companies at company headquarters does not afford so good an opportunity to officers and men to acquire a knowledge of drill and active duties. Camp with its routine of drill and duty, would be gladly welcomed by every corps in the District, especially by the frontier men.

TARGET PRACTICE.

All the companies that have targets and ranges anywhere near their headquarters have had practice. Some companies have no targets or safe ranges, and are therefore reluctantly compelled to forego practice. The tabular returns shew the figure of merit, so far as returns have been received.

RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS.

There are fifteen Rifle Associations in the District, all working efficiently, viz.:—

Province of Quebec	Rifle Association.
Frontier	" "
District of Bedford	" "
Sherbrooke	" "
Wellington Cookshire,	" "
Richmond	" "
Montreal Field Battery	" "
Montreal Garrison Artillery	Rifle Association.
1st Prince of Wales	" "
3rd Victoria Rifles	" "
5th Royal Fusiliers	" "
6th Fusiliers	" "
Engineers	" "
Montreal	" "
Point St. Charles	" "

Experience has shewn that these Associations are of real service in teaching the value of the excellent rifle in possession of the force. All the Associations have had successful competitions during the year. It is anticipated that Military District No. 5 will again furnish six competitors for Wimbledon at the coming matches.

STATE OF THE DISTRICT.

As stated in last year's report, "an excellent spirit prevails throughout the District in favor of the Active Militia," and I can state with confidence and from experience, that a truly loyal and willing spirit exists in the force itself.

I beg to acknowledge with thanks the very cordial support and efficient aid in the work of the District, received from Lieut.-Colonels Bacon and Aylmer, Brigade

Majors, and Lt.-Col. Amyrauld, District Paymaster, and also from Major Pope, Storekeeper, in prompt attention to requisitions for stores.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

JOHN FLETCHER, Lt.-Colonel,  
Deputy Adjutant General, Military District No. 5.

The Adjutant General of Militia,  
Ottawa.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 6.

HEADQUARTERS,  
MONTREAL, 4th December, 1877.

SIR,—In conformity with your instructions, I have the honor to report, for the information of the General Officer commanding the Militia, that in accordance to General Orders (11) of 11th May last, 135 men were selected to drill twelve days for 1876-77; and, moreover, that 1,300 men were selected by lot in the presence of a Field Officer of Militia, to be drilled the period of twelve days for 1877-78.

76th Battalion—Lt.-Col. P. A. Rodier.

The 135 men to be drilled twelve days for 1876-77, were composed of the men forming three companies of this Battalion.

These companies were inspected by me as under:—

No. 4 Company, Capt. Boudreau, was inspected by me at Ste. Martine on the 8th June last.

Present on parade—2 officers and 42 men.

After the manual and firing the company went through a few wheelings, formation of fours, and some company drill on the move; this was done in a creditable manner; the men looked well and had a soldierlike appearance; the arms and accoutrements were in good order.

On same day I inspected, at North Georgetown, No. 5 Company, Capt. Turcot.

Present on parade—3 officers and 42 men.

This is a fine company, good, strong, healthy looking men; drill fair; arms, clothing and accoutrements in good order.

On the next day (9th June) I inspected, at Ste. Philomène, No. 1 Company, Capt. D'Amour.

Present on parade—3 officers and 42 men.

They were put through manual and firing, formations of fours, wheelings, &c; all was done in a creditable manner. The men of this company are not large, but they are particularly active and seem calculated to undergo any amount of exertion; arms and accoutrements in good order.

80th Battalion, Nicolet—Lieut.-Col. DeFoy.

The 22nd June I inspected No. 5 Company of this battalion, Capt. Pratt.

Present on parade—1 officer and 42 men.

Manual and firing good; formation of fours, wheelings, marching, countermarching, all was well performed. The men of this corps are all strong healthy men,

The same day I proceeded to inspect the Nicolet Company, Capt. Giroux.

Present on parade—3 officers and 42 men.

Manual and firing, formation of fours, wheeling, marching, countermarching, &c., good; arms and accoutrements in good order.

The 23rd June I inspected the Becancour Company, Capt. Landry.

Present on parade—2 officers and 42 men.

Drill fair.

The same day I proceeded to inspect the Gentilly Company, Capt. Gaudet.

Present on parade—3 officers and 42 men.

Manual and firing, formation of fours, wheelings, marching, countermarching were well performed; arms and accoutrements in good order.

The 24th June I inspected the Ste. Gertrude Company, Capt. Moussette.

Present on parade—3 officers and 40 men.

Manual and firing, formation of fours, marching, countermarching, wheelings, &c., well performed. This is a good company under a good captain.

On the 7th July I inspected the Victoriaville Company, Capt. Beaubien.

Present on parade—1 officer and 33 men.

Manual and firing, formation of fours, wheeling, marching, &c., fair.

65th Battalion—Lieut.-Col. Labranche.

On the 29th of June I inspected this fine battalion.

Present on parade—Staff, 4; company officers, 13; men, 252.

After the manual and firing, which was well done, the battalion went through several movements, both as a regiment in line and in column, &c.; deployments, advancing in echelon, and finally charged in line in such a manner as to convince me that it understood its work thoroughly.

76th Battalion—Lieut.-Col. Rodier.

On the 13th July the Ste. Martin Company (No. 2), Capt. Durocher, was inspected.

Present on parade—2 officers and 42 men.

Manual and firing, wheeling, formation of fours, marching, countermarching, &c., were good; arms and accoutrements in good order.

On the same day the St. Urbain Company (No. 3), Capt. C. Legault, was inspected.

Present on parade—3 officers and 42 men.

Manual and firing, formation of fours, marching, countermarching, &c., good; arms and accoutrements in good order.

The same day the Chateauguay Company, (No. 6), Capt. Robert, was inspected.

Present on parade—2 officers and 42 men.

Manual and firing, formation of fours, wheelings, marching, countermarching, &c., well performed; arms and accoutrements in good order.

64th Battalion—Lieut.-Col. Prudhomme.

On the 2nd July I inspected No. 1 Company, Capt. Deslaurier.

Present on parade—Staff, 4; company officers, 3; men, 42.

Same day, No. 2 Company, Capt. Baginet.

Present on parade—3 officers and 42 men.

Same day, No. 3 Company, Lieut. Cadieux.

Present on parade—1 officer and 42 men.

Same day, No. 4 Company, Capt. Prudhomme.

Present on parade—2 officers and 42 men.

On the 3rd July I inspected the St. Thimothé Company (No. 5) Capt. Langevin.

Present on parade—3 officers and 42 men.

On the same day I inspected No. 6 Company, Capt. Davies.

Present on parade—2 officers and 42 men.

The manual and firing, formation of fours, wheeling, marching and countermarching were gone through by each of the six above named companies at my inspection.

The whole was fairly done by each of these companies.

The arms and accoutrements were in good order.

#### *Provisional Battalion, Joliette—Lieut.-Col. Sheppard.*

On the 23rd July, No. 1 Company, Capt. Sheppard, was inspected.

Present on parade—Staff, 3; company officers, 2; men, 42.

On the 25th June, No. 2 Company, Capt. Granger, was inspected.

Present on parade—2 officers and 42 men.

On the 4th June, No. 3 Company, Lieut. Guilbeault, was inspected.

Present on parade—2 officers and 42 men.

On the 14th July, No. 4 Company, Capt. Guilbeault, was inspected.

Present on parade—2 officers and 42 men.

On the 24th June, No. 5, Company, Lieut. Blair was inspected.

Present on parade—2 officers and 42 men.

At these different inspections of the several companies of this battalion, manual and firing, company drill, skirmishing, was gone through in a satisfactory manner.

The men of the battalion are strong and active; the arms and accoutrements are in good order.

On the 9th October the Independent Company of Arthabaskaville, Capt. Pacaud, was inspected.

Present on parade—3 officers and 39 men.

Manual and firing, formation of fours, wheelings, marching, &c., was fairly performed.

I regret to have to state that this company did not receive a target to practice upon, although asked by me long before the time it was wanted. Consequently the men were unable to practice.

On the 14th November I inspected the Laprairie Independent Company, Capt. Brosseau.

Present on parade—3 officers and 42 men.

Manual and firing, formation of fours, wheelings, marching and countermarching, all well done.

This is a fine company, all good and well-drilled men; uniforms, arms and accoutrements in good order.

On the 29th November I inspected the St. Jean Baptiste Village Independent Company, Capt. Kirwan.

Present on parade—1 officer and 42 men.

The Independent Wotton Company, balloted to drill for 1877-78, did not drill, but consented to cede its right to drill to the St. Jean Baptiste Company.

This St. Jean Baptiste Company is a very fine company, composed of men of a splendid physique.

The manual and firing—the firing especially—was very good; formation of fours, wheelings and marching, were fairly performed, considering that the men had had but a few days drill when inspected.

#### RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS.

Besides the already long existing Rifle Association for the 5th Brigade Division of which Lt.-Col. D'Orsonnens, Brigade Major, is the President, I am happy to a position to say that since my last report three new Rifle Associations have sprung up in the District under my command:—

The Three Rivers Battalion Rifle Association, Major Lambert, President.

The Joliette Battalion Rifle Association, Lt.-Col. Sheppard, President.

The 65th Battalion Mount Royal Rifle Association, Lt.-Col. N. Labranch, President. The last named Rifle Association held its matches at Point St. Charles, on the 3rd and 6th October last.

Four Battalion Matches took place, and a fifth one open to all competitors belonging to the Volunteer force.

One hundred and ninety-two dollars, in money or its equivalent, were given in prizes.

I sincerely trust that the Government will deem fit, in future, to give some tangible encouragement in the way of prizes, to these Rifle Associations.

#### IN AID OF CIVIL POWER.

On the 12th and 16th July last, the 65th Mount-Royal (together with the military force in Military District No. 5), were called out in aid of the civil power.

The whole of the 65th Battalion responded to the call on both occasions with the utmost promptitude.

A lamentable occurrence took place at the Quebec Gate Barracks on the 11th July last, wherein an unfortunate man of the name of McKeon, lost his life at the hands of Private Francis Fitzpatrick, No. 2 Company, 65th Battalion.

A few days previous orders had come from headquarters ordering the placing of guards over the different arsenals in Montreal, in consequence of rumours of an alarming nature that had been put in circulation.

A guard had been placed over the armory of the 65th Battalion at the Quebec Gate Barracks.

On the 11th July Francis Fitzpatrick was sentry at post No. 3, Quebec Gate Barracks, when, at 2 o'clock, p.m., four or five rowdies (said to belong to the Black Horse gang here), came up to him, attacked him, and attempted to wrench his rifle from him. The sentry stepped back a pace or two and fixed bayonet, when one of them (McKeon) caught hold of the rifle, the sentry held on, and in the scuffle the man's breast was pierced by the bayonet. He died in a few minutes.

Fitzpatrick was thrown in gaol for several days by order of the Coroner.

