

In this lies one of the difficulties of armies. The division of responsibility between civil and military is injurious, because it in a measure prevents the creation of any really comprehensive scheme of military reform. In time of peace an English general is kept in leading strings; he superintends discipline, but in all that relates to the provision of clothing, guns, rifles, and equipment he has but partial power. As soon as war comes these positions are reversed; the department counts for little beyond providing supplies, because its rules contemplate and are enacted during a state of peace—The general then becomes everything because he knows what he wants, and if he is an able man, contrives eventually to get it.

In Canada, it has been stated, Members of Parliament say the country will not submit to increased expenditure for military purposes, and yet all over the country municipal bodies vote considerable sums to supplement Government grants. These facts are contradictory. The people of the country should realize the protection the presence of the force affords their property and their lives; they only ask the law should be rigidly enforced and a little more money spent on the annual training of the men; but besides are paramouly wanted the means of teaching officers and making drill instructors to train the men, and a sufficient appropriation for war material, clothing, arms, ammunition and ordnance for coast and harbour defence.

The military pageantry at Montreal on the Queen's birthday, and at Toronto on 9th September last, when about 3,000 troops on each occasion paraded before the Governor General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, might not be regarded as of much moment by the military despots of the Continent of Europe. Yet they represented forces which even the most powerful sovereigns might be proud to command. They are not to be estimated in value merely as pawns on the chessboard of war, or to be told off in estimating the strength of the empire. They constituted the offerings of Canadian loyalty, the first fruits of Canadian patriotism. Their presence and the popular enthusiasm they evoked were evidences of the intensity with which the citizens of the Dominion cherish at once the ties that bind them to the mother country and the pride they feel in their own land.

Such a spirit of activity as is exhibited by our militia is the first step towards the production of victorious battalions. No one can contend that Canada has not long ago taken that first step with ardour and devotion. The danger, which apparently threatened two years ago, of England being drawn into a European war, called out all the latent regard of Canadian fellow-subjects for the Mother Country. The energy with which preparations for defence were undertaken might be attributed to selfish motives, but there could be no doubt of the disinterested character of the offers of aid which were pressed upon the Imperial Government. The spirit which prompted those offers would rise no doubt to still higher level under the pressure of a great Imperial struggle.

The tie of Imperial unity takes the form in Canada of a personal loyalty to the Sovereign, and the Queen's name arouses a trustful and affectionate zeal among

Canadians that recalls to memory the feelings which, in earlier ages, were the main securities for the sovereignties of Europe. Closely associated with this personal loyalty to the Queen, is a solicitude for the honor of England, which sustains the policy of the Imperial Government, because it visibly asserts the dignity and power of the empire.

Though perhaps not properly coming within the scope of a military report, yet, as the navigation of the Gulf of St. Lawrence in winter might become in future years, a question of considerable military consequence, as it must always continue to be of commercial importance, I therefore venture briefly to refer to a paper I laid before the Secretary of State for the Colonies in 1876, while in England.

This paper had for its object the discussion of a project for closing the Straits of Belle Isle against the ever flowing polar current into the Gulf from the Arctic Sea. The Secretary of State was pleased to term it a very interesting subject, which he read with much attention, and had communicated copies to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty and to the Governor General of Canada. The Straits of Belle Isle, open to the north-east, receive the direct flow of the polar current down Baffin's Bay. This icy stream, at from two to four miles an hour, pours its way into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, overcoming by its greater density the warm gulf stream from the southern latitudes. The cold stream divides into two branches near Cape L'Amour, one running westward up the Gulf and the other southeastward, discharging into the ocean again between Newfoundland and Cape Breton. This branch then sweeps along the eastern coast of Nova Scotia, and shoulders off the warm water further out to sea, which would otherwise find its way along the shores of the continent and into the Gulf. If therefore the polar current could be excluded and deflected eastward of Newfoundland into the open ocean, the climatic effect, by the exchange of cold for warm water, would be very marked in the Gulf and adjacent shores.

This is possible though costly, but without engineering difficulty, the material being on the spot, available to the efforts of men, iron and dynamite. At Cape L'Amour, on the coast of Labrador, the width of the Straits is about eight and a-half to nine miles; the water deepens to 50 fathoms in some parts, but by the chart-soundings it appears that 37 fathoms need not be exceeded by following an indirect line; the water shoals considerably towards both shores, especially on the island side which is low.

On the Labrador coast the land is high close to Cape L'Amour, composed of igneous rock. Rough blocks, hewn from this by blasting could be run by tramways into the sea, filling the passage and forever excluding the polar water from the gulf. The consequent effect would be that warm water from the south taking the place of cold water from the north, ice formation in the gulf would thenceforth practically cease as an insuperable impediment, and winter navigation would be possible as far as Rimouski or Rivière du Loup, the temperature of the surrounding coasts being proportionately increased.

In a military point of view, which may perhaps be considered only subordinate to commercial, the open navigation of the Gulf to the points named would be of importance, as a body of troops could be readily landed in Lower Canada at all times of the year. The narrow strip, along which the Interecolonial Railway runs through Temiscouata and Kamouraska, would thereby be turned, and troops and stores could reach Quebec with less chance of interruption than by travelling the long land journey of 500 miles from Halifax to Rivière du Loup. The chances of the railway being rendered impassible by winter snow drifts in the mountainous districts of the Restigouche would thus be of less consequence, from the same point of view.

By raising the temperature of the Gulf waters, its influence would probably extend along the adjacent shores, and less snow might possibly fall along the portion of the railway in its vicinity. Prince Edward Island, Anticosti, and the western part of Newfoundland would probably feel the genial effect of the warmer water, and their increased fertility would be another recompense for the cost of the work.

The canal, long since projected, from Cumberland Basin, at the head of the Bay of Fundy, to Bay Verte in Northumberland Sound would discharge an immense volume of warm southern water, which flows north with a prodigious velocity of tide up the Bay of Fundy. This flow would be projected along the shores of Prince Edward Island, and thence into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and form a powerful supplement to the blockade of the Straits of Belle Isle.

The reference to this idea, which, I have since learnt, was advanced upwards of twenty-five years ago by Lieutenant Maury, United States Navy, the talented author of *The Physical Geography of the Sea*, is merely to invite discussion. Though this problem may be solved in future years, it would be unreasonable to expect it to be undertaken by Canada at the present time. Works requiring greater engineering skill have been accomplished, but this owing chiefly to the depth of water, would be costly, even with the employment of convict labour.

The Board of Admiralty did not accept the idea that the projected results would necessarily follow the adoption of this "gigantic" scheme, concluding that the general severe character of the winter climate of the eastern part of the North American Continent is independent of the small branch of polar water that finds its way through Belle Isle Straits.

One of the first steps to which any novelty should be subjected is criticism. The probabilities are considerably in favor of any new idea being thus summarily disposed of. But if after having found that the proposition is in accordance with recorded facts, enabling us to obtain independent natural formula, hitherto insufficiently examined or unexplained, then it may appear to have a tolerably firm foundation on which to rest.

It is founded on experience, that a peculiar opinion seems to exist with many persons relative to the value of an objection. It appears that when a novelty is submitted for criticism, any objection, no matter how erroneous or faulty, is considered

entirely to controvert the truth of the original problem, just as in former times men denied that the earth could be round, because if it were, people would be walking head downwards. So objectors often offer remarks containing errors of a simple nature, yet these objections are considered unanswerable until further examination denotes their error. But as it does not come within the province of these crude propositions to investigate deeply into the question, objectors will probably continue under the impression that their criticisms are unanswerable, until a more searching and profound examination of the entire subject is thoroughly ventilated.

The chief question to solve would be: would the blocking up the Straits and change of direction of the cold current, have any influence on the present course of the Gulf Stream. If the force of the Arctic current which now enters the Straits, were thrown more eastward, it is more than possible such results might follow. Were the cold stream that now creeps along the Nova Scotia coast, through the passage between Cape Breton and Cape Race intercepted, it is a probable consequence that southern waters would follow the direction of the coast, and so enter that passage instead. The contour of the eastern side of Newfoundland, with its huge shoulder jutting into the Atlantic, would tend to shoot off the Baffins Bay stream, which would strike its northern shore with greater force when unable to find a passage as formerly through Belle Isle Straits.

The question has already been discussed both in England and Canada since the time it was first raised, some from a favorable, others from an unfavorable standpoint; but, as all great works owe their ultimate success to repeated discussion in their origin, so I venture to raise this point again. We have the testimony of master-mariners of long experience on the set of those currents in the entrance to the Gulf; they tend generally to favor the idea now suggested. Some scientific captains of the Allan Line also bring their testimony, fortified by continued observation, in favor of the result of the project.

It has been urged that the polar current has little effect on the Gulf waters; but the difference of temperature on the north and south shores, as high as Murray Bay on one side, and beyond Rivière-du-Loup on the other, rather contradicts this theory, as it is known the colder water keeps to the northern coast-line of the St. Lawrence.

The effect of the fresh water flowing down the River St. Lawrence itself must not be over-estimated in relation to the ice pack in the Lower Gulf comprising some 90,000 square miles. Its volume, 300 miles below Quebec, is insignificant and attenuated in comparison with the flow through Belle-Isle Straits, which I have seen estimated at 90,000,000,000 cubic feet per hour. It is also stated that the cold currents of air from Hudson's Bay are sufficient in themselves to account for the low temperature of the Gulf and its adjacent shores; but this argument omits to note that the British Islands are as near the northern ice-fields as the line of the St. Lawrence is to Hudson's Bay, and that no such extreme cold is known there. The fact is, it is the temperature of water, which is the most powerful agent in forming a

climate, much more than the atmosphere. Some attribute the coldness of the Gulf climate to latitude, but it must be remembered the Land's-End of England lies in several degrees higher latitude than Anticosti. A glance at the map shows that were the Straits blocked up the polar current would pursue its south-easterly course until lost in the mighty Atlantic, leaving not only Labrador and lower Quebec to fructify unmolested by its withering cold, but perhaps the western shores of Newfoundland and the Island of Anticosti as well. And again I draw attention to the military advantages of having a free winter navigation in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which, though far surpassed by its enormous commercial benefits must I hope, be accepted as my excuse for introducing the subject, even thus briefly, into this report.

Experience of alleged objections, and others of a similar character, lead to a conclusion that there is difficulty in inducing a certain class of thinkers to bring to bear on any novelty those identical mental powers which have helped to lead them into a hasty or summary objection. It takes a long time to render us familiar with a new idea, and the history of the past shows us how slowly any abstruse truth ever made its way.

Fortunately the problem here so crudely dealt with is not one depending on opinion or probability; it is not a question as to what is likely, but it is a question of such a purely hydrographic and atmospheric nature as to be easily capable of demonstration by experts skilled by research in those natural phenomena.

In the confidence that a fair examination is all that is required to show the importance of the problem here so slightly sketched out, it is submitted to public opinion and more scientific investigation than it has yet received. Of the ease with which engineers would deal with the material question, there can be no doubt.

Before ending this report, I may, perhaps, be permitted to make some concluding remarks regarding the future of the force I have so long had the pleasure to preside over.

It may, perhaps, be asked, what has England to do with the internal arrangements of her colonies beyond the interest that a parent should feel in the wellbeing of a grown-up child? With regard to the question immediately at issue, it might be enough to point again to the necessity of maintaining the Imperial garrison of regular troops in the extensive fortifications constructed at Halifax, the great station of the North Atlantic fleet. To man these works thoroughly, more than all the artillery militia of Nova Scotia would be required, and the Intercolonial Railway, which now connects that outlying province with the heart of the Dominion, would be used to bring down men and supplies. But surely a broader view of the question than this is worthy of a great country. Canada is almost as near to England, by the rapid communication of the present time, as Ireland was during the long wars of Napoleon. Its population is eminently loyal, and is peculiarly fitted to furnish good soldiers; and in the event of war with any great European power, would be willing and anxious to send its quota to act with the English army. A good military system in Canada

is, therefore, an object of Imperial interest, and with comparatively little expense and trouble, the English Government could do much to assist the Colonial Executive in its army organization. But if the object is to be attained, the matter ought not to be regarded as belonging to this or that particular department, nor should the question whether the cost is to be borne by the War Office, the Admiralty or the colony, influence the decision. The broad fact should be borne in mind that, in the event of serious trouble, England would have to strain every nerve to meet the requirements that would be made upon her, and the military capabilities of a loyal population, numbering four millions, should be developed as far as possible in time of peace, in order that they might be utilized if war should break out. The opinion of England is held in high estimation in Canada. Advice offered by her military and naval authorities would be willingly followed, and the criticism that shows appreciation of honest endeavour would be far more readily received than careless praise. A well considered scheme for an Imperial military and naval reserve, drawn up with due regard to cost, and framed so that it might receive fuller development in time of war, would undoubtedly meet with careful consideration in Canada.

The general scheme sketched out in this report is intended to include not only plans for the defence and military development of Canada, but also the means of utilizing her strength for Imperial purposes, as well as finding a place for the voluntary aid which Canada has already so chivalrously proffered in the event of any considerable expedition beyond the British seas. In fact, the organization of the Canadian army is of as great importance, and should be as closely scanned and carefully supported, as that of the British militia. Distances are rapidly disappearing; the ties that unite England with her colonies ought, consequently, to become closer, and for mutual protection every effort should be made to render them as binding and efficient as possible.

Although no nation can boast of more courageous troops than Great Britain, there can be little doubt that, owing to the age of our recruits under the present system, a proportion hardly possess the stamina necessary for soldiers who at any time may be called upon to serve during a long protracted war, and who have not alone to make long and forced marches over difficult roads and through mountain fastnesses, but often to put up with scanty provisions from the Commissariat Department. To undergo these hardships, and be ready at a moments notice to take the field against well-disciplined, well-armed troops, requires strength and hardihood which young lads, gallant as they are and ready to gain honour at the cannon's mouth, can hardly sufficiently possess.

In bygone days, when soldiers were taught to believe that the day of battle was the day of victory, there were always a majority of old veterans in the ranks of every regiment who instilled into the minds of the youngsters that love for their profession, that attention to duty, that feeling of pride to sustain the honour and reputation of their regiment which rendered them good and efficient soldiers. How

many a lad who, for the first time, faced an enemy, and finding himself in the midst of danger, with bullets whistling around him, and shot and shell ploughing up the ground he occupied, men and horses falling on every side, was cheered up to take his manful part in the struggle by the voice of a veteran, "Bravo, my lad; remember the credit of our corps is at stake."

Under the present short service and interchangeable system of the British army, these conditions are reduced; therefore it is, beyond everything, necessary that good and reliable non-commissioned officers should be maintained, and that there should be a large reserve of seasoned men, whose constitutions are developed, and whose physical stamina would render them equal to endure privation as well as fatigue, accustomed to exposure and to inclemency of climate.

In these days, when wars last only months instead of years, we cannot afford to begin a war and then create an army. We must have an army ready, and soldiers, like every other profession, and more so than some, require a careful apprenticeship. Let us hope, therefore, that reserves, both for military and naval service, may, as soon as possible, be organized and maintained in Canada, composed of the hardy and well-seasoned population of the country and the sea coasts, trained and disciplined as powerful auxiliaries to the armed forces of the Crown, for the defence of the land of their birth or their adoption, as well as of the Empire at large.

The pursuit of prestige may be likened to chasing a sunbeam or running after a rainbow, either of which are equally illusory and unprofitable. If war be necessary, let it be conducted as war should be, with a proper adjustment of means to the end; let the military authorities be supreme, neither hampered nor overwhelmed by fussy interference in the field. We can live without prestige, but we cannot retain our power without complete and unbroken success, and that can only be assured under existing conditions by maintaining a powerful reserve of well-selected, seasoned and highly disciplined soldiers and seamen,—not alone in Great Britain, but in her populous and magnificent colonial possessions.

In concluding the last annual report which in the nature of things, it will be my duty to present to Canada, I trust I may have the honour of expressing my thanks for the courtesy and attention I have received from the Government of the Dominion during my term of office.

In taking leave of the militia, I must acknowledge the patience with which they have accepted my want of power more fully to promote the interests of a service replete with a military spirit of the highest and most patriotic order.

Time will bring in its train the necessity for providing more completely for reforms, which must only come as the country gradually becomes impressed with their importance.

Much has been done of late years, but much still remains. As the population increases, and the necessity for further home protection and support of the laws

becomes more apparent, so will the improvement of the national forces urge itself on public attention. I shall watch in the future with great interest the progress of a force with which I have been so long and so agreeably connected.

EDWARD SELBY SMYTH,  
*Lieutenant-General.*

## APPENDIX No. I.

### MILITARY DISTRICT NO. 1.

HEAD QUARTERS,  
LONDON, 4th December, 1879.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward for submission to the General Officer in Command the accompanying Inspection Report of the active militia force in the district under my command which have performed their annual drill for the year 1879-80 in obedience to the General Orders of 29th May, 1879.

#### *Establishment.*

The total strength of the active militia force in this district, according to the full establishment, is the same as last year, viz. :—365 officers and 5,010 non-commissioned officers and men, and which is comprised in the following corps, viz:—

#### CAVALRY.

1st Regiment, four Troops.

#### ARTILLERY.

“London” Field Battery;  
“Wellington” “ “  
“Ontario” “ “  
“Goderich” Garrison Battery;  
“Sarnia” “ “

#### INFANTRY AND RIFLES.

7th Battalion, “London” Light Infantry;  
22nd Battalion, “Oxford” Rifles;  
24th Battalion, “Kent” Infantry;  
25th Battalion, “Elgin” Infantry;  
26th Battalion, “Middlesex” Infantry;  
27th Battalion, “Lambton” Infantry;  
28th Battalion, “Perth” Infantry;  
29th Battalion, “Waterloo” Infantry;  
30th Battalion, “Wellington” Rifles;  
32nd Battalion, “Bruce” Infantry;  
33rd Battalion, “Huron” Infantry;  
Independent companies of “Windsor” and “Leamington.”

#### ANNUAL DRILL.

By General Orders of the 29th May, 1879, the maximum strength of the force in this district that was authorized to perform annual drill for 1879-80, was 2,350 of all ranks; and the following corps selected in accordance with the above orders, performed their 12 days' annual drill of a total strength of 2,341, the details of which are given in the tabular inspection report.

## INSPECTIONS.

*Cavalry.*

No. 2 Troop, 1st Regiment Cavalry, assembled at its local head quarters in London, and was joined by No. 1 Troop (St. Thomas), which marched here and camped in the militia grounds. They were inspected by me on the 6th October. I found the physique of the men very good, and their horses were of a strong and active stamp; accoutrements and uniforms kept clean, with few exceptions, but they are badly in want of drill instructors, and the officers did not carry on the interior economy of their troops in a manner satisfactory to me; the men behaved remarkably well, but this was not owing to any rules of discipline that were enforced as they should have been.