A jury was struck and assembled. After a most minute investigation the jury completely exonerated Fitzpatrick, who was lying in prison all this time.

Although I deplore the sad end of this man McKeon, still I must say that Fitzpatrick did his duty like a man, and deserves some kind of acknowledgment for the fearless manner in which he stood his ground and kept his post. Fitzpatrick is quite a young man, small and slimly built.

McKeon was a tall and powerful young man, the terror of the neighborhood.

#### DRILL SHED.

Montreal, which aspires to be the greatest city of the Dominion, which spends millions of dollars on spacious parks, splendid new City Halls, embellishments and improvements of all sorts, seems to take a delight in heaping insult and mortification on the really magnificent Volunteer force she possesses, a force of which any city should be proud, and thinks she is serving the best interests of the country by allowing the once so fine "Champ de Mars" to be converted into a dirty, muddy, rutty public thoroughfare; and, moreover, by positively ignoring the obligations incumbent upon the city authorities to furnish the Volunteers with a suitable drill shed, together with proper and safe armories.

If they go on a little longer in this way, who can say what will become of the Montreal Volunteer force.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Yours truly,

A. C. DELOTBINIÈRE-HARWOOD, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Deputy Adjutant General, Military District No. 6.

The Adjutant General of Militia,  
Ottawa.

## MILITARY DISTRICT No. 7.

## HEADQUARTERS,

Quebec, 1st December, 1877.

In compliance with the General Order of the 11th May, 1877, I have the honor to lay before you, for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding, my Report on the state of the Militia in Military District No. 7 for 1877-78, together with an Appendix annexed.

The nominal strength, as reduced in the General Orders above quoted is 2,000 officers, non-commissioned officers and men. The total actual strength of the force which mustered at the time of the annual drill, was 77 officers and 1,702 non-commissioned officers and men. 121 officers and 1,344 non-commissioned officers and men were relieved by lot from performing their annual training.

The 8th Royal Rifles, by special permission, have been allowed to perform drill during the winter months, and will bring the strength of the force, when their drill is completed, to 92 officers and 1,912 non-commissioned officers and men, which have drilled for 1877-78.

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

Corps.	Officers.	N. C. O. and Men.
Quebec Cavalry, two Troops.....	5	64
Quebec Field Battery.....	4	95
Gaspé Battery Garrison Artillery.....	1	36
Grosse Isle Battery do .....	1	23
9th Rifles, 6 companies.....	18	252
17th Battalion Infantry, 5 Companies.....	6	193
23rd do 2 do .....	3	82
55th do 3 do .....	6	126
61st do 3 do .....	4	126
70th do 3 do .....	5	126
County Quebec Batt. Infantry 3 Companies. ....	6	126
Portneuf do 3 do .....	5	118
Kamouraska do 2 do .....	3	84
Dorchester do 1 do .....	1	41
Rimouski do 2 do .....	4	84
Charlevoix do 2 do .....	4	84
Temiscouata do 1 do .....	1	42
	77	1702
8th Battalion Rifles, yet to drill.....	15	210
Total.....	92	1912

## CAVALRY.

The two troops of Cavalry drilled at headquarters at troop drill. These corps paraded full strength, and passed creditable inspections. No. 2 Troop was inspected by Lieut.-General Sir Edward Selby Smyth, K.C.M.G., and No. 1 Troop by the Deputy Adjutant-General of the District.

The troops were not as a rule well mounted, the horses in great part being hired. I must say that unless commanding officers of corps remedy this want by only enlisting troopers who own their horses, and getting them registered, it will be

very difficult to bring Cavalry corps to any degree of real efficiency. The want of training of horses at the Riding School is also greatly felt. Quebec possesses a first-class building for that purpose, and it is desirable that Cavalry commanders in this District should afford every opportunity to their men to obtain the necessary instruction whilst there is a qualified instructor in "B" Battery whose services could be made available for that purpose. If an extra number of horses were attached to "B" Battery, and more vacancies allowed, it would be a great benefit to this branch of the service.

## ARTILLERY.

Artillery corps were inspected by the Inspector of Artillery, with the exception of the Gaspé Battery of Garrison Artillery, which was inspected by Lieut.-Colonel La Montagne, Brigade Major, in the absence of the Inspector of Artillery on other duty. I beg to annex a report of the said inspection (A).

Owing to the small number of Artillery corps in the District, I would recommend the formation of a few more batteries of Garrison Artillery, at Quebec and Point Lévis. I have received two applications for the formation of Garrison batteries in Quebec, but, owing to the reduction of the force, they have not been accepted.

## INFANTRY

The 9th Battalion Rifles, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Vohl, was inspected by the General Officer commanding on the 25th of October last, on the Esplanade at Quebec. The Inspecting officer was received with a general salute, and, after closely inspecting the men, the battalion marched past in column of companies in quick time, and in quarter columns at the double, and afterward put through several battalion movements. The Senior Major was then called to the front for the performance of the manual and firing exercises.

The General expressed himself highly satisfied with the way in which the several movements had been performed, and also at the pleasure he experienced in inspecting for the first time a French Canadian battalion.

## RURAL CORPS.

The companies of the different Rural Battalions drilled at their respective headquarters, and, considering the period of drill, the results have proved satisfactory, but the system fails to bring the corps to that efficiency which is acquired in camps of instruction.

The absence of qualified officers to help the commanders of corps, and also of trained non-commissioned officers, adds greatly to the difficulties already experienced.

The want of drill sheds in rural parts prevent commanding officers from bringing together for instruction the men desirous of drilling during winter months. Consequently, from one drill to another the men forget what they have learnt, and the same trouble has to be gone through year after year.

## MILITARY SCHOOLS.

I must again urge in this Report the pressing necessity of re-opening, in Quebec and Ontario, the Military Schools, which have been working for three consecutive years in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. It would thus give the other Provinces their turn, as well as the facilities of qualifying for promotion, the great number of officers now holding provisional appointments.

Officers already qualified have reaped great benefits by being allowed to enter "B" Battery, School of Gunnery, and there acquire a knowledge of interior economy, discipline, tactics, strategy and field fortifications, besides receiving lessons in riding drill.

Lt.-Col. Strange has been unremitting in his efforts, and has used every means in his power to make officers thoroughly efficient. The results have been very satisfactory, but the number of vacancies at his disposal are so restricted that few can be admitted.

## RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS.

The Rifle Associations in the District, to the number of nine, have given favorable results. Over \$1,500 have been expended in prizes in the several Associations.

I would strongly recommend that a larger allowance of money be granted to each Association, and this according to the amount of money expended. Isolated Company Associations should also be encouraged, particularly where means of joining other Associations are not available.

## ARMS AND ACCOUTREMENTS.

The whole of the arms in the District, with the exception of those of the 8th and 9th Rifles, require immediate repairs. I have obtained permission from headquarters to bring them into the Military Stores, to be there repaired by the armorer attached to "B" Battery.

The guns, arms, saddlery, &c., belonging to Cavalry and Field Batteries, are in very good order.

In concluding, I have much pleasure in acknowledging the cordial support I have received from the staff officers in my District.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

T. J. DUCHESNAY, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Deputy Adjutant General Military District No. 7.

The Adjutant General of Militia,  
Ottawa.

[A.]

## MILITARY DISTRICT No. 7.

HEADQUARTERS,  
QUEBEC, 1st December, 1877.

SIR,—I have the honor to report that, according to instructions received, I have inspected (on the 10th of September last) the Gaspé Battery, under Major Slous' command, and found the battery very well drilled both in artillery and infantry.

The men manned the guns (24-pounders) and fired in changing rounds, everyone appearing to understand the nature of the different projectiles, and how to make use of them; they went through target practice with the 24-pounder smooth-bore, and will this year, like last, be entitled to the Governor General's medal offered in competition to the Dominion Artillery armed with this heavy ordnance.

The battery afterwards marched past, went through manual and firing exercise, company and skirmishing drill, also the Snider target practice, which was all well done.

The efficiency of this battery is due to the Officers having had an opportunity of attending both Infantry and Artillery Schools of Instruction.

Having inspected a number of infantry companies in the year 1877, I find the instruction generally deficient for want of Infantry Military Schools (closed in Quebec four years ago), some companies having none but officers appointed provisionally.

I hope you will recommend the re-opening of Infantry Military Schools in Quebec.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

E. LAMONTAGNE, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Brigade Major.

The Deputy Adjutant-General,  
Commanding Military District No. 7,  
Quebec.

## MILITARY DISTRICT No. 8.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK,  
HEADQUARTERS,  
FREDERICTON, 4th December, 1877.

SIR,—In compliance with the instructions contained in General Orders (11) of the 11th May, 1877, I have the honor to submit this, my report, on the state of the Militia of the District under my command, for the military year 1877-78.

The nominal strength of the force in the District, as reduced in General Orders above quoted, is 154 officers, 2,107 non-commissioned officers and men. The total actual strength of the force when mustered at the time of the annual drill, was 103 officers, 1,356 non-commissioned officers and men, including 180 officers, non-commissioned officers and men allowed to perform twelve days drill for 1876-77, prior to 30th June, 1877.

Six officers and 117 non-commissioned officers have yet to complete the drill, and also 277 officers and non-commissioned officers and men of the 62nd Battalion were relieved in consequence of their arms, accoutrements and clothing issued to the corps having been destroyed at the St. John fire of the 20th June last.

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

Corps.	Officers.	N.C.O. and Men.
8th Regiment of Cavalry, Lieut.-Col. Saunders (7 troops; 2 troops relieved).....	13	173
Newcastle Field Battery, Brevet Major Call..	4	74
Woodstock Field Battery, Capt. Dibblee.....	4	74
New Brunswick Brigade Garrison Artillery, Lieut.-Col. Foster (5 batteries; 1 battery relieved).....	15	123
New Brunswick Engineer Corps, Capt. Perley 67th Battalion, Lieut.-Col. Upton (10 com- panies; 3 companies relieved).....	2	27
71st Battalion, Lieut.-Col. Marsh (5 companies)	19	295
73rd Battalion, Major Sheriff (5 companies; 1 company relieved).....	17	210
74th Battalion, Lieut.-Col. Beer (6 companies; 2 companies relieved).....	12	140
	15	167

Corps.	Officers.	N.O.O. and Men.
Dalhousie Infantry Company, Capt. Barberie, (drill not completed)	...	...
St. Stephen Infantry Company, Lieut. Stewart, (drill not completed in consequence of the non-issue of clothing and arms).....	...	...
Total.....	101	1283

The routine of duties in this District during the past year has been carried out in a somewhat similar manner to that of the preceding year, and under somewhat similar circumstances, viz.: with reduced estimates for Militia purposes, rendered necessary by considerations of economy; and, in consequence, with reduced numerical strength of the force for drill and training.