*Artillery.*

The three batteries of field artillery, "London," "Wellington" and "Ontario," performed their annual drill in camp, in accordance with the provisions laid down in General Orders, and were inspected by Lieut.-Colonel Irwin, Inspector of Artillery.

## INFANTRY AND RIFLES.

*7th Battalion, "London Light Infantry."*

This fine corps performed its annual drill in the evenings, and all ranks paid so much attention and made so great improvement that I arranged for their attendance at the review in Toronto on the 9th September, in honour of their Excellencies the Governor-General and Princess Louise, with confidence that they would maintain the credit of this military district, and I am proud to say that, though only lately re-organized and a young corps in material, their steadiness under arms, and when marching past at the review, were remarkable, and the quiet and soldierlike manner in which they behaved during the journey to Toronto and back (which is a sure test of the discipline and character of a corps) was highly creditable to both officers and men. The city of London can justly feel proud of its battalion, for altogether I believe it would be difficult to find a smarter and finer battalion of young men than the "London Light Infantry."

The battalion turned out in full strength as a guard of honour at the visit of their Excellencies the Governor-General and Princess Louise, and Captain Talbot Macbeth's company, which is very well drilled, and looked remarkably well, mounted guard during the stay of their Excellencies in London.

*22nd Battalion, "Oxford Rifles."*

This battalion performed their drill at the local company head quarters, and with one exception I found the companies on my inspection to be well drilled and efficient, with uniform in good order and arms and accoutrements clean. I especially noticed the "Ingersoll" company, which, under the energetic care of its Commanding Officer, Brevet-Major Ellis, turned out in a very soldierlike manner, and concluded a long drill in extended order with manual and bayonet exercises, gone through with so much steadiness that it was evident every man in the company had made the most use of his time in camp.

I should mention that much of the steadiness of these companies in drill is due to the teaching of Drill Instructor J. Chinner.

*24th Battalion, "Kent."*

At my inspection of this corps, which performed annual drill in camp at Chatham, I found a steady improvement, though the time spent in camp is too short to do

more than renew their instruction of the previous drill. The companies are composed of a fine class of men and who were very well behaved. The battalion has organized a new band, which promises to be a good one. It is much to be regretted that the old barracks at Chatham have been removed, as they were very convenient for many reasons, and formed capital armouries and company stores.

*25th Battalion, "Elgin."*

This battalion performed annual drill in camp at St. Thomas this year. Some companies were good and promised well in future, particularly No. 6, at St. Thomas, under command of Captain Lindsay, but the want of strict discipline was generally evident in the battalion.

*26th Battalion, "Middlesex."*

It was a great pleasure to me to inspect two such fine companies as Nos. 1 and 7, at Strathroy, under Captains Irwin and Lindsay, so clean, soldierlike and well drilled, they had evidently made the most of their few drills, and had profited by them. The other companies of the battalion were not in orders to drill this year.

*27th Battalion, "Lambton."*

This battalion assembled for drill in camp at Petrolia. I inspected them on the 22nd September. They are a fine corps as far as the physique of the men is concerned, but they require a good deal more drill to pass a critical inspection; 14 days in a brigade camp where they could take pattern from other corps would do this battalion a great deal of good. The town of Petrolia gave a liberal contribution towards the rations of the men, and the citizens were much pleased with this visit from their county battalion. The conduct of the men in camp was reported as very good and orderly.

*30th Battalion, "Wellington Rifles."*

Only two companies of this fine corps were authorized to drill this year, viz.: No. 1, at Guelph, under Captain Spiers, and No. 4, at Elora, under Brevet-Major McBride. Knowing what an efficient corps the 30th Rifles is, I should have felt disappointed had these two companies not turned out satisfactorily, but I have to report that I was more than satisfied at my inspection; they turned out in heavy marching order, completely equipped. Bayonet exercise was very well gone through by both these companies.

*32nd Battalion, "Bruce."*

I inspected this battalion at Walkerton on the 11th October; where they were assembled to perform their annual drill in camp.

This corps always turns out a splendid body of men and generally well officered. Lieut.-Col. Sproat, who commands, is himself an excellent drill, and takes much pride and interest in his battalion.

*Independent Company, "Windsor."*

This company performed annual drill at company headquarters, where I inspected them on the 20th October, and found them much improved since my last inspection. Lieut. Cheyne, who commands, has taken a great deal of trouble, and his company passed a very creditable inspection.

## DRILL ASSOCIATIONS IN SCHOOLS.

On 16th of May I inspected the companies of the Galt Collegiate Institute. They turned out in a small battalion of six companies, and went through many movements, and the manual and firing exercises with great proficiency. Capt. Sharpe, 29th Battalion, is their Instructor. They take great interest in their drill, and are well taught.

I have duly forwarded several preliminary applications for the formation of drill associations in schools under the late regulations, and I believe this system will do very much good in early training of our boys to be able to serve their country if required.

A difficulty appears to exist as to the colour and pattern of uniform to be worn. I have heard it suggested that if the Government would only name *one pattern* of uniform to be strictly adhered to, this would settle all difference as to choice, and be at once adopted by the schools as final.

## NEW UNIFORM.

I have to report that the new uniform supplied this year is very good and serviceable, and a great improvement on the old pattern. The new great coats, also, are very good.

## HELMETS.

"Wellington" and "Ontario" Field Batteries, and the "30th Rifles," and also part of the "Oxford Rifles," have supplied themselves with helmets, which are suitable and serviceable, but it appears difficult to get them of suitable sizes to fit all the men, and a badly fitting helmet looks very awkward and spoils the appearance of any man.

From the appearance of some of the infantry corps which wore helmets at the Toronto Review, it is suggestive whether that head dress suits the infantry as well as it suits the rifle corps.

## GUARDS OF HONOUR.

I have to report that when their Excellencies the Governor General and the Princess Louise paid a visit to London, in September last, guards of honour were voluntarily paraded on their passing through the following places, viz.:

At Woodstock and Ingersoll, by 22nd Batt.; at London, by 7th Batt., and 1st Regt. Cavalry, and the London Field Battery fired salutes on their arrival and departure; at Berlin, by the 29th Batt.; at Guelph, by the 30th Rifles, and the Wellington and Ontario Field Batteries fired salutes on their arrival and departure.

Many officers and men of the 22nd, 29th and 30th Battalions came from distant parts of their county to be present and form part of these guards of honor.

*Battalion in County Essex.*

I have again to draw attention to the exposed position of the *County of Essex*, where there are only two companies, one at Windsor, and the other at Leamington, 32 miles distant; and as this is the most exposed frontier county in Western Ontario, and opposite to the populous City of Detroit, it appears very important that it should have a strong and efficient battalion ready to turn out at short notice to protect the frontier, for should the Fenian or any like disturbing element arise again, there would be plenty of cover for it to harbour in the City of Detroit—very convenient for a raid on Windsor.

## MILITARY SCHOOL.

It was with great satisfaction that notice was received of the military school being re-opened in Toronto. I have no doubt that it will be productive of much good, as many officers in this district have mentioned their intention of attending it.

## GENERALLY.

I have to report that the force in this district is efficient, and well supplied with arms, accoutrements and uniform; the companies turned out for drill averaging within one of full strength, and the class of men joining the force are very respectable. I found the men generally steady and silent in the ranks, and they are every year improving in coming on parade with clean belts and accoutrements, and with buttons and brasses properly brightened.

My thanks are due to Lieut.-Colonel Moffat, Brigade Major; Major Starr, District Paymaster, and to the Commanding Officers of corps who have rendered me their cordial support during the year.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN B. TAYLOR, Lieut.-Colonel.

Deputy-Adjutant General,  
Military District No. 1.

The Adjutant-General of Militia,  
Head Quarters, Ottawa.

## MILITARY DISTRICT No. 2.

OLD FORT, TORONTO, 13th November, 1879.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward for submission to the General Officer Commanding the Militia, the accompanying Inspection Report of the corps of the active militia in Military District No. 2, relative to the performance of the annual drill of the year 1879-80, in compliance with the General Orders (13), dated at Ottawa, 29th May, 1879.

The strength of the force in this district authorized to perform the annual drill was limited to 3,400—officers, non-commissioned officers and men.

In obedience to the above order, the following corps were ordered to perform the annual drill of this year:—

1st. The Field Batteries—Toronto, Hamilton and Welland.

2nd. City Corps—The Governor-General's Body Guard—2 Troops.

Garrison Batteries—Toronto and St. Catharines.

2nd Military District Engineer Company.

Infantry—2nd Battalion, Queen's Own Rifles; 10th Battalion, Royals; 13th Battalion, Hamilton.

3rd. Corps which did not perform the annual drill of last year—

2nd Regiment of Cavalry, 7 Troops.

19th Battalion, 5 Companies, Lincoln.

20th " Rifles, 7 Companies, Halton.

31st " 7 Companies, Grey.

36th " 8 " Peel.

37th " Rifles, 7 Companies, Haldimand.

38th " " 2 " Brant.

Demi-Battery, Sault Ste. Marie.

The 39th Battalion, Rifles, 8 Companies, Simcoe.

The 44th Battalion, 6 Companies, Welland.