Authority, however, was granted for securing to the force an important improvement. The period of training of Cavalry and Infantry (as well as Artillery as heretofore), has been extended from eight days, as previously authorized, to twelve days.

I have again the pleasure of reporting that, with few exceptions, drills have been carefully performed, and good use has been made of field and garrison guns and rifles.

And again, I must observe that every branch of the service eagerly looks forward to the speedy return, when circumstances permit, to the established system of allowing sufficient time *in camp* to train the soldier in matters of discipline, drill and appearance under arms, all leading up to the last stage of the annual drill, viz.: Target practice.

It is due to the force, however, to state that owing chiefly to the untiring energy and intelligence of *captains of companies* (officers upon whom the principal part of the duty of imparting instruction in the knowledge and practice of drill and discipline devolves) as well as the zeal of almost every individual member of the force, a remarkable degree of efficiency has been maintained in corps whose training has been carried out for the past three years at company headquarters (not in camps), and even, in other cases, in corps relieved from drill last year.

I may here mention that so desirous were the officers of one rural battalion, (the 67th Carleton Light Infantry) to afford an opportunity to the corps to practically apply company drill to battalion exercises, many recruits not even having previously seen a battalion on parade, a small battalion was assembled at Hartland, at some individual expense, and with no little personal sacrifice, and a most interesting and instructive day's drill was carried out, there being many spectators present, and much enthusiasm displayed. *Vide Inspection Report.*

I may add that the local newspaper, the *Carleton Sentinel*, referring to this inspection parade, and to the necessity for corps of the Active Militia receiving the moral support of the people, states that: "Happily such support is not withheld in this county, judging by the large number of spectators at this and all the Deputy Adjutant-General's inspections."

It is no doubt gratifying to both officers and men to know that their efforts have been thus appreciated, and, moreover, that the efficiency of the force is now of more than local interest.

Having quoted from a local newspaper on this subject, I may be permitted to give the following brief extract from no less authority on "Colonial Defence" than the *Saturday Review* of the 29th September last. In adverting to the question as to whether colonial patriotism can be expected to "make a certain amount of provision for its own defence," it is added, : "The Dominion of Canada has already by its public spirited and efficient measures practically returned a very satisfactory

"answer to this question." It is also there stated "Canada has a not inglorious history, and the more distant British Colonies would rather gain in dignity by following her lead."

#### DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF BARRACK BUILDINGS, STOREHOUSES AND ARMOURIES.

I beg to refer to my Report of 23rd June last, copy enclosed (marked A,) on the subject of the great fire at St. John, 20th June last, and to direct special attention to the services rendered by the officers and non-commissioned officers named in that Report, and in the margin hereof, in their efforts to save and protect Government property; and it affords a proof—if proof were needed, that we have in our force officers and non-commissioned officers of whom any army, at home or abroad, may justly be proud, as when an officer, non-commissioned officer or man leaves kith and kin, house and home, in dim uncertainty of their safety, at such a time as that of the disastrous fire at St. John, and plies all his skill and energy in obedience of orders, in his endeavor to protect Government property, there is no question as to the loyalty or amenability to discipline of such officer, non-commissioned officer, or man.

Besides the great fire at St. John, the year 1877 will long be remembered for the fires at Woodstock, Portland and St. Stephen; only at St. John and St. Stephen, however, were arms, accoutrements and clothing burnt. At Portland, owing to the exertions of the members of No. 3 Battery of Artillery (Captain Ewing, having previously himself nearly lost his life by an exploding shell in the ruins of the St. John fire), the Government property in possession of this corps was saved.

#### AID TO THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES.

The practical utility of the force of this District has again been tested in aiding the civil power (after the disastrous fire at St. John), and, as on former occasions, the force has been found "ready" for the emergency, and "willing" to perform such duties as were required of it by the local civil authorities.

The report of Lieut.-Colonel Foster on this subject is herewith (marked B).

I may state, that while the available armed force on the spot, at St. John, at the time its services were required, was small, owing to the great destruction of arms, &c., in the Government stores and in the armouries of the different corps at St. John (the equipment of two Batteries of Artillery at Portland and Carleton St. John alone excepted), I had not less than 900 officers and men in readiness, then performing their annual drill in Kings, Westmorland, York and Carleton, Counties, as "willing" as they were "ready" to reinforce the corps at St. John at short notice, and with easy means of transport at their disposal, the Intercolonial Railway in the case of the former corps, the E. & N. A. (western extension) Railway in that of the latter, and I may here observe that the Superintendent of the last named Railway (H. D. McLeod, Esq.,) made the liberal offer of free transport to corps proceeding to aid the civil authorities at St. John from those Counties, and although these circumstances were reported to the civil authorities of St. John, through His Worship the Mayor, by the Brigade Major and myself, they deemed it necessary to secure the services of a detachment of H. M. 97th Regiment from Halifax, probably not desiring, on economical grounds, to withdraw more of the Active Militia than were then and there assembled from their industrial pursuits.

The Deputy Adjutant General of Nova Scotia (Colonel Laurie) also kindly offered the services of corps at Halifax to reinforce the corps at St. John if necessary.

I may add that Lieut.-Col. Saunders, on behalf of the 8th Regiment of Cavalry (seven Troops), and Brevet Major Vince, on behalf of two companies of the 67th Battalion, were amongst the first officers in this District to offer the services of their respective corps. The Brigade Major states, in this connection, that "it is needless to say that if the services of these officers, corps, or either of them, had been accepted, the necessary authority for their employment could have been easily obtained, and the detachment of the Imperial force rendered wholly unnecessary."

Lieut.-Colonel Foster has informed me that while the presence of a considerable armed force was absolutely necessary in preserving law and order at such a time as this, when thousands of able-bodied men were thrown out of employment and left without house or home, all, or nearly all, of the arduous duties of guards and picquets devolved upon the force of Active Militia of St. John, then under arms, the individual members of which were, in many instances, themselves left without house or home; and most creditable, I consider, to them, to the officer in command (Lieut.-Colonel Foster), and to their officers and men generally, was the discipline maintained, as well as the manner in which duties were performed.

I was necessarily absent from St. John on more than one occasion during this trying period, employed on inspection duty in country districts; corps were then completing their annual drill. But during my many visits to the camp of the detachment under Lieut.-Col. Foster's command, I found both officers and men zealous in the discharge of military duty, and for their services they subsequently received the thanks of the Mayor of the city of St. John.

The Brigade-Major (Lt.-Col. MacShane) submits the following recommendation, which I beg to endorse: "An official form of requisition, under Sec. 27, 'Act respecting Militia and Defence,' in aid of civil power, should be published and distributed to staff officers for use in case of emergency. The required requisition is too <sup>to be</sup> properly in an emergency, and, if not framed properly, it is to be presumed all action under it would be unsupported."

#### SUGGESTED TRIENNIAL SYSTEM OF TRAINING.

On occasions such as the one above referred to, when even a small portion of the force is required to aid the civil power—it has already been more than once so required in this District—public attention is called to the absolute necessity for having an *efficient force*, prepared for any emergency, at any time and at any place.

It appears, however, to be not generally understood that, to arrive at such a state of *preparedness*, much previous training on the part of the existing force of the country is necessary (the Imperial troops cannot be expected to be within reach of a scene of a local riot, or disturbance, even if it were *constitutional* to employ them for this service) drill and discipline have to go on side by side, not the training of one arm of the service alone, nor the carrying out of one peculiar system of training alone, such as company drill at local headquarters for several years consecutively, but the training of the three arms (Cavalry, Artillery and Infantry) and according, I consider, to the triennial system recommended in my Report for 1876-77.

So convinced am I of the importance of that system, and having observed with pleasure that the General Officer commanding attaches great importance to the formation of Infantry Training Schools, with the view of rendering complete *Brigade Schools of Instruction* (of course giving credit for the good results obtained from the infantry schools of the old system), I deem it desirable here to advert to my recommendation, and conclude in the following terms:—

It is, I conceive, very essential that it be made known, in a similar way as the enrolment of the Reserve Militia is made known, years before it takes place, in general terms as to the manner in which the annual drill of the Active Militia is to be performed, and I respectfully recommend that battalion camps be authorized for the year following the drill at company headquarters, and that, afterwards, for the year succeeding that year, the force be assembled in brigade or divisional camps. This three years course of training to be repeated continuously.

Among the advantages to be derived from this system are the following:—

1. A larger proportion than heretofore of the best class of young men in the country would, I am convinced, join the ranks for this three years, service, and on retirement their places would be filled by others.

2. The superstructure of the force being rendered complete by the establishment of the Military College, the succession of steps from "A" and "B" Batteries and the force in Manitoba to the last class of the Reserve Militia, would triennially become

more and more efficient; the Reserve Militia, in its different classes, would be largely represented by three years, past service men, ready and willing to support the Active Militia in the hour of need, and the active force would in turn send its most intelligent members from time to time to the Schools of Gunnery, or to the Brigade Schools built on that efficient basis, to be returned to their corps respectively, after a thorough course of instruction, to serve as models to their brethren.

By means such as these, without much increased expenditure, without any change of system, without having to resort in a hurry, perhaps too late, to the migratory class for aid in the hour of danger, without having to keep up an expensive standing army, the mainstay of the military structure—the Active Militia force—would, I conceive, continue to stand on the surest foundation, and to be worthy of the confidence of the people of Canada; and it is a lesson that every nation that has built up its force to any extent on the Prussian model, excellent though it unquestionably be, should bear in mind that "imitations of Prussia are apt to be very deceptive; they are sure to give a large nominal force, but it is only when the system has been perfected by long and laborious efforts that it escapes from the two defects that mark its infancy—the want of drill and discipline in the men, and the want of experienced leaders, and especially of non-commissioned officers."

Lieut.-Colonel C. B. Brackenbury, R. A., has recently brought the subject (as to the means of conveying a technical knowledge of military duty to every member of the force) before the people of England, in a lecture delivered in the R. U. S. Institution. I cannot do better than make the following extracts, in the hope that they may prove applicable to the force of Canada, and unquestionably they may be applied to our force, if we have at the disposal of all officers and non-commissioned officers by the establishment of Brigade Schools, a means of so *learning* the theory and practice of drill and discipline that they may *teach* others. Lieut.-Colonel Brackenbury, himself a good authority on the value of a well trained army, both at home and abroad, in speaking of the systematic instruction of all ranks of the army, divides the subject into these three questions:—

- (1.) What is to be taught?
- (2.) How is it to be taught?
- (3.) Who is to teach it?

(1.) To the first question the answer is in brief.

The young officer is to be trained to command wisely, to lead cleverly; the recruit has to learn (1) command over his own limbs, weapons and spirit, and lastly, the power of acting individually according to certain definite and well understood rules. All, whether officers or recruits, have to learn unquestioning obedience to orders. Each officer, non-commissioned officer and private, should be taught exactly what he, in his own sphere, will be called upon to perform in war, and the officers must be taught the work of the grade superior to them.

(2.) How is it to be taught?

Exactly as every other subject of human knowledge is taught, viz., by a combination of theory and practice, beginning with easy and simple rules and examples, and rising by degrees to more complicated problems.

(3.) Who is to teach it?

The Captain of the company.

The new French regulations say on this subject:—"The captain directs the instruction of his company within the limit of the orders of the *chef de corps*; he is responsible for it; he varies the object of the exercises in order to make them interesting. He does everything that is possible to instruct each fraction constituted by his chief, and exercises a personal and constant action over all parts of the training."

#### REBUILDING OF STOREHOUSE AND ARMORIES AT ST. JOHN, WHICH HAD BEEN DESTROYED BY THE FIRE OF THE 20TH JUNE LAST.

I respectfully direct attention to the reports on this subject (3)\* submitted by

\*The Brigade Major's Report, 10th July, 1877; Capt. Perley's Report, 23rd July, 1877; and Plans of Buildings.

me on the 25th July last, and to the services rendered by Capt. H. Parley, commanding New Brunswick Engineer Corps, in kindly furnishing excellent plans and offering valuable suggestions for erecting new buildings.

These Reports and Plans were subsequently laid before the General Officer in Command, and the Premier of the Dominion, during their visit to St. John in August last, was good enough to issue immediate instructions calling for tenders for rebuilding the storehouse, whose walls had been uninjured by the fire, and the erection of the Government portion of the fence. A tender being afterwards approved, the work is now in a satisfactory state of advancement, and the building will, I am sure, be admirably adapted for the purpose intended.

The rebuilding of the armories still remains to be done; and it is needless to point out that the existence of the Active Militia force of St. John almost depends upon the speedy erection of these buildings, the different corps having been left without arms or clothing, and without any place in which to store them when issued. I have frequently called attention to the fact that there is no drill shed at St. John.

The clothing recently authorized to be issued to the 62nd "St. John" Battalion, had necessarily to be sent to the storehouse at Fredericton for safe keeping, pending the rebuilding of the armories at St. John—a work I cannot over-estimate the importance of.

I beg to report that the city authorities have as yet taken no steps to erect their portion of the fence enclosing the barrack grounds.

#### CARE OF ARMS, ACCOUTREMENTS AND CLOTHING IN CHARGE OF CORPS.

I have much pleasure in reporting a marked improvement generally in the manner of keeping arms and other Government property in charge of officers commanding corps, resulting from the adoption of a system based upon General Orders of the 14th August, 1874, and 30th April, 1875, requiring all arms, &c., to be kept in their respective armories, which system the Brigade Major, Lieut.-Col. Macshane, with his usual zeal and energy, for which I beg here to thank him, takes pride in having carried out.

Some captains of companies have lately built new armories; others have remodelled their old armories, and, I regret to add, there is still room for improvement in this particular service. The Brigade-Major and myself have necessarily to withhold our recommendations for payment of the money grant for "care of arms," until the instructions on this important subject be fully complied with.

The following, in brief, is the system adopted in this District:—

1. The rifles must be kept in racks, accoutrements complete hung on pegs over their respective rifles, belts pipe-clayed, and pouches blackened. The saddlery of Cavalry and Field Batteries of Artillery should be arranged in sets, and properly oiled.

2. The clothing having been thoroughly cleaned should be carefully folded in sets and placed on shelves, each set labelled with the name of the man to whom issued, the great coat at the bottom of the set, tunic next, then the trowsers, and the cap on the top.

The Brigade Major submits the following suggestion, which I endorse: "A clause should be, he considers, inserted in the Militia and Defence Act, placing band instruments in possession of corps on the same footing as arms and accoutrements, notwithstanding their purchase in part from the Government grant of money in aid of efficient bands, and in part by private subscriptions, and authorizing the officer commanding the corps for the time being to sue for their recovery."

#### UNIFORM HEAD—DRESS.

The time seems to have arrived when the important question of a suitable "head-dress" can be settled by the adoption in our Active Militia of a similar "helmet" to that

authorized to be issued to the Imperial army. The new helmet appears to be light and adapted for this climate in summer, and would, I think, if issued to the force, give general satisfaction and prove a contrast in that respect to the present infantry forage cap, which is, as I have previously said, neither useful or ornamental.

#### BOARDS OF SURVEY ON STORES IN CHARGE OF THE DISTRICT STOREKEEPER.

In view of the deficiency of stores in charge of the Storekeeper of this District, as discovered on examination by the Board of Survey that assembled at St. John in June last, I must here advert to the following recommendation by that Board, all of which I beg to support: "That, although it is understood that bonds for \$1,000 have been required from District Storekeepers to prevent loss of money or property in their charge, another check, in the opinion of the Board, is necessary, viz: that there be a semi-annual inspection of stores in the charge of the District Storekeeper instead of an annual inspection, and that a detailed statement of all the receipts and issues by the District Storekeeper, as submitted monthly by him, to headquarters, be sent to the Board for its guidance in examining the stores in charge."

I may add that I consider that no issue should be made from the stores of one District to those of another, although authorized from headquarters, without the knowledge of the Deputy Adjutant General commanding.

Lieut.-Col. Cunard, a very efficient officer, has been appointed Storekeeper for this District, on the removal of Lieut.-Col. Evans.

#### MOUNTING OF FIVE 64-POUNDER RIFLED GUNS AT NEGRO POINT BATTERY, ST. JOHN.

These guns arrived from Woolwich early in September last, and the General Officer in command having, during his visit to St. John, arranged for their being speedily and satisfactorily mounted, the Brigade Major and Capt. Parley spared no pains in facilitating the work, during my absence on leave, for which I beg to thank these officers.

Carriages on traversing platforms are being constructed by Messrs. Hillyard & Co., shipbuilders.

The battery has been placed in charge of Caretaker Nixon.

I beg to refer to the Brigade Major's recommendations of the 13th September last, which I considered of great importance, to place this battery in complete order, viz:—

- (1.) To repair the fencing round the battery.
- (2.) To provide a residence within the enclosure of the battery for the Caretaker

#### SCHOOL OF MILITARY INSTRUCTION AT FREDERICTON.

The course of instruction for the half year ended 31st May last, was conducted by the same staff as heretofore employed, with like good results. Fifty-three candidates obtained second-class certificates, of whom seven are officers of the Active Militia; the rest of the past candidates, for the most part, are non-commissioned officers and men of the force. All have given satisfactory proofs of their ability to command a company at battalion drill, to drill a company at company drill, and of their acquaintance with the internal economy of a company and the duties of a company officer.

The weekly admission of candidates having been found to retard the progress of cadets, authority has been granted to admit candidates fortnightly instead of weekly, an improvement in the efficiency of the school will, I am sure, result from this change.

#### MILITARY COLLEGE—ADMISSION OF CADETS.

The undernamed gentlemen of this District having passed their examinations in July last, and been certified by the Board of Examiners, have been admitted as cadets to the Military College, Kingston:—

	Marks.
H. M. Campbell.....	9,209
A. W. Daniel. ....	3,304
E. H. Drury.....	2,377

It is, I think, creditable to Mr. Campbell, and it must be gratifying to those who take an interest in the educational system of New Brunswick (including his teacher, J. Parkins, Esq., Principal of the Collegiate Schools at Fredericton), that in a competitive examination such as that above referred to, a gentleman educated entirely in this Province should have attained the highest position on the list of successful candidates of the Dominion, for admission to the College.

There are at present six cadets from New Brunswick in the Military College at Kingston.

#### RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS.

For the first time since the formation of the Provincial Rifle Association in 1860, I was, owing to my absence on leave, unable to be present at the annual matches of this Association, I am glad to have to report, however, that, although the number of competitors was less at the meeting in August last, than at that of the previous year, viz., 84 as compared with 101, there was much excellent shooting.

The reduced number of competitors may, I think, partly be accounted for by many business men being employed at the time of the matches rebuilding houses and stores destroyed by the late fires at St. John and other places in this district.

The Brigade Major was present during the whole of the matches, and saw that the competition for the selection of the Wimbledon Team was carried out according to the prescribed rules for his guidance.

I make the following extract from the report of the Council of the Provincial Rifle Association:—

"Each County in the Province ought to have its Association, for they (County Associations) are the nurseries in which marksmen are bred, and from which they come to swell the numbers at our annual competitions.

"Owing to changes made this year by the National Rifle Association, it became necessary to alter the targets of the Association; this was done under the superintendence of Lieut.-Colonel Beer, the inventor and patentee, and they worked well and gave great satisfaction. The "pool target" was one of Lieut.-Colonel Beer's "rising targets," working in a pit, and thus showing clear of all shade.

"The gross amount of cash offered was \$1,005.00, divided into 201 individual, and three team prizes, which last were subdivided into 24 prizes, making a total of 225 prizes. This year the old established cups were again competed for, and the Domville and Elder cups came up for their second year. His Excellency the Governor General's medals were placed in the fourth match, and the gift of Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, D.A.G., was, as last year, made a "nursery prize." The small-bore match instituted last year, was continued this year with success. For the first time for years—if not the first time—a "grand aggregate" was established, and it is believed that much of the excellent shooting made was due to a desire on the part of those competing, to obtain a place on the list of winners. This year the medal of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association, offered for the first time, was placed with the second prize in the grand aggregate, whilst that of the National Rifle Association was placed in the post of honor with the first prize.

"This year Messrs. Hartt, Hunter and Shives, represented New Brunswick at Wimbledon, and maintained our character satisfactorily and well, Ensign Shives having obtained a place on the "Queen's Sixty." New Brunswick has the honor of having had more of its marksmen (3) in the "Queen's Sixty" than the rest of the Dominion."

The following County Associations held competitions this year, returns of which will be duly submitted:—

1. Charlotte County Rifle Association.
2. St. John " " "
3. Carleton " " "
4. York " " "
5. Northumberland County Rifle Association.
6. King's " " "

#### 8th Regiment of Cavalry—Lieut.-Colonel Saunders.

The Brigade Major inspected the following Troops on the dates named:—

- Captain Pearson, English Settlement, 17th July.  
 " Langstroth, Hammond River, 17th July.  
 " Foshay, Apohaqui, 11th July.  
 " Fowler, Upham, 18th July.  
 " Scovil, Shediac, 21st July.

The Brigade Major reports most favorably respecting the efficiency of these troops. He was agreeably surprised at the satisfactory progress in drill made by them at their respective headquarters, and he considers that this fact fully justifies the carrying out of my recommendation respecting triennial system of training already referred to.

Drill at local headquarters prepares for that in battalion camp, while the training in battalion camp in turn prepares for that in brigade camp.