These two regiments, although coming within the General Orders, not having performed any annual drill last year, were not ordered to perform this year's drill on the ground that their strength—if included—would have over-run the quota allowed for this district to receive pay for drill.

I would, therefore, respectfully submit some further consideration in next year's drill for these two corps not having performed annual drill for the two past years.

The following corps, having performed annual drill last year, were therefore not required to drill this year.

Garrison Battery—Collingwood.  
 12th Battalion, York Rangers.  
 34th " Ontario.  
 35th " Simcoe Foresters.  
 38th " 4 Companies, Brant, Dufferin Rifles.  
 77th " Wentworth.

Thus, one garrison battery and seven battalions of infantry have not performed the annual drill of this year.

#### INSPECTIONS.

The 2nd Military District Engineer Company, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Scoble, proceeded to Niagara on the 9th June, performed their annual drill under canvas at that place, and was inspected by an officer of the Royal Engineers. No extra expense was incurred by the Government, as the cost of proceeding to Niagara and returning was borne by the officers and men of the corps.

#### RECEPTION OF THE VICE-REGAL PARTY AT TORONTO.

The Toronto Brigade paraded in force on Friday, the 5th September, in honour of the arrival at Toronto of His Excellency the Governor General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise. The duties of the day were performed as follows:—

On the arrival at Toronto of the Vice-Regal party, a royal salute was fired by the Toronto Field Battery, under the command of Major Gray.

The Vice-Regal party was received at the head of Lorne Street by a Guard of Honour consisting of 100 officers and men, with the band of the "Queen's Own" Rifles, under the command of Captain Foster.

A field officers' escort, composed of the Governor-General's Body Guard, 2 Troops, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel G. T. Denison, was formed, ready to escort the Vice-Regal party as it moved from the head of Lorne Street on Front Street.

The Vice-Regal party proceeded along Front Street to Yonge Street, which was lined on both sides by the 10th Royals, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Stollery. Thence to the Horticultural Gardens, where a guard of honour, consisting of the Toronto Garrison Battery, Captain Gibson, and the 2nd Military District Engineer Company, together with their band, the whole being under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Scoble, received the Vice-Regal party.

On leaving the Horticultural Gardens, the Vice-Regal party proceeded to the Agricultural Grounds, where a guard of honour, consisting of 100 officers and men, colours and band, 10th Royals, under the command of Captain Thompson, received the Vice-Regal party.

The cavalry escort accompanied the Vice-Regal party during the day, and until its arrival at Government House.

A guard, consisting of one sergeant, one corporal and six rank and file, mounted guard daily at Government House during the stay of the Vice-Regal party at Toronto.

A cavalry escort was also detailed, consisting of one subaltern, two non-commissioned officers and 20 men of the Governor General's Body Guard, to remain on duty, in order to furnish escorts when required by the Vice-Regal party.

A guard of honour was also furnished by the 2nd Military District Engineer Company, with band, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Scoble, on the evening of the 9th September, on the occasion of the Vice-Regal party attending the ball given by the citizens of Toronto in the Horticultural Pavilion.

#### THE REVIEW IN HONOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL AND H.R.H. THE PRINCESS LOUISE.

The following corps of the active militia paraded on the Garrison Common, Toronto, on the 9th September:—

*Cavalry Brigade*—Under Command of Lt.-Colonel Boulton, 3rd Regt. Cavalry.

Governor General's Body Guard, 2 Troops, Lt.-Colonel G. T. Denison.  
 2nd Regiment of Cavalry, 2 Troops, Major Elliott.  
 3rd " " 2 " Lt.-Colonel Boulton.

*Field Batteries*—Under Command of Lt.-Colonel Cotton, "A" Battery.

"A" Battery, 2 Guns, Captain Wilson.  
 Toronto Field Battery, 4 Guns, Major Gray.  
 Hamilton Field Battery, 4 Guns, Captain McMahon.  
 Wellington and Ontario Detachments, Major Macdonald.

*Artillery and Engineers*—Under the Command of Lt.-Colonel Scoble.

"A" Battery, Major Holmes.  
 Toronto Garrison Battery, Captain Gibson.  
 2nd Military District Engineers' Company, Lt.-Colonel Scoble.  
 Montreal Engineers, Detachment.

*Rifle Brigade*—Under Command of Lt.-Colonel Denison, Brigade Major

2nd Battalion, Queen's Own Rifles, Lt.-Colonel Otter.  
 3rd " Victorias, Lt.-Colonel Whitehead.  
 20th " Halton, Lt.-Colonel Allan.  
 38th " Brant, Lt.-Colonel Dickie.

*Infantry Brigade*—Under Command of Lt.-Colonel Skinner.

7th Battalion, London Light Infantry, Lt.-Colonel Walker.  
 10th " Royals, Major Shaw.  
 13th " Hamilton, Lt.-Colonel Skinner.  
 31st " Grey, Lt.-Colonel Brodie.  
 46th " East Durham, Lt.-Colonel Williams.

This force having formed in line under command of Lt.-General Sir E. Selby Smyth, K.C.M.G., received the Vice-Regal party at noon with a royal salute.

The line having been inspected by His Excellency the Governor General and H.R.H. the Princess Louise, the division marched past in review order; the cavalry and field batteries at a walk, trot and gallop; the infantry in column and quarter column.

The division was then formed in line of column at close intervals, and advanced in review order, halted and performed a royal salute, when His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to advance and express to the staff and officers commanding corps His Excellency's approbation of the general soldier-like appearance of the force on parade, and the manner in which the movements were performed.

The General Officer in Command published in General Orders, 19th September last, his best thanks to the staff, regimental officers and men assembled at Toronto on the 9th September last.

## STAFF.

Lt.-Colonel Durie, D.A.G., Military District No. 2.  
 Lt.-Colonel Taylor, D.A.G., Military District No. 1.  
 Lt.-Colonel Irwin, Inspector of Artillery.  
 Lt.-Colonel Villiers, Brigade Major.  
 Major Smith, 47th Battalion, A.D.C. } To Lieut.-Gen.  
 Lieut. Heward, Governor General's Body Guard, Galloper. } Commanding.

It is a pleasing duty to report the readiness displayed by the following corps—out of Military District No. 2, as well as the county battalions and corps not in the City of Toronto, in my District—in assembling at Toronto to take part in this military review at no ordinary inconvenience and doubtless expense.

*No. 1 Military District.*

Detachments from the Wellington and Ontario Field Batteries.  
 7th Battalion, London Light Infantry.

*No. 2 Military District.*

2nd Regiment of Cavalry, 2 Troops.  
 Hamilton Field Battery.  
 13th Battalion, Hamilton.  
 20th Battalion, Halton.  
 31st Battalion, Grey.  
 38th Battalion, Brant.

*No. 3 Military District.*

3rd Regiment of Cavalry, 2 Troops.  
 "A" Battery, Kingston.  
 46th Battalion, East Durham.

*No. 5 Military District.*

Small Detachment Engineer Corps.  
 3rd Battalion, Victoria.

The arrangements made by the railway companies, viz.: Great Western, Grand Trunk and Toronto, Grey and Bruce, in transporting the corps from their respective headquarters to Toronto, and again in returning at the times arranged, were not only very liberal, but were well carried out.

It is gratifying to be able to report without a single casualty or complaint having been reported.

It is only due to the City of Toronto to mention that the Mayor and Corporation voted the sum of \$700, which was handed over to Lieut.-Col. Alger, to be appropriated by me in giving the officers and men of those corps which assembled on the occasion of the review on the 9th September outside of the City of Toronto a suitable luncheon, which was given to them on the Garrison Common on that day.

On Saturday, the 20th September, the Vice Regal party left Government House, escorted by the Governor General's Body Guard, for the Grand Trunk Station *en route* to Ottawa, when a royal salute was fired by the Toronto Field Battery, and a guard

of honour, 100 strong, colour and band, of the 10th Royals received the Vice Regal party at the station with the usual honour.

I beg herewith to forward the accompanying return of corps which assembled at Toronto on the 9th September last. (Marked A.)

*37th Battalion, Haldimand.*

This corp was inspected by Lieut.-Col. Villiers, by my order, on the 19th September. The report by that officer of the inspection of this regiment I beg to enclose, marked B.

*2nd Regiment of Cavalry.*

Inspected No. 1 Troop, St. Catharines, Major Gregory; No. 6 Troop, Queenston, Captain Brown, on the Niagara Common, on the 26th September.

The latter troop performed its drill under canvas at Niagara; No. 1 Troop, at St. Catharines, but marched to Niagara for inspection. General appearance of the men, horses and saddlery very fair. The two troops under Major Gregory performed several field cavalry movements fairly enough. The want of a qualified cavalry instructor in No. 6 Troop was very apparent. The officers commanding this troop, together with several other officers of this regiment, would be very glad to have the opportunity of acquiring the knowledge, in order to obtain a cavalry certificate, but the difficulty is how they are to do so.

No. 4 Troop, Grimsby, Captain Patterson, on the 28th August; No. 5 Troop, Burford, Captain Marshall, on the 27th September; No. 6 Troop, Welland, Captain Buchan, on the 1st October; were respectively inspected by Lieut.-Colonel Villiers, Brigade Major, at their respective troop head quarters, after the performance of their annual drill. This officer reported favourably of these troops, arms, accoutrements, saddlery and clothing clean and in fair order, saddlery much worn, troops well mounted and drill fair.