#### Newcastle Field Battery of Artillery—Brevet-Major Call.

The Inspector of Artillery inspected this battery in drill and practice at an early part of its training. I afterwards saw it previous to the breaking up of the camp near Newcastle on the 28th July last. Lieut.-Col. Strange having reported most favorably respecting the efficiency of this battery last year, it affords me much pleasure to express the opinion that still further progress has been made during the training this year. The site of the camp was all that could be desired; the conduct of the men was exemplary, while the enthusiasm of the people of the county never appears to flag.

#### Woodstock Field Battery—Captain Dibblee.

I inspected this battery at its camp near Woodstock on the 17th July last.

The Field Battery at Newcastle (organized for a longer period than this battery) has frequently been commended by inspecting officers, and, after witnessing the manner in which the training of the Woodstock Field battery has been conducted, by its zealous and efficient captain for the part three years in succession, I have no hesitation in stating my conviction that as regards drill and discipline, the class and character of its men, and the stamp of its horses, this battery is not a whit inferior to its friendly rival at Newcastle. I should, however, like to see both batteries in the same brigade camp, where their relative states of efficiency could be tested more thoroughly than it has yet been possible to test them. All Government property in charge of this battery is in excellent condition.

Both in the Newcastle and Woodstock Field Batteries the issue of rifle guns in exchange for the heavy nine-pounder smooth-bore guns now in charge, is much needed. I strongly recommend the issue.

#### New Brunswick Brigade of Garrison Artillery—Lieut.-Col. Foster.

The General Officer in command inspected a portion of the four batteries of this brigade at St. John on the 14th August last.

Brevet Lieut.-Col. Cunard, Captain Ring, Captain Kane, Captain Armstrong.

It was only possible to assemble a portion of these batteries on this occasion, owing to the almost total destruction of the arms and clothing of two of these batteries at the fire of St. John. A dense fog prevailed at the time of inspection, and prevented shot and shell practice being carried out. Under no more unfavourable circumstances could these batteries, heretofore deserving great praise, be inspected.

Besides the presence of the Lieut.-Colonel and his officers (who are ever ready to respond to the call of duty) and the comparatively few non-commissioned officers and gunners present (a fair sample of the remainder of the brigade, men not

slow in obeying the orders of their officers) there was, I regret, but little opportunity to test the efficiency of this force of Garrison Artillery.

The Lieut.-Colonel has hopes of enrolling two batteries to replace those at St. George and St. Stephen become non-effective.

*New Brunswick Engineers*—Captain H. Perley.

Accompanied by the Brigade-Major I inspected this corps on the 19th June last, (the day previous to the great fire at St. John, at which fire all the arms and clothing of the corps were burnt in the armory).

It is only necessary to state that I found the corps in its usual creditable state of efficiency.

The authorities at headquarters are well aware of the valuable services rendered by the officer in command of this corps, from time to time, in placing at the disposal of the Militia, the results of scientific training, which stand Captain Perley in good stead in the Civil Service of the Dominion.

The men of this corps are for the most part skilled mechanics, and as such are available as military engineers, while in rifle practice many are successful marksmen.

It is earnestly hoped that Captain Perley's excellent suggestions and plans for rebuilding the armouries at St. John may be specially acted upon.

*67th Battalion "Carleton Light Infantry"*—Lieut.-Colonel Upton.

Accompanied by the Lieut.-Colonel, and in several instances by Lieut.-Colonel Raymond and other Staff Officers, I inspected the following companies on the dates named:—

Woodstock, Captain Bourne, 9th July.	
Richmond, Captain Hoyt, 9th July.	
Hartland, Brevet Major Vince,	} 10th July.
"    Captain Boyer,	
"    "    Hartley,	
Centreville, "    Adams, 11th July.	
Lakeville, "    Carvell, "    "	

In my last Report, having referred to different degrees of efficiency amongst companies of this fine battalion, the effect produced seemed to be that officers in command the more eagerly vied with each other this year in deserving credit for efficiency; and where all did well beyond my most sanguine expectations, I am at a loss to decide which of the seven above-named companies deserves most praise.

Even the companies not drilled last year (Brevet Major Vince, Captains Adams, Carvell and Hoyt), by strenuous exertions on the part of all concerned, stood the test of comparison with others in efficiency. The battalion drill at Hartland, referred to already, was most satisfactorily carried out. The arms and clothing were in good order. (A fresh issue of great coats is required.) I observed, with pleasure, in every company that complete *uniformity of dress* (except in two individual cases) prevailed, the men were, in consequence, soldierlike in appearance.

Brevet Major Vince, a most zealous and efficient officer, obtained a first-class certificate, with excellent papers, at the Quebec School of Gunnery, (Long Course.)

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

The General Officer in command was received on arrival at Fredericton, on the August last, by a guard of honor, composed of Brevet Major Staples and Capt. Cropley's companies. The General expressed himself pleased with the soldierlike appearance of the men, as well as their steadiness under arms.

Accompanied by the Lieut.-Colonel I inspected the different companies of this battalion on the following dates:—

Keswick, Capt. Christy, 22nd June.

St. Mary's, Brevet Major Staples, 26th June.

Stanley, Brevet Major Wilkinson, 14th July.

Fredericton, Captain Cropley, 31st July.

    "    Junction, Brevet Major Alexander, 13th July.

It is only necessary to state here that I consider none of the four above first-named companies have lost any of the efficiency, respecting which I reported very favorably last year.

Brevet Major Alexander's company (not drawn for drill last year), with many recruits in its ranks when inspected in August last, afforded good proof of careful attention to drill and target practice on the part of company officers, well qualified to impart instruction, as well as that of non-commissioned officers and men.

In fact it is evident that all companies strive to uphold the good character of the corps for efficiency.

Two officers, late of the Imperial army, Captains Powys and Lloyd, were present at the inspections at Keswick and Stanley, (J. Pickard, Esq., M.P., was also present at the latter place,) and expressed themselves pleased at the degree of efficiency attained.

*73rd Battalion*—Major Sherreff.

I inspected the undernamed companies of this battalion at Black River, on the 29th June, viz.:—

Captain Cameron's Company.

    "    McNaughton's "    "

And Captain Hutchison's company at Buctouche on the 1st July.

A small battalion was formed at Black River on the above named date, and both the captains, who are efficient past candidates of the Fredericton School of Military Instruction, proved their ability to handle a battalion at battalion drill, while both officers and men (as to their general intelligence and aptitude in acquiring knowledge of drill), proved that they are good and true representatives of Northumberland County.

Captain Hutchison's company is not in as efficient a state as I could wish. Both the Brigade Major and myself regret having to report unfavorably respecting it.

*74th Battalion*—Lieut.-Colonel E. Beer.

I inspected the undernamed companies on the dates opposite their names:—

Captain E. Arnold, Sussex, 27th June.

    "    Wetmore, Clifton, 19th July.

    "    Murray, Shemogue, 21st July.

    "    Harper, Bay Verte, 20th July.

I found the three first named companies, as I expected, in a satisfactory state of efficiency. It is true there were many recruits in the ranks, but they are of a good class, were soldierlike in appearance, and the arms and clothing were in good condition. I regret that I cannot report so favorably in the case of the Bay Verte company, but little progress had been made in drill, and the arms were not in a satisfactory condition.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

GEO. J. MAUNSELL, Lieut.-Colonel,

Deputy Adjutant General Commanding District No. 8.

The Adjutant General of Militia,  
Ottawa.

[A.]

DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
FREDERICTON, N.B., 23rd June, 1877.

SIR,—With reference to my telegram of the 20th instant, to the effect that the barracks and stores at St. John were destroyed by fire on the 20th inst., and that the magazine and ammunition were safe, I have the honor to report, for the information of the authorities at headquarters (having since the 20th instant been constantly employed on duty), as to the steps taken by the Brigade Major and myself, with the few members of the force at our disposal (the majority of the men of the Militia being employed at the time in trying to save their own personal property), to prevent the destruction of Government property, efforts which unhappily produced but little results.

## REPORT.

About half past 2 o'clock p.m. on the 20th inst., when the Brigade Major and myself were employed on duties connected with the Board of Survey at St. John, a fire occurred at York Point, and a strong wind—almost a hurricane—coming from that quarter directly towards the barracks, a distance of over a mile, several buildings in the intervening parts of the city were speedily on fire. The Brigade-Major and myself at once proceeded to the barracks and sent for Lieut.-Col. Blaine, commanding 62nd battalion, with such men of his corps as he could secure (the Quartermaster, Mr. Hall, and five or six men). On arrival at the barracks we found that one of the storehouses lately handed over to the city authorities, was in flames, and that the fire was spreading towards the ordnance yard. We therefore directed our efforts towards saving the guns and carriages therein; and this done we had all the fences in the vicinity of the store-house cut down to prevent the fire spreading, should the gun shed be consumed, as it quickly proved to be. We then divided the party, Messrs. Emison and Nixon (Caretakers) remained at the storehouse (stone building); Mr. Lamb, with four men of the 62nd Battalion, was stationed on the roof of the soldiers barracks (armouries), wooden building, with buckets of water kept busy extinguishing embers from the city, now in flames. While the Quartermaster was not idle in his efforts to save the Government property in charge of the 62nd Battalion, Lieut.-Colonels Macshane and Blaine and myself, with Caretaker Marshall, were actively employed in saving the six-pounder guns and carriages in the gun shed, near the Artillery Barracks. No sooner was our work of saving these guns accomplished, than the roof of the Artillery Barracks caught fire in several places. Lieut.-Col. Blaine and myself on the roof, kept supplied with buckets of water by Lieut.-Col. MacShane and Marshall, prevented this fire from taking effect for some time; but ultimately the efforts of all concerned were of no avail, the fire spread in spite of all our energy, until every wooden building in the barrack grounds was in flames; we then exerted ourselves in trying to save the officers' quarters (stone) and the storehouse, and although the heat from St. Mark's Church and the buildings on Sheffield Street, now being destroyed by fire, was intense, we were enabled for some time to prevent the wooden porches on the back of the building from igniting. The flames, however, of the buildings above referred to soon reached the upper windows of the barracks, and the sashes thereof could not withstand the fire, and even in this service our efforts were useless; the stone barracks, too, were soon a ruin.

The storehouse (stone) alone containing much Government property, had, until 8 o'clock p.m., withstood the effects of the destroying fire, but on Nixon and myself inspecting the building at that hour, we discovered that a spark had caught in one of the upper windows, and it was rapidly spreading its fire in the sash; we made two or three attempts to reach the window, both from inside and outside, but without success. It only remained a question as to whether the window sash would fall inside or outside the building; if the latter, we should save the building, but if the former, it would soon be destroyed. Unhappily there was nothing to prevent the

former contingency, and the storehouse and stores were quickly in flames. Mr. Nixon, at great risk of his life, secured the record book of stores and a few tents. I submit his name for the consideration of the Major-General commanding.