*20th Battalion.*

This regiment assembled at its regimental head quarters Georgetown, and performed its annual drill under canvas at that place, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Murray. Enclosed I beg leave to forward the report of that officer (marked C) of the manner in which their annual drill was performed. I beg respectfully to draw attention to some of the remarks made by this officer. This regiment passed in review order before His Excellency the Governor General and Her Royal Highness on the 9th September, at Toronto.

*31st Battalion.*

This regiment assembled at Owen Sound, its regimental head quarters, on the 1st of September, under canvas, under Lieut.-Colonel Brodie. Camp was broke up on the 8th. The regiment proceeded with its camp equipage on board the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway, and arrived at Toronto on the evening of the 8th September; went under canvass on the Garrison Common; passed in review order before His Excellency the Governor General and Her Royal Highness on the 9th September, and the companies returned to their respective head quarters on the 10th September following.

*36th Battalion.*

This regiment has been permitted to defer the performance of its annual drill until next June, by request of its commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel Scott.

## 38th Battalion.

Nos. 1, 5, and 6 Companies of this battalion performed their annual drill under canvas at their regimental head quarters, Brantford, commencing on the 4th September, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Dickie. This regiment (6 companies) assembled at Toronto on the 9th September, and passed in review order before His Excellency the Governor General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise.

## CITY BATTALIONS.

## 10th "Royals."

This regiment mustered at the drill shed under Lt.-Colonel Stollery on the evening of the 4th inst., having performed its annual drill, more for an inspection of the arms, accoutrements, clothing, and a muster by Lt.-Colonel Alger. This regiment made a creditable appearance on the day of the review on the 9th September.

The inclemency of the weather—a heavy fall of snow having just occurred—rendered outside drill difficult and unsatisfactory.

The regiment mustered strong. The arms, accoutrements and clothing were clean and in good order. It is composed of a fine body of young men, with their new helmets made a very creditable appearance. I had no opportunity of judging of its drill, officers or men, the drill shed being too *limited*. The manual exercise under Major Shaw, and the firing exercises under Captain Patterson, were fairly performed. This regiment was commanded by Major Shaw on the day of the review, Lt.-Colonel Stollery having met with an accident on the field.

## 2nd Battalion, "Queen's Own Rifles."

This regiment mustered at the drill shed on the evening of the 5th inst., under Lt.-Colonel Otter, having performed its annual drill. The weather was still bad.

The regiment mustered very strong. According to the pay list received, 29 officers and 523 non-commissioned officers and men are recorded as having performed the annual drill of this year.

The regiment presented a most creditable and soldierlike appearance, *all in good order*. Judging from the manner in which the company exercises were performed, I would say the regiment was in a highly efficient condition. The regiment was mustered by Lt.-Colonel Alger. I inspected the armouries, company books, and regimental books. Great care and attention appear to have been taken. Each company had a complete set of books, entries correctly made; regimental books equally correct.

I must say the officer commanding this regiment deserves more than ordinary credit for the manner in which everything appertaining to this regiment is managed.

## 13th Battalion, "Hamilton."—Lt.-Colonel Skinner Commanding.

Inspected this regiment on the afternoon of the 6th November, in the drill shed, the weather still too inclement for outside drill. This regiment is composed of six well appointed companies, fine looking young men.

The regiment presented a very soldierlike appearance; arms, accoutrements and clothing clean and in good order.

The manual and firing exercises were well performed under Lieut.-Colonel Gibson.

Lieut.-Colonel Irving, Major of the Regiment, put the regiment through several battalion movements, limited as the space was, which were creditably done. It gives me much pleasure to report favourably of this regiment.

The Demi-battery of Artillery at the Saulte Ste. Marie and the 19th Battalion (Lincoln) have yet to be inspected, which will complete the inspections of this district.

I would again respectfully urge the great want felt in an opportunity of acquiring the necessary knowledge in drill and rifle practice, and the want of good instructors, especially in the county battalions, when in the performance of the annual drill.

The establishment of military schools would add much to the efficiency of the force in my district, as there is no opportunity of replacing those drill instructors (qualified), now getting less and less every year.

There does not appear to be any falling off in the strength of the corps, required by law to perform the annual drill; on the contrary, the quota allowed for my district, 3,400 all ranks, will be over-run.

The difficulty, especially among the county battalions, lies in the fact that the regiment is composed of companies from all parts of the county. When the regiment is mustered at its headquarters, some of the companies may over-run. The men of these companies may have travelled 15 or 20 miles. The difficulty thus arises as to the selection of those to be sent back to their homes.

I am glad to say that the same fine physique still continues in the appearance of the men of this force.

I am happy to be able to report most favourably of the manner in which the staff of the district have performed their respective duties.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. S. DURIE, Lieut.-Colonel,

Deputy Adjutant General,

Military District No. 2.

The Adjutant-General of Militia,  
Head Quarters, Ottawa.

## A.

RETURN of Corps of the Active Militia assembled at Toronto for a Review on the 9th September, 1879.

Corps.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates.	Total.	Horses.	Guns.	Remarks.
<i>Cavalry.</i>						
Governor-General's Body Guard .....	5	81	86	70		
2nd Regiment Cavalry (2 Troops)...	4	72	76	65		
3rd " " (2 " " )...	6	67	73	65		
Total.....	15	220	235	200		
<i>Field Batteries of Artillery.</i>						
" A " Battery .....	3	22	25	12	2	
Toronto Field Battery.....	6	72	78	28	4	
Hamilton " .....	4	60	64	28	4	
Wellington " .....	6	35	41			
Ontario " .....						
Total.....	19	189	208	68	10	
<i>Artillery and Engineers.</i>						
" A " Battery .....	4	86	90			
Toronto Garrison Battery.....	1	40	41			
2nd Military Dist. Engineer Comp'y.	4	73	77	8		
Montreal " .....	..	8	8			
Total.....	9	207	216	8		
<i>Rifle Brigade.</i>						
2nd Battalion.....	20	412	442	5		
3rd " .....	26	348	374	5		
20th " .....	20	269	289	4		
38th " .....	15	249	264	4		
Total.....	91	1,278	1,369	18		
<i>Scarlet Brigade.</i>						
7th Battalion .....	28	332	360	5		
10th " .....	20	239	259	4		
13th " .....	17	242	259	4		
31st " .....	19	322	341	2		
46th " .....	19	264	283	5		
Total.....	103	1,399	1,502	20		
Divisional Staff.....	7	.....	7	7		
Grand Total.....	244	3,293	3,537	321	10	

W. S. DURIE, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Deputy Adjutant-General,  
Military District No. 2.

The Adjutant-General of Militia,  
Ottawa.

## (B.)

BRIGADE OFFICE,  
HAMILTON, 22nd September, 1879.

SIR,—According to your order I proceeded to York on the 19th instant, for the purpose of inspecting the 37th Battalion under command of Lieut.-Colonel Davis.

The battalion mustered 18 officers and 260 non-commissioned officers and men, and four horses.

The District Paymaster mustered the regiment, after which I commenced my inspections:—

1st. Inspected each company, and found the clothing new and in good condition; the arms and accoutrements were perfectly clean.

2nd. The regiment marched past in column and quarter-column, which was very well done; the marching being very good.

3rd. The manual exercise was exceedingly well done.

4th. The regiment then was moved about by Lieut.-Col. Davis and Adjutant Tuck, such as advancing in line, breaking into column to the right, wheeling into line, retiring by fours from the right of companies, &c.; all these movements were very fairly executed considering the short time allowed.

5th. The camp was well pitched and very clean.

6th. The rations cost about 20 cents a day per man, and all were well satisfied.

7th. Before concluding, I must not omit to mention the excellent corps of drums and fifes; their playing is *very* good, and must be the cause of the regiment marching so well.

Lieut.-Col. Davis has his regiment under excellent discipline, and deserves great credit for his untiring exertion to keep up a good battalion.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. V. VILLIERS, Lieut.-Colonel,

Brigade-Major.

Deputy Adjutant-General,  
Militia, Toronto.

## (C.)

Report of Annual Drill, 1879-80, of the 20th Battalion, in Camp at Georgetown from the 4th to the 10th September, both days inclusive.

## THE STRENGTH.

	Staff.	Capt.	Sub.	Sergts.	Bugler.	Rank and File.
Lieut.-Colonel...	1	No. 1 Co.....	1	1	4	1 55
Major.....	1	No. 2 Co.....	1	1	3	1 35
Adjutant.....	1	No. 3 Co.....	1	1	4	1 37
Paymaster .....	1	No. 4 Co.....	1	.....	3	1 20
Quartermaster..	1	No. 5 Co.....	1	1	3	1 36
Surgeon .....	1	No. 6 Co.....	1	1	3	1 35
.....	.....	No. 7 Co.....	1	1	3	1 38
	6		7	6	23	7 256

Nos. 2, 3 and 4 Companies marched into camp, being within five miles of the head quarters. Nos. 1, 5, 6 and 7 arrived by railway, the whole being in camp by 9 a.m. of the 4th instant.

Tents were pitched and the men's dinner prepared, after which squad and company drill was practised during the afternoon of the first day. During the remainder of the time in camp, three drills per day, of two hours' duration, were faithfully performed, except, of course, on the day of the Toronto review, when the regiment was on Garrison Common from the time of arrival in the morning until it left by the 5 p.m. train. I am happy to report that no casualty whatever occurred, and the regiment arrived in camp in good order at 8 p.m.