This Report would, I consider, be by no means complete were I to omit to record the valuable assistance which I received from Lieut.-Colonels MacShane and Blaine in efforts to save Government property, even whilst their own property was being totally destroyed by fire before their eyes. I submit their names for the consideration of the Major-General. Caretakers Emison and Lamb, too, were indefatigable in their efforts. I must add that the Quartermaster of the 62nd Battalion, (Capt. Hall), and the few men at his disposal, displayed great courage and energy endeavouring to save Government property, and, although both rifles and clothing of Artillery Engineers and Infantry corps were removed to a place of supposed safety in the barrack field at some distance from the building, they were for the most part destroyed by fire.

I will, at an early date, forward a list of articles (stores) saved from the fire.

In conclusion, I submit the desirableness of at once calling for tenders for rebuilding the storehouse and replacing the fence round the barrack grounds in conjunction with the civil authorities at St. John. I have instructed Mr. Emison, the Acting Storekeeper, to collect all articles of stores and place them in the only place of present safety at Fort Howe, and magazine, being empty of ammunition.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant.

(Signed) GEO. J. MAUNSELL, Lieut.-Col.  
Deputy Adjutant-General Military District No. 8.

The Adjutant-General,  
Head Quarters, Ottawa.

[B.]

SAINT JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK,  
7th December, 1877.

SIR,—I have the honor to make the following brief report for the information of the General commanding.

On or about the 22nd day of June last, I received a requisition signed by His Worship the Major, Alderman Kerr and Justice William Elder, copy enclosed (marked C) requiring me, as senior officer, to call out a portion of the Active Militia in aid of the Civil Power.

I gave an immediate response to that requisition, by issuing an order for the parade of all the Artillery and 62nd Battalion, who could be armed and uniformed for duty, and in a few hours, I had all the men I required, about one hundred and forty.

Tents were pitched on King Square for the accommodation of officers and men, and sentries posted in all parts of the City, and over the vaults of the several Banks and Public Buildings, for the protection of property and the preservation of peace and good order.

On the morning of the twelfth day in camp, I received a note from the Mayor, to the effect, that in consequence of the quiet condition of the City, the services of the Militia on duty would be no longer required.

At 5 o'clock p.m. on that day, I issued an order to strike tents and clear up camp, preparatory to marching out at 6 p.m.; at that hour, His Worship came on the ground, and made an excellent address to the officers and men, thanking them, in behalf of the community for the excellent manner in which they had performed their

duty to their fellow citizens, in the preservation of the Peace, and the protection of property which had been saved from the fire of the 20th of June.

Respectfully submitted,

S. K. FOSTER, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Commanding Camp.

The Deputy Adjutant General,  
District No. 8.

(Copy C.)

SAINT JOHN, N.B., 22nd June, 1877.

To the Senior Commanding Officer,  
City of St. John.

You are required to call out for active service, with their arms and ammunition in aid of the Civil Power, such portion of the Volunteer Militia, as, in your opinion, may be necessary to suppress any riot, disturbance of the peace, or other emergency requiring such service, and now, in the opinion of the civil authorities anticipated likely to occur, and now considered to be beyond the power of the civil authorities to suppress or deal with.

(Signed,) S. Z. EARL, Mayor.  
JOHN KERR, Alderman for  
Duke Ward.  
WM. ELDER, J.P.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 9.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA,  
4th December, 1877.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that the quota required to be furnished from the District under my command, was originally fixed at 4,284.

The actual enrolled strength of corps which have been accepted and gazetted, is 4,486; under the regulations for annual training for 1877-78, the number of men to be called out was limited to 2,000, and the strength of companies was not to exceed 39 non commissioned officers and men, exclusive of band and staff.

I was also authorized to train, prior to 30th June, 180 men of such corps as were excluded from last season's training.

Finding on the part of all the corps the same desire to attend training as evinced in previous years, and finding also that the system of maintaining the *cadre* of each battalion effective had worked satisfactorily, I again followed the plan of selection that was pursued last year.

I append copy (marked A) of the District Order and the subsequent action under which the choice of corps for drill was made.

The actual strength of effectives inspected or absent on account of sickness or causes beyond control, was 2,218, being 38 more than were permitted to receive pay.

Tabular inspection reports are forwarded herewith, also particulars of the inspection of each corps.

1ST BRIGADE DIVISION.

*Halifax City.*

The annual shot and shell practice of the Halifax Light Battery, was conducted on 5th September at Point Pleasant. Through some misunderstanding the practice took place without my knowledge, but Lieut.-Colonel Milsom, who was present, reports it as good.

The 1st and 2nd Brigades Halifax Garrison Artillery, consisting of seven batteries, were inspected by me on the 20th and 24th September, at great gun practice at Point Pleasant; the practice made by these batteries with the smooth-bore 32-pounders and Palliser  $\frac{3}{4}$  for rifle guns was very creditable.

The 63rd and 66th Battalions paraded on the 12th October for brigade field day and inspection, but owing to the unusually violent rain-storm the inspection was conducted under cover.

No. 2 Company, 63rd Battalion, drilled without pay, and as usual with this company, with full raps.

On the 10th August the whole City Brigade paraded for inspection and field day exercise under Lieut.-General Sir Edward Selby Smyth, Commanding the Militia. The various corps had just commenced their annual training, and the day was very wet, but the General expressed his satisfaction at the performance.

*78th Battalion.*

Nos. 6 and 8 Companies of this battalion were inspected by me at West River on 28th June; men were steady and attentive and movements were fairly performed.

No. 1 Company was inspected at Truro on 29th October; men, as usual, attentive and steady, and company drill and skirmishing fairly performed.

No. 5 Company was inspected at Windsor on the 2nd November. Capt. Burgess and his men alike deserve credit for the very neat and creditable turn-out of the company, which would not have discredited regular troops. The company drill, skirmishing and bayonet exercise were well executed.

*Cumberland Provisional Battalion.*

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies were inspected by me at Amherst on 17th October, and No. 5 Company, at Oxford, on 18th October. The drill of this battalion, although generally fair, was not as good as usual.

*Pictou Battery.*

The Pictou Battery Garrison Artillery paraded as a guard of honor for the reception of the General Officer Commanding, on his arrival in Nova Scotia on the 8th August, and elicited his commendation for their soldierlike appearance and for their performance both at infantry and gun drill. This battery drilled without any expectation of receiving pay; but as the members in several corps fell short owing to men being absent without leave from inspection, and not being satisfactorily accounted for, I was enabled to place Capt. Gordon's men on the list for pay.

2ND BRIGADE DIVISION.

The King's County Troop of Cavalry paraded for inspection at Kentville on the 12th September. This corps skirmished both mounted and dismounted, and performed various evolutions in close order very creditably.

The Lunenburg and Mahone Bay Batteries Garrison Artillery were inspected by Lieut.-Colonel Milsom on the 24th October. Being reported by their commanding officers as absent during the whole of the season favorable for camping out and artil-

lery practice, they are only trained to infantry drill, and, at inspection, drilled with the 75th Battalion.

The Digby Battery Garrison Artillery were inspected by Lieut.-Colonel Milsom on the 22nd June. His report (marked B) is forwarded.

The headquarter companies of the 68th Battalion were inspected at Kentville on the 12th September. Battalion drill and skirmishing were gone through, but the grounds were too limited for letting the drill be seen to advantage.

No. 8 Company was inspected by me at Aylesford on the 12th September. This Company deserve credit for their appearance and marked progress in drill.

No. 7 Company was also ordered for inspection at Aylesford same date, but through domestic affliction the Captain's attention was absorbed and the men were not warned. Lieut.-Col. Milsom inspected this Company at a later date and his report (marked B.) is enclosed.

The Head Quarter Companies 69th Battalion were inspected by me at Paradise on the 13th September. Lieut.-Col. Starratt as usual turned out with full ranks and stout able men and the drill was creditably performed.

The detached Companies at Bear River were inspected by Lieut.-Col. Milsom on 14th September, reported on in documents (marked B) enclosed.

The Head Quarters and 4 Companies 72nd Battalion were inspected by me on the 13th September. A very marked improvement was to be seen in this corps, the men looked smart and soldier-like and have greatly improved in drill.

No. 1 Company 72nd drilled in June and were inspected by me on 20th. Captain Jacques always has a good Company and the turn out was soldierly and satisfactory as usual.

The Head Quarters and 2 Companies 75th Battalion were inspected by Lieut.-Col. Milsom on the 26th October at Lunenburg, and No. 5 Company at Mahone Bay by that officer on same date. Report (marked B) attached.

No. 6 Company trained in June and was inspected by me at New Ross on the 21st. This is in appearance a splendid Company, two thirds of the men in the ranks stood over six feet, and stout in proportion—and, descendants of soldiers disbanded and settled in this District, they inherit the taste and aptitude for soldier's work.

### 3rd BRIGADE DIVISION.

Being unable on account of press of other engagements to visit Cape Breton, I left the inspection of the Victoria Provisional Battalion to Lieut.-Col. Read, Brigade Major, who reports very favourably of the corps at his inspection in July. His report (marked C) is attached.

### ARMS.

I feel it my duty again to bring to notice (although I have already reported it three years successively) the state of the arms in this District and the necessity that exists for their being inspected by a competent armorer and put in proper order.

### TRAINING.

Year by year I am more and more convinced of the necessity for preliminary training of the Officers and N.C. Officers, as under the present arrangement the men do not receive the benefit from drill that is possible if the instructors were in practice. If the training at local Head Quarters is to be continued far more satisfactory results would be obtained if the training were spread over the year instead of being hurried through in a few days and then abandoned for twelve months, and with this arrangement the payment of the capitation grant to the funds of the corps, and not to each individual would tend to give a better tone to the service.

J. WIMBURN LAURIE, Colonel,  
Commanding Military District No. 9.

(A)

(District Order.)

HALIFAX, 15th May, 1877.

In accordance with instructions contained in General Order No. 11, of 11th May 1877, relative to annual training of Militia, the following will be the detail of corps authorized to train to keep within the quota allowed to this District.

No. 1.	Head Quarters detail.	District detail.
Digby Battery Garrison Artillery.....	40	40
75th Battalion.....	35	35
78th do .....	70	70
72nd do .....	35	35
	180	180

The above named corps not having trained during the past season are authorized to train forthwith; training to be completed and inspection held and returns to be made up and forwarded so as to be received at Head Quarters prior to 30th June.

No. 2.	Head Quarters detail.	District detail.
Kings County Troop.....	35	35
Halifax Field Battery.....	80	80
3 Batteries 1st Halifax Brigade G. A....	44 each 132	132
4 do 2nd do .....	42 " 168	168
2 do do .....	41 " 82	82
16 Companies Infantry.....	44 " 711	704
8 do do .....	42 " 336	336
11 do do .....	41 " 456	451
	2,000	1,988

No. 3. In Brigades of Artillery and Battalions of Infantry, half the Battalion or corps will first be selected to drill, care being taken by Commanding Officers that the Companies first named are those which did not train during the past season.

No. 4.—2 Batteries of Garrison Artillery of 41 each, 11 Companies of Infantry of 41 each, will then be selected by lot from the remainder of the force, the drawing being made by separate Batteries or Companies.

The number of Staff Officers permitted to train with the several corps will be named by the Deputy Adjutant General, according to the strength of each corps and the total number permitted to train under General Order (11).

Lots will be drawn at 1 p.m. on the 17th May, in presence of a District Board, composed of the Deputy Adjutant General as President, Lieut. Cols. Commanding Battalions and the District Staff at Head Quarters as members.

J. WIMBURN LAURIE, Colonel,  
Commanding Military District No. 9.

HALIFAX, 17th May 1877.

We certify that the selection by lots of the corps for training the ensuing season was made in our presence, and that the undernamed corps were so selected :

1st Halifax Brigade Garrison Artillery 3 Batteries.

2nd	do	do	do	4	do
Mahone Bay Battery	do	do	do	1	do
Lunenburg	do	do	do	1	do
63rd Battalion Rifles				4	Companies
66th	do	Infantry		6	do
68th	do	do		5	do
69th	do	do		4	do
72nd	do	do		4	do
75th	do	do		3	do
78th	do	do		2	do
Cumberland Prov. Battalion				3	do
Victoria	do	do		4	do

J. WIMBURN LAURIE, Colonel,  
Commanding Military District No. 9.  
Lt. Col. T. MILSOM, B. M.  
" D. McPHERSON, Comdg. 2nd G. A.  
" W. H. PALLISTER, Comdg. 63rd Batt.  
" C. J. MacDONALD, Staff.  
Capt. L. J. BLAND, 1st G. A.

True Copy.  
J. W. LAURIE,  
Colonel.

Return shewing corps, officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Active Militia in Military District No. 9, who cannot under General Orders (11), of 11th May 1877, draw pay for training for the year 1877-78.

1st Halifax Brigade Garrison Artillery				3	Batteries.
2nd	do	do	do	2	do
Digby Battery,	do	do	do	1	do
Pictou	do	do	do	1	do
		Infantry.			
63rd Battalion Rifles,				2	Companies
66th	do	Infantry		2	do
68th	do	do		4	do
69th	do	do			
72nd	do	do			
75th	do	do			
78th	do	do			
Cumberland Prov. Battalion					
Victoria	do	do			

J. WIMBURN LAURIE, Colonel,  
Commanding Military District No. 9.

[B.]

[Military District No. 9.]

HALIFAX, 27th November, 1877.

SIR,—I have the honor to report that in compliance with your instructions I inspected the following corps of Active Militia in this District.

Digby Battery Garrison Artillery on the 22nd June; 2 officers, 38 men, under the command of Captain J. Daly. Manual and Firing Exercise and Company drill fairly performed.

Nos. 7 and 8 Companies, 69th Battery at Bear River on the 13th September; 4 officers, 78 men Practised Manual and Firing Exercise Company Drill and Firing in extended order, men steady and attentive.

No. 7 Company, 68th Battalion—14th September; 2 officers, 42 men, under the Command of Captain T. Harris, at Aylesford; drilled by the Captain at Manual and Firing Exercise and in extended order; officers and men drilled well.

Lunenburg Battery Garrison Artillery—Nos. 2 and 3 Companies, 75th Battalion, paraded together on the 24th of October at Lunenburg; 7 officers and 117 men, and were practised in Battalion drill, and the Attack and Defence of positions.

Mahone Bay Battery Garrison Artillery and No. 5 Company 75th Battalion, were inspected at Mahone Bay on the 24th October; 4 officers and 78 men.

Marched Past, Battalion Drill and Firing in extended order.

I may also add that I was present at the shot and shell practice of the Halifax Field Battery under the Command of Major Graham at Point Pleasant on the fifth of September.

The practice was excellent.

The several corps inspected by me were composed of a better class of men than I had seen for some years and paraded clean and soldierlike.

I have the honor to be,  
Your obedient servant,

T. MILSOM, Lt.-Col,  
Brigade Major.

The Deputy Adjutant General,  
No. 9 District,  
Halifax.

[C.]

No. 218.

SYDNEY, 19th July, 1877.

SIR,—I have the honour to report that in obedience to your orders, I inspected on the 16th instant at Battalion Head Quarters, Baddeck, four companies, (Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4) named in the margin, of the Victoria Provisional Battalion, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Bingham, on completion of annual drill.

Copy of Parade State herewith submitted.

These companies presented a very good appearance on parade, the ranks being filled with full grown stalwart men, and I found the arms, uniforms, and accoutrements well kept, and in serviceable condition; the usual battalion and skirmishing movements were very fairly performed, and reflected credit on both the officers and men.

I beg leave to report that the authorized issue of ball cartridge was not expended, in consequence of no ranges being available for this drill within a convenient distance of the local head quarters of Companies. Steps however will be taken to secure suitable ranges, should the annual drills be continued in future at the head quarters of Companies.

I have the honour again to report that the officers and men of this Battalion, called out under the Act Militia and Defence, to aid the civil power at Sydney Mines, in July 1876, have not as yet received payment for their services.

I beg leave most respectfully to bring to notice the hardship of this particular case, the injurious effect it must have on the Service, and the difficulties which might arise, should the Militia be again required to preserve order and protect property.

It would appear from the opinion given on the subject by the Chief Justice of Nova Scotia (a copy of which has been transmitted to Head Quarters) that a certain addition to, or alteration in the local statutes of the Province of Nova Scotia is absolutely necessary before this claim can be recovered.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

C. CREWE-READ, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Brigade Major, 3rd Division.

The Deputy Adjutant General, &c., &c.  
Military District No. 9, Halifax, N. S.

#### MILITARY DISTRICT No. 10.

FORT OSBORNE,  
WINNIPEG, Nov. 22n, 1877.

SIR,—In accordance with orders, I have the honor to forward my annual report of the state of Militia in this District.

#### *Dominion Forces on Service in Manitoba.*

This force, which in greater or less strength, had been maintained here since 1870, was on the third of August of the present year, finally disbanded; after having from time to time been gradually reduced, till at the period of disbandment it embraced only a total of fifty-four officers and men; of these, one officer and twenty-five non-commissioned officers and men formed a detachment of artillery, the remainder were infantry.

It is not, I feel sure, speaking too highly of the non-commissioned officers and men to report that in appearance, discipline and general efficiency, they were in no respect inferior to Her Majesty's Regular Forces.

A detachment from this small force, consisting of one subaltern and ten non-commissioned officers and men, was, first at the request of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, and subsequently on requisition by magistrates, employed for over six months in maintaining the quarantine regulations established by the Government of Manitoba, between that Province and the District of Keewatin, where on the shores of Lake Winnipeg, the epidemic of small pox had broken out, and in consequence either of criminal negligence or the grossest ignorance, had been allowed to spread both in the Icelandic colony on the west side of the lake, and among the Indian bands, to an alarming extent, before steps were taken to obtain medical assistance, or to circumscribe the limits within which the ravages of the disease were felt.

It is probable that no more disagreeable duty, or one more severe from climatic reasons ever fell to the duty of a small detachment than to those who composed the quarantine party during the winter of 1876-77, but their zeal and conduct was beyond all praise, and not only as far as the inhabitants of the neighbouring localities to their station are concerned, but from all with whom they were brought in contact by their duties, they were awarded the highest praise.

The duties of the detachment lasted from the 27th of November 1876 to July 21st 1877, when the Manitoba government raised the quarantine.

It is gratifying to add that an order of the Provincial Council noted to the officer in charge of this party, Ensign G. W. Street (late Captain 16th Regiment) the high approval of His Honor and the Provincial Ministry, of the tact and zeal with which this officer carried out his duties.

As I have previously reported on the details of the disbandment of the force on service, there is, I presume, no necessity that I should recapitulate in this respect.

#### LOCAL VOLUNTEER MILITIA.

An addition to the Militia force of the Province has this year been made by the formation of two companies of Infantry, one at Winnipeg and the other at Emerson, the remaining corps being, the "Winnipeg Field Battery" and the "Kildonan" and "South St. Andrew's" companies.

Of these, all but the "South St. Andrew's Company" have performed the prescribed annual drill in accordance with general orders; the Field Battery in camp, at St. James', about five miles from the City of Winnipeg, and the other corps at their Company Head Quarters.

#### *The Winnipeg Field Battery.*

This Battery now armed with four M. L. R. 9 pr. guns, performed the prescribed annual course of drill, at camp, at a point about six miles west of this City, the ground was well chosen for shelter, but was rather too circumscribed in limits, by a grove of trees, water for the troops was close at hand, and the horses had a good and safe watering place at the Assiniboine river, which is within a short distance of the site of the camp.

The Battery went into camp on the 26th of August, completing the drill on the 7th of September, on which day they marched back to their head-quarters.

My annual inspection of this corps was made on the 6th of September. I found a marked improvement from the past year; the guns were better horsed and the driving was greatly improved; the condition and fitting of the harness was better than previously, though in these respects there is still much room for improvement.

The movements were freer, and more decided than on past occasions when I have inspected it; and the drill fairly performed. It is, however, useless, I respectfully submit, to hope that men can be thoroughly trained as artillery men in the short space of twelve days a year, for three years enlistment; many changes take place in the personnel of a Battery during that period; and each year, vacancies having to be filled up with raw hands, the efficiency of the corps is found constantly impaired at the commencement of each annual training.

The same observation also holds good as regards the horses. Arrangements, however, are, I understand being made by which as nearly as practicable the same horses will be available annually by the Field Battery.

The general appearance of this Battery is very good, but marred, as in the cases of the majority of corps, by a want of uniformity in boots; until, however, arrangements for, and stringent regulations on this point are made, and insisted on, inspecting officers can hardly hope for any very great improvement in the efficiency and appearance of corps in this most important respect.

For the strength &c. of this corps, as well as of others I respectfully refer to the "Form of Inspection Report" hereto appended.

The "Kildonan" Infantry Company gazetted on the 11th of August of last year, performed during the winter a considerable amount of voluntary drill, in addition to the authorized period, and considering its recent formation was very fairly proficient.

This fine company whose ranks are full, is mainly if not entirely composed of farmers and farmers' sons, old settlers in the country; men of fine physique, intelligent and educated.

This is a corps that I am satisfied will prove a valuable contingent to the defensive force of the Province.

*Winnipeg Infantry Company No. 1.*

This company, having completed its drill, was inspected by me on the seventh of September.

The very recent formation of this corps, and difficulties which often arise in new organizations, precluded either a full muster or any great proficiency in the movements ordered at the inspection; but the general appearance of the company was most creditable, clothing well fitted, belts and appointments scrupulously clean; the commanding officer is energetic, and I have every confidence in his opinion that the company will be full at the next annual inspection.

*"Emerson" Company.*

The head-quarters of this Company are immediately on the frontier line on the Red River, at the newly formed but flourishing town of Emerson; my first inspection of this company, owing to its distance from the station, and its recent formation was made on the occasion of the annual inspection.