The new issue of clothing was distributed, and the men were much pleased, as the quality and fit is better than the former issue. The forage cap is not a popular article of head-dress, although the present issue is somewhat smarter looking than the former.

Rations were of excellent quality; the cost twenty-five cents per day. No complaints.

Lieut.-Colonel Alger, District Paymaster, attended on Saturday, the 6th Sept., when a parade was held, and the rolls found to be correct.

I have to report an excellent band, consisting of 30 members, 26 of whom were present during the drill.

There were no serious cases of sickness, the men in all cases being reported fit for duty, except one man, who was sent to his home. The new surgeon was very attentive to his duties.

The officers discharged their duty with alacrity, and all were present with the exception of Lieut. Curry, of No. 4 Company. This officer agreed to go up for examination, but I have reason to think he does not intend to do so.

The other candidates were prepared for their examination, but, in consequence of the Vice-Regal visit to Toronto, submitted cheerfully to the disappointment. I, however, informed them that an opportunity would shortly be afforded of having their qualifications tested.

While on this subject, I most respectfully beg to offer a suggestion, partly the result of my own observation during this drill, and partly from consultation with my officers. As to my own observations, I find that in all cases where companies are commanded by intelligent, energetic officers, assisted by smart well-informed non-commissioned officers, who understand their duties, everything goes well; where the reverse is the case, the company is slovenly, badly drilled, and not interested in the performance of their several duties. The efficiency of a company, therefore, depends to a great extent on the non-commissioned officers.

As my own regiment is not altogether free from defects in this particular, I have been approached during the drill by officers holding 2nd class military school certificates of qualification, and by non-commissioned officers holding no certificate of qualification, who expressed their regret at the want of a school of military instruction at Toronto, and who signified their willingness to attend a school should it be possible for the local authorities to get one re-opened there.

Their reasoning is, that the present staff at Toronto, with the assistance of a good instructor (Sergt. Cavallier, for instance), all of whom take a warm interest in the success of the volunteer militia, would be sufficient to conduct the school, but that no person be admitted thereto except officers and non-commissioned officers actually serving with their corps. It is a fact that in many instances men who obtained 2nd class certificates years ago have become rusty, have neglected to read up their drill, and now would be glad to have the opportunity of spending a few weeks to work up under competent instructors.

I trust I have not overstepped my duty in referring to the above, for I am convinced that the matter is one of paramount importance to the future welfare of the force, and that the small expenditure required ought not to be a bar to the re-opening of the school.

The camp equipage has been forwarded to the storekeeper at Toronto. I regret to find four blankets missing. The remainder is, I believe, correct, with the exception of tent pegs, a number of which have been broken, owing to the hardness of the ground.

I beg to forward herewith accounts of disbursements for unavoidable expenditure. I must not omit to mention that Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Allan rendered me efficient aid during the camp, the greater part of the drill devolving upon him, owing to my inability to ride in consequence of a sprain.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. MURRAY, Lieut.-Colonel,

Commanding 23rd Battalion.

The Deputy Adjutant-General,  
Military District, No. 2,  
Toronto.

BRIGADE OFFICE,  
HAMILTON, 4th December, 1879.

SIR,—I have the honour of reporting that I this day, inspected the following companies of the 19th Battalion at their annual drill at St. Catharines, viz.:—Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. After the Paymaster had mustered the men, the battalion marched past, performed the manual and firing exercise, wheeled into column, deployed to the left, reformed column, besides several formations in fours.

The drill was not satisfactory. Two rural companies were not up to the drill, the difference being very visible between the St. Catharines companies who worked well together, which showed quite plainly that this drilling companies at company head quarters is unsatisfactory, and for the future I would strongly recommend that all outstanding companies be brought into battalion head quarters to perform the annual drill.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. V. VILLIERS, Lieut.-Col.,

Brigade-Major.

The Acting  
Deputy Adjutant-General, Militia,  
Toronto.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 3.

DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
KINGSTON, December 4th, 1879.

Sir,—I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Lieutenant General Commanding, my annual report for 1879 on the state of the militia in Military District No. 3.

The number of officers, non-commissioned officers and men authorized in General Orders (13) of the 31st May, 1879, to receive pay for drill in the District under my command for 1879-80, was 2,150.

In accordance therewith the undermentioned corps were detailed for drill, viz:—

3rd Cavalry, Two Troops.

4th " " "

Kingston Field Battery.

Durham " "

Napanee Garrison Battery.

14th Battalion	
15th	"
16th	"
40th	" Two Companies.
46th	"
47th	" Six Companies.
49th	" Two "
57th	"

All the above mentioned corps have performed drill, with the exception of the Napanee Garrison Battery.

The undermentioned corps were relieved from drill for 1879-80, viz:—

3rd Cavalry, One Troop.
4th " Two "
Cobourg Garrison Battery.
Port Hope " "
Trenton " "
40th Battalion, Seven Companies.
45th " "
47th " One Company.
49th " Four Companies.

#### CAVALRY.

##### *3rd Provisional Regiment.*

Two troops of this regiment went into camp at Cobourg on the 1st September, performing their drill in eight days. These troops marched from their troop headquarters to regimental headquarters, the Port Hope Troop a distance of seven miles, and the Peterborough Troop thirty-three miles. The camp was pitched on the Agricultural Grounds, Cobourg, the site being well adapted for the purpose and the cattle sheds affording excellent accommodation for the horses. The men were provided with an excellent ration, costing 30 cents, and their conduct whilst in camp was reported to be very good. Lt.-Colonel Boulton was in command of the camp and accompanied them to Toronto, assuming command of the cavalry brigade at the review. I inspected them on the 9th September, previous to their departure for Toronto to take part in the review before His Excellency the Governor General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise. The Peterborough Troop, under command of Brevet Lieut.-Colonel H. Rogers, turned out remarkably clean and well horsed. The Port Hope Troop, under command of Captain Williams, did not present so fine an appearance, owing to deficiencies in equipment and their clothing being old and much worn. A special train was provided by the Grand Trunk Railway to convey the troops from my district to Toronto. The embarkation was conducted with regularity and without accident, and their appearance at the review, according to the public journals, elicited favourable comments. I have much pleasure in appending the report (marked "A") of Brevet Lt.-Colonel H. Rogers, giving a detailed account of his march, &c., from Peterborough to Cobourg. I regret to say that a horse belonging to one of the Port Hope Troop died from breaking a blood vessel when on parade. A board investigated the circumstance, and the owner was awarded one hundred dollars as compensation for his loss.

##### *4th Provisional Regiment.*

The Kingston and Napanee Troops of this regiment performed their drill in six days, the former at the Five Mile House, and the latter at Napanee. The men of the Kingston Troop were billeted in farm houses near the Five Mile House. An issue

of blankets was authorized, but owing to delay in making the demand, the order came late and the officers determined to do without them. The troop turned out very well at my inspection on the 28th June, and performed their drill in a very creditable manner. The horses were fair, accoutrements clean, and saddlery fairly clean. The sword exercise was well performed by this troop. I inspected the Napanee Troop on the 30th June; the accoutrements, with the exception of the pouches, were fairly clean, also the saddlery. The majority of the horses were fine though there were a few undersized in the ranks. The men turned out well and performed their drill in a satisfactory manner. They were billeted at the hotels in the town at one dollar a head per day, and their conduct was reported very good. I regret to say that Trooper J. Joyst met with an accident, being thrown from his horse, breaking his leg. A board assembled to investigate the matter, and the man has received compensation.

#### ARTILLERY.

The two field batteries performed their drill in camp and were inspected by the Inspector of Artillery, who asked me to accompany him when inspecting the Kingston Field Battery, and I have much pleasure in stating that I never saw this battery turn out or drill better since I assumed command of the district. The Napanee Garrison Battery failed to drill, Captain Hooper reporting that sickness in his family had prevented his assembling the men.

#### INFANTRY.

##### *14th Battalion.*

This regiment performed their annual drill in the evenings, beginning early in June, and were inspected on the 9th July. The regiment turned out remarkably well; arms, accoutrements and clothing very clean. The parade movements were extremely well executed, the manual and firing exercise being performed with precision under the command of Major Smythe. The marching past was very good especially that of Nos. 1 and 5 Companies; all the battalion movements and skirmishing were well executed, showing that the men had been thoroughly drilled. Several officers were called out to drill the battalion, which they did to my entire satisfaction. Lieut.-Colonel Kerr and his officers are to be congratulated on the efficiency of the corps. The equipment of the battalion is in most excellent order, and although the clothing has been in wear since 1877, I am happy to be able to report that there is not a single article missing, which in itself speaks for the care and attention of all concerned, showing what can be done when officers and men are determined to do their duty. In this instance Quartermaster Spriggs has charge of the clothing, and is deserving of praise for his great attention to his duties, and for which he receives no especial remuneration; Serjeant Pidgeon, the caretaker, also deserves credit for the cleanliness of the arms and accoutrements. Helmets for the men have been purchased by the officers, and the equipment of this battalion is complete in every respect. There were very few recruits in the ranks this year, not one in No. 1 Company, which proves that service in this corps is very popular. Several companies assembled for drill in the evenings last winter, and I trust that they may arrange to do so again.

I was very anxious that this regiment should take part in the review at Toronto but this was found to be impracticable, partly owing to the expense, the officers having already had to spend so much money in procuring helmets and other articles for the men. I hope, however, in the event of troops from different districts being again reviewed together in any of the large cities, that the 14th may be one of those selected.