I had previously been informed that this was a very fine company, but I was quite unprepared to find that the short period (but four or five months) which had elapsed since their formation into a company, had allowed opportunities to show a body of men so soldierlike looking, and steady in the ranks, as those which I inspected.

The movements and drill, from recent formation, were of course imperfect, but the general appearance and promise of the Company is most satisfactory, and reflects great credit not only on the commanding and other officers, but on the inhabitants of this young and thriving town, who have afforded all encouragement to their local company, of which they may justly be proud.

*"South St. Andrew's" Rifle Company.*

This Company has not been this year included in those which have performed annual drill; the time of enlistment of the men has considerably elapsed, and a thorough reorganization will be required. This, however, the commanding officer, Captain the Honorable J. Schultz, purposes at once effecting. It is advisable that this, in common with other Companies in this Province, should be an Infantry and not Rifle corps—the uniforms having been over five years in wear, no difficulty in the change should exist in this respect.

DRILL SHEDS AND ARMORIES.

At this station, especially, the want of a drill shed is severely felt, the greatly enhanced cost of building as compared with the older Provinces renders it unlikely, that for some time to come, the Municipality or other sources will be in a position to furnish funds for the erection of a building on the terms authorized by Government. In the meantime officers commanding corps here have to make the best temporary arrangements they can.

In the cases of corps outside the City of Winnipeg, the "Kildonan" Company, by the kindness of the authorities of the Presbyterian College there, is afforded a commodious armory.

In "South St. Andrews" a good building, privately arranged for by the commanding officer is occupied.

At "Emerson" the Captain of the company affords an armory at his own residence.

DRILL AND TRAINING.

Although I have cause to feel satisfied with the progress in efficiency made by the newly raised local corps in my district, I find no reason to change the opinion induced by a considerable number of years experience, that desultory or independent drill involves a cost, which is in a great measure a waste of public funds; it is true a certain amount of knowledge of drill may be more or less afforded to the men of the various corps, according to the capability of the respective commanding officers, or their drill instructors; but the far more important points of discipline and duties, cannot be taught in this manner.

district at all event, to assemble the corps, as may be found most convenient, in camp.

I earnestly trust that in the [forth coming year, it may be permitted is this for the annual training.

ARTILLERY AND TARGET PRACTICE.

The artillery target practice was, in accordance with regulations, performed at a range not far from the training camp. In connection with this, I beg to express my thanks to Lieut. & Bt. Captain Cotton, late of the Dominion Artillery here, who was good enough at my request to act as umpire, Lieut. Young being range officer during the course of target practice. Synopses of Target practice returns for the Infantry corps are also forwarded herewith, on the form of Inspection Report.

VISIT OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

I regretted that the disbandment of the force on service here, just previously to the arrival of His Excellency the Governor General in this province, precluded me from the gratification it would have been to me, to show to how high a state of efficiency Canadian troops placed on actual service, can in a comparatively short time be brought; but it is satisfactory to be enabled to report, that His Excellency was pleased to command me to express to the various local corps who took part in the ceremonies attendant on this visit, his satisfaction with their conduct and bearing.

MILITIA BUILDINGS AND STORES.

The only buildings now belonging to, or occupied by the Militia, are at Fort Osborne, here; where the whole of the military reserve stores are held.

As recent reports have been made in this respect, I presume it is unnecessary that I should recapitulate on these points.

Requesting your submission of this report to the General Officer Commanding.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

W. OSBORNE SMITH, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Deputy Adjutant General, Military District No. 10.

To the Adjutant-General,  
Head Quarters, Ottawa.

## MILITARY DISTRICT No. 12.

HEAD QUARTERS,

CHARLOTTETOWN, 20th November, 1877.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit, for the information of the general officer commanding, the accompanying Inspection Report of the Active Militia in this District under my command.

On the 15th June last, in conjunction with Lieut.-Colonel Beer, the senior Field Officer in the District, I detailed the following Companies to perform the twelve days annual drill authorized in the General Order of the 11th May, viz:

The Summerside Battery Garrison Artillery.				
Nos. 1 & 3 Companies of the King's County Battalion.				
Nos. 4, 5 & 6 " " Queens " "				
Nos. 1 & 3 " " Prince " "				

comprising a strength of twenty officers and three hundred and twenty-two non-commissioned officer and men.

On the 13th July it being apprehended that there would be a serious disturbance of the peace in this city at night, I received a requisition from the civil authorities to furnish an armed party of the Active Militia for the purpose of maintaining order.

I immediately issued orders for the Nos. 1 & 2 Batteries of the Charlottetown Garrison Artillery, together with No. 6 Company of the Queen's County Battalion under the command of Major Morris to assemble in the drill shed at sunset. The several companies paraded in good strength and remained under arms through the night.

His Worship the Mayor of the City escorted by these Companies patrolled the streets at a late hour, and there is every reason to believe that solely owing to the appearance of so numerous a body of armed men in support of the civil power, the anticipated riot was prevented.

I was well satisfied with the prompt attendance of both officers and men, and with their steady conduct while they were employed.

On the 16th July, I proceeded to Alberton and inspected No. 1 Company of the Prince County Battalion, and found it in a high state of discipline and efficiency, in a great measure owing to the constant superintendence of the Officer commanding the Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Hunter-Duvar, who is ever conspicuous in assiduous attention to this Company, near the Head Quarters of which he has his residence.

On the following day I inspected No. 2 Company at Tryon.

Captain Ives was unable to parade his company in its full strength owing to some of his men having been severely injured by the fall of a scaffold; but otherwise it was in fair order, shewing however the result of not having been drilled the preceding year.

On the 28th July I inspected the Summerside Battery of Garrison Artillery and noted a very marked improvement over former inspections. Captain Price is a valuable energetic officer and has been very favorably mentioned by the Commandant of the Gunnery School at Quebec, where during the past winter he underwent a course of instruction; this Battery has been supplied with two twenty-four pounders which will enable both officers and men to acquire the requisite knowledge of gun drill.

On the 1st August, I inspected No. 1 Company of the King's County Battalion at Montague; it turned out strong, arms, clothing and accoutrements well cared for; the Captain is very attentive and in all respects the type of a good volunteer officer.

On the 25th September, I inspected No. 2 Company at Souris. This company is not as advanced in its drill as I could wish, the Captain has but lately been appointed

and the subalterns although very anxious yet have not had opportunities sufficient to afford a knowledge of the elementary drill; Captain Maclean appears very desirous to do his utmost towards remedying this, and as assured me he will take steps during the ensuing winter to have the officers and men better instructed. The numerical strength at inspection was small, twelve men having gone to sea fishing, so soon as the annual drill was completed.

On the 3rd instant Lieutenant-Colonel Beer assembled the three fine companies of his Battalion for my inspection in the City. They made a very creditable appearance, arms, clothing and accoutrements in excellent order. No 1 or Captain Dogherty's company surpassing the others.

Captain Longworth commanding No. 6 company has been earnest in promoting the efficiency of his company as marksmen, by establishing private shooting matches and the outlay of considerable sums in prizes and the purchase of Government ammunition. I trust the very commendable example shewn by this officer will stimulate the other Captains in similar efforts to perfect their men in the handling of their weapons.

On the 22nd August, the Provincial Rifle Association held its meeting for the Annual Competition. A majority of the Active Militia from this county were present and made better practice than heretofore. I am unable to report a good attendance from either of the other counties, the officers inform me that numbers would come to the meeting were it not for the expense, the fare by railway added to the cost of board while in Charlottetown entailing an expenditure of from four to five dollars per man. They allege that while the men are willing to give their time and also to pay their personal outlay, yet when it is considered that proficiency in the use of their arms is in the interests of the public to further, they are of opinion the small boon of transport by the railway owned by the Government, should not be refused the men when desirous of attending the annual competition.

In the month of May last, an Association for Queen's County was organized under Major Pollard, an officer who has also shewn a praiseworthy example in providing private matches and prizes for the men of his Battery. This association held its first meeting on the 1st October, it was well attended, and I am glad to observe a growing interest on the part of the community in this direction.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HAMILTON GRAY, Lieut.-Colonel,

Deputy Adjutant-General, Military District No. 12.

To the Adjutant-General,

Head Quarters, Ottawa.

## APPENDIX

## INSPECTION REPORT OF CORPS which have

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 1 Lieut.-Col. J. B. TAYLOR, D.A.G.M.		Establishment.		Actual Strength present at Inspection.		Muster.			Whether in Camp or otherwise.	Distance the several Corps had to proceed to Muster, and mode of transport.
Battalion or Corps.	Companies. Commanding Officer and Head Quarters.	Officers.	N.-C. O. and Men.	Officers.	N.-C. O. and Men.	Place.	Date.	Number of days' drill performed.		
									1st Regiment of Cavalry.....	Lieut.-Col. Cole, St. Thomas.
No. 1 Troop.....	Capt. Barnes, St. Thomas.....	3	35	2	33	St. Thomas..	Sept. 10	12		
No. 2 do .....	Major Peters, London.....	3	35	2	33	London.....	June 18	12		
No. 3 do .....	Capt. Stewart, Mooretown.....	3	35	2	33	Mooretown..	July 3	12		
No. 4 do .....	Lieut. Fox, Kingsville .....	3	35	1	34	Kingsville...	Nov. 12	12		
London Field Battery Artillery.....	1 Major Peters, London.....	6	75	6	73	London.....	June 18	12	Camp	
Wellington Field Battery Artillery .....	1 Major McDonald, Guelph.....	6	75	6	73	Guelph.....	June 22	12	do	
Goderich Garrison Artillery	1 Major Thomson, Goderich.....	3	55	2	34	Goderich.....	Sept. 8	12		

## No. 2.

performed the Annual Drill or 1877-78.

Time required to concentrate the Battalion or Corps.	Cost of rations per head, per diem, at encampment.	General conduct of Corps. If any, and what casualties.	Whether in possession of Band. Number of Musicians, and proficiency.	General State of Clothing, Arms and Accoutrements.	Nature of Movements at Inspection, and how performed.	Whether the men of the several Corps were <i>bona fide</i> enrolled members thereof, according to the Militia Act.	Target Practice.		Date of Inspection.	Date when drill was completed.	REMARKS.
							Number of Non-exercised Men, if any.	Figure of Merit.			
							Battalion.	Company.			
24 hours.		Good. None.	Good.	Clean and good	Troop movements and sword exercise, satisfactory.	Yes. None.	18-63	24-10	Sept. 17	Sept. 17	
12 hours.		Very good. None.	Very efficient.	Field movements.	Field movements.	do			June 25	June 25	
do		Very good. None.	do	Field movements and sword exercise	do	do			July 10	July 10	
do		Very good. None.	do	Company drill.	do	do			Nov. 17	Nov. 17	