##### *15th Battalion.*

This battalion went into camp at Massassaga Point, about five miles from Belleville, performing the training in eight days, and were inspected on the 4th September.

The regiment did not turn out as well as it did last year; the clothing being much soiled, the belts and pouches dirty and the arms only fairly clean. Major Henderson put the regiment through the manual and firing exercises, which were indifferently performed, also the battalion movements. I noticed several under-sized men in the ranks. The captains messed their companies, the ration costing 24 cents. The conduct of the men was reported to be good, and there were no complaints. The weather was very wet the night before the inspection and the wind so high the following morning as to prevent the men from hearing the words of command distinctly, which might partly account for their unsteadiness as well as for the state of their accoutrements. New clothing was issued to this battalion in 1877, but I regret to say there are many deficiencies, no less than 119 great coats being reported missing at the last inspection of clothing. The system hitherto adopted has not been found to work well, too much latitude being allowed the men in removing their clothing from the armoury, which, to a certain extent, will account for the numerous losses. A new plan has now been adopted by which captains of companies are to have charge of, and be responsible for, the equipments of their respective companies. I hope, therefore, that next year I may be able to report very great improvement in the interior economy of this corps. When last in Belleville I inspected Captain Blaecker's armoury, and was very much pleased with its appearance. A reading room adjoining the armoury has been established for the use of the men of the company in the evenings, the officers providing newspapers and periodicals at their own expense. I understand that other captains intend following Captain Blaecker's good example. A competent drill instructor has been employed, and two of the companies have agreed to put all their pay into a common fund to be expended in improving their equipment. By these means I hope that the 15th may soon become as efficient as any other corps in the district. I observed a very marked improvement in the band which promises to be very good.

#### 16th Battalion.

The companies of this battalion performed their drill at company headquarters; the Milford companies coming to Picton for the inspection, which took place on the 4th November. The parade was under the command of Brevet Lieut.-Col. Bog. These companies turned out well, their arms and accoutrements clean and in excellent order. The manual and firing exercise very fair indeed, and battalion movements and marching very fair.

The Picton Companies turned out and drilled the best. The band of the regiment was present and played very well for a young band. On the following morning, I inspected the two remaining companies of the battalion at Roblin's Mills. The arms and accoutrements were tolerably clean; manual and firing exercise indifferent; company drill fair. The physique of this battalion is very fine. My thanks are due to Lieut.-Colonel Bog, who accompanied me on my tour of inspection and has been most zealous in making the necessary arrangements for the training of the battalion this year.

#### 40th Battalion.

Two companies of this battalion have drilled at their company headquarters. I inspected Captain Bonnycastle's company at Campbellford on the 14th October. Arms and accoutrements were clean; clothing old and worn out, but well taken care of; the manual and firing exercises fair; also company drill. On the same day I inspected Captain Vars' company at Colborne. The arms and accoutrements were clean; the clothing old; the manual and firing exercises and company drill very fair. The physique of both these companies was very fine.

#### 46th Battalion.

This battalion performed its drill in camp at Port Hope, and was inspected by me on the 8th September, before it left for Toronto to take part in the review before

His Excellency the Governor General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise. The regiment turned out beautifully clean, every man being properly equipped. The regiment had to leave by special train, at 1 p.m., so there was no time for field movements, and I was compelled to content myself with seeing the battalion march past, which it did most steadily. The physique and general appearance of the men was splendid, and I do not believe that there is a finer rural battalion in the Dominion. From all accounts, the regiment acquitted itself most creditably at the review in Toronto, and I trust, I may be permitted to quote public opinion, taken from some of the papers. The *Hamilton Times*, referring to the review, says as follows: "No battalion on the ground looked or marched better than the 46th Port Hope, under Lieut.-Colonel Arthur Williams, M.P. The field officers were well mounted, and the company officers were all up to their work, their saluting being good; the men marched steadily, and the band was first rate. Without wishing to particularize, we must award the palm, at all events of the "Scarlet Brigade, to the 46th." Another Journal says: "We are glad to say that the 46th were among the best on the ground," and again, "we learn that the movements of the 46th in the late review in Toronto were such as to elicit the applause of all spectators. Their marching is particularly mentioned as having been excellent; Nos. 1 and 2 Company, under command of Captains Ward and Dingwall, being especially noticeable. We congratulate Colonel Williams and his officers on the efficiency of their command."

#### 47th Battalion.

The companies of this regiment performed their annual drill at head quarters. I inspected No. 1 Company at the Village of Battersea on the 27th of June. The arms were clean, accoutrements fairly clean, and clothing old and worn out. The manual and firing exercises were very fairly performed; the marching and company drill very good. The drill was performed in six days of six hours drill each day. I inspected No. 2 Company at the Village of Inverary on the 2nd July. The arms and accoutrements were tolerably clean; clothing old and worn out; manual and firing exercises fairly performed, as well as the marching, company drill and skirmishing. The drill was performed in six days. I inspected No. 3 Company at Elginburg on the 13th of September. Arms and accoutrements clean; clothing old; manual and firing exercises and company drill very fair. The drill of this company was performed in six days. I inspected No. 4 Company at the Village of Portsmouth on the 5th August. Arms and accoutrements were very clean; and the clothing in good order; manual and firing exercises, as well as their marching and company drill, very fine. The drill was performed in the evenings, beginning on the 7th July. The clothing of this company has been in wear the prescribed period, and is still in very good order, and Captain Kelly deserves credit for the care taken of his equipment. I inspected No. 5 Company at Barriefield on the 2nd of July. The arms, accoutrements and clothing were beautifully clean, and although the tunics have been in use for ten years, they are still in most excellent order. Prizes were given by the officers to the three cleanest men in the ranks, and I was asked to make the selections, but when all were so clean I had a very difficult task to perform, and had to inspect the ranks two or three times before giving a decision. The manual and firing exercises were very well performed, also the company drill and skirmishing, and Captain Byrne is to be complimented on the state of efficiency and cleanliness of his company. I can safely say that, in all my experience, I have never inspected a cleaner company on parade. The drill was performed in the evenings, beginning on the 18th June, and drilling three hours each evening. I inspected No. 7 Company at Sydenham on the 7th of July. This company has only one short and 18 long rifles in its possession at present, the remainder having been given into store some years ago to be repaired. All the rifles belonging to this company require repairs, and orders were issued some few months ago for their return into store. This order, however, has not yet been complied with. The few arms in their possession were not very clean at the inspection; the belts were fairly clean, but the pouches dirty; the manual and firing exercises

indifferent; marching and company drill, fair. Captain Joyner has only recently been reappointed to the command of this company, having been out of the service for some years, and is therefore rusty and not well up in the new drill. This battalion was entitled to new clothing this year, but could not be supplied as there was none in store.

#### *49th Battalion.*

I inspected the city companies of this battalion on the 20th of November. The day being so cold, the inspection had to take place in-doors, the men assembling in the Town Hall. The appearance of these companies was very fine; their arms, accoutrements and clothing remarkably clean, and the drill of both companies very good, especially that of No. 1. Captain and Acting Adjutant Harrison put them through the manual and firing exercises, which were very well performed. There was not much room for company movements, but from what I saw of them I should say that great attention must have been paid to their drill. I regret to say that on mustering No. 1 Company, two men were found in the ranks who had drilled and received pay with the 15th Battalion, although on the service roll and sworn members of the 49th Battalion. If commanding officers and adjutants of battalions and captains of companies would only pay a little more attention to the regulations respecting the enrolment of men, irregularities of this kind could not possibly occur in city corps.

#### *57th Battalion.*

This corps performed drill at company head quarters. On the 11th of November I inspected three companies at Peterborough. The day was so wet that the inspection had to take place in the Drill Shed, where there was not much room for battalion movements. The arms and belts were clean, but not the pouches. No. 1 Company was decidedly the cleanest and best drilled. The clothing, with the exception of that of No. 2 Company, was old and worn out, and the battalion is entitled to a new issue. A demand was made for new clothing early in the summer, but could not be complied with, as there was none at the time in store at head quarters. If the clothing, to which they were entitled had been issued in time the drill would have been performed in camp, as Lieut.-Colonel Rogers was most anxious to have the companies in battalion. Company and battalion drill was very fair, as well as the manual and firing exercises, and I am glad to be able to report a marked improvement in the appearance of the battalion since last inspection. Lieut.-Colonel Rogers has only recently assumed the command, and has not yet had time to make all the reforms requisite to place the regiment on a good and efficient footing. I have every reason to believe that before the end of next year there will be a very great change in the standing of this corps, and in a large town like Peterborough there should be no difficulty in keeping up an excellent regiment. I inspected the Norwood Company on the 12th of November. The arms and accoutrements were clean, but the clothing old and worn out. The manual and firing exercises were well performed, as well as the company and skirmishing drill. In the afternoon of the same day, I inspected the Hastings Company. The arms were clean; accoutrements, especially the pouches, only fairly clean; the manual exercise indifferent; firing exercise not practiced; marching and company drill fair; skirmishing indifferent. The men of this company are a fair body, and only want good instruction to make them as efficient as any other company in the battalion. The Keene Company was inspected by Lieut.-Colonel Rogers on the 3rd instant, who gives a favourable report of its condition.

#### *Drill Sheds.*

In a previous report I mentioned that drill sheds at Belleville and Cobourg were much required. There are nine companies now in Belleville, six of the 15th

Battalion and three of the 49th Battalion, and there is no building sufficiently large for more than one company to drill in at a time. I therefore hope that some steps may be taken by the Government for the erection of a suitable drill shed at this station, it being urgently required for the companies to drill in during the winter months. Considerable repairs have been made to the shed at Port Hope, and it is now in very good order. The sheds at Peterborough, Norwood and Hastings require repairs, and I have directed Lieut.-Colonel Rogers to submit an estimate of probable cost of necessary repairs to these buildings. I would strongly recommend the removal of the drill shed at Lifford to Bethany.

#### *Boards of Examination.*

Boards of examination have assembled twice in my district this year, when eleven candidates for certificates presented themselves for examination; seven passed, three obtaining first class certificates, and four second.

#### *Rifle Associations.*

One new association has been formed at Bowmanville, and will probably apply for the Government grant next year. It held a meeting this autumn, and has sent in the return required by regulation. Blank returns were sent to the presidents of all rifle associations in my district, but up to the present only three have been returned in time to forward with this report, viz.: Bowmanville, Peterborough and Cobourg, the remainder will be transmitted when received.

#### *Guards of Honour.*

On the way His Excellency the Governor-General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise paid an official visit to Kingston. On the arrival of the illustrious visitors, the 14th Battalion furnished the guard of honour, and the Kingston Troop 4th Cavalry the escort. That evening Her Royal Highness held a drawing-room, when the Gentlemen Cadets formed the guard of honour, Lieut.-Colonel Hewett having placed their services at my disposal for duty. On the following morning, His Excellency accompanied by Her Royal Highness, laid the foundation stone of the new Queen's College building, when the Gentlemen Cadets, 14th Battalion and Kingston Troop 4th Cavalry again turned out for duty. On the afternoon of the 31st May, His Excellency and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise proceeded to the Royal Military College to witness the review under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Hewett, R. E., the Gentlemen Cadets, "A" Battery, and two companies 14th Battalion, parading for the occasion, the 4th Cavalry again furnishing the escort. In addition to the above duties, the 14th Battalion furnished the guard at the residence of Lieut.-Colonel Kirkpatrick, M. P., for two days, to relieve the men of "A" Battery, who had barely three nights in bed. All these duties were performed without remuneration of any kind, with the exception of two days' pay granted to twelve men forming the escort. I am happy to say, that His Excellency was pleased to express his approbation of the soldierlike appearance and general efficiency under arms of both these corps. "A" Battery also furnished a guard of honour at the Opera House and on the morning of His Excellency's departure. On His Excellency's return from Toronto, in September last, guards of honour were furnished by the different corps all along the route in every district. At Port Hope, the 46th turned out, furnishing the guard of honour, under the command of Major Dingwall. At Cobourg, the 40th Battalion furnished a guard of honour, under the command of Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Graveley, and the 3rd Cavalry provided the escort. At Belleville, the 15th and 49th Battalions furnished guards of honour under the command of their respective commanding officers. All these duties were performed without remuneration.

## GENERAL REMARKS.

Three corps availed themselves of the privilege of drilling in camp, the remainder at battalion or company head quarters, and on the whole the drill has been performed in a satisfactory manner. I think I may state there is gradual improvement in every respect throughout the force in my district. Better care is taken of the equipment, and in consequence fewer losses to report. Several corps have purchased the new regulation helmets and other articles of equipment, and commanding officers, in almost all the regiments take more pride in having good armouries. There appears to be a spirit of emulation existing amongst all ranks, and I believe the force is in better order to-day than it ever was before. Massing troops together at Montreal and Toronto has undoubtedly had a very good effect, and the general result has been well worth the expenditure. There is, however, still room for improvement. Commanding officers do not pay sufficient attention to General and District Orders, and in consequence irregularities and much unnecessary correspondence is the result. Owing to this, I have found it impossible to complete the target practice returns. Before the commencement of the training I issued an order that the ammunition was to be expended, ten rounds at two hundred yards, five at four hundred and five at five hundred. The distance was limited to five hundred yards as I was aware that many of the corps drilling at these company head quarters could not find longer range, but, notwithstanding the order, I regret to say that some companies fired at six hundred yards, rendering it impossible to make a correct figure of merit. Another irregularity is that sufficient care is not taken by officers, when enrolling their men, to ascertain that they do not belong to any other corps. I have discovered several men this year drilling twice, and, in order to put a stop to it as far as possible, I would suggest that the following words be added to the certificate on the acquittance roll, viz:—"And further, that every man whose name appears on this roll is a *bonâ fide* member of this company, having signed the service roll and taken the oath of allegiance." I think by this means more care will be taken by officers, and a stop put to taking men on at the last moment in order to fill their ranks for the inspection. It is by the merest chance that an inspecting officer can discover these irregularities, as men have been known to drill twice in one year under assumed names. In accordance with General Orders, ammunition has been issued only to those corps which have rendered returns of the previous issue. The returns of this year's expenditure, received from corps up to date, are herewith forwarded, but I am sorry to say that there are a number still wanting; they will be forwarded when received. Returns of Rifle Associations are also forwarded—there are still a few to come in which will be forwarded when received. The Kingston Rifle Association has not been able to have a meeting this year, owing to want of funds. The Brigade Major and the District Paymaster accompanied me when inspecting corps drilling in camp, and I have much pleasure in stating that these officers have performed the duties of their respective appointments entirely to my satisfaction.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

BOWEN VAN STRAUBENZEE, Lieut.-Colonel.

Deputy Adjutant-General, Military District No. 3.

The Adjutant-General,  
Head Quarters,  
Ottawa.

(A.)

TRENTON, 20th November, 1879.

SIR,—In compliance with your request, I have the honour to report that on the morning of the first of September last I mustered my troop at the drill shed at seven o'clock—preparatory to marching to Cobourg—having arranged with Lieut.-Col. Boulton to join the Port Hope Troop (Captain Williams) at that place on that day, for the purpose of performing the annual drill together during the week, and then proceeding to Toronto to take part in the volunteer review before His Excellency the Governor General.

We took the line of march at 8.30 a.m.,—the weather being extremely sultry, we were obliged to make frequent halts; arriving at Bentley (18 miles) at 12.30, where dinner had been provided at the Rice Lake House at the rate of 25 cents each man and horse. Resuming the march at 2.30 p.m., we arrived without incident at the Agricultural Grounds, Cobourg, (15 miles further, 33 in all) at 6.30, where quarters had been arranged for by Quarter master Stapleton. Here we found the Port Hope Troop comfortably settled, they having marched in from Port Hope early in the day. The sheds were used for stabling the horses and the troopers were furnished with tents and blankets from the Government stores. Forage was provided in bulk for each troop by the quarter-master at a cost of cents per horse per diem. The troopers were furnished regular meals by a caterer for 30 cents each per diem in one of the buildings.

The drill was performed under the direction of Lieut.-Col. Boulton, from whom, no doubt, you have received full report.

We remained in those quarters till Monday, the 7th (having performed church parade on Sunday), and had the honour of being inspected by yourself and staff at 7 a.m., after which we struck tents and marched out in heavy marching order (each trooper carrying two cooked rations in his haversack) to the Grand Trunk Station. Here a train had been provided for our transport to that city by the Toronto authorities.

The embarking of the horses, 74 in number, was accomplished in one hour, and we proceeded to Port Hope, where we were joined by the 46th Battalion of Infantry (Lieut.-Col. Williams), but in consequence of delays on the road we did not arrive at Toronto till 5 p.m., and it was 6.30, and quite dark, when we marched on our camping ground, known as the Wood Yard, contiguous to the garrison.

It proved an excellent place for the purpose, the ground being clean and level, and being surrounded by a stockade, which was found safe and convenient for picketing our horses, and the enclosure affording protection from the prevailing winds, and also curtailing the strength of our guard.

The camp was placed under my charge by Lieut.-Colonel Boulton, who took up his quarters in the garrison, assuming command of the whole cavalry force. Our quarter-master (who had preceded us) was enabled to make satisfactory contracts for supplies by the kindness and courtesy of the officers of the G.-G. Body Guard, quartered in the garrison; and I would avail myself of this opportunity to thank them for their many attentions to the corps under my command, and particularly on behalf of self and brother officers, for their hospitality in making us their guests during our stay.

On Tuesday we took part in the review; on Wednesday morning, the 10th, I allowed the men to visit the exhibition and other places of interest, leaving a guard in charge of the camp.

Our return transport being only provided to Cobourg, I effected an arrangement by which my troop might come through by rail to Peterboro that night; the Midland Railway Co. contracting to bring the trains from Port Hope to Peterboro' for the rate of \$1.50 each man and horse, which was paid by the troopers themselves. The Peterboro' Troop struck tents at 3 a.m. (leaving the Port Hope Troop, who were to return by a later train) and marched to the railway station, where 30 minutes were taken to embark our 35 horses.

We left Toronto at 5:30, arriving here by the regular train at 10:15, without casualty of any description, and all apparently pleased with our short experience as soldiers.

I would state, incidentally, that this is the third time my troop has marched to Cobourg, twice returning by road, invariably without an accident or casualty of any kind.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. ROGERS, Capt. and Brevet Lieut.-Colonel,

Commanding No. 3 Troop,

3rd Regt. of Cavalry, Peterboro'.

To Lieut.-Colonel VAN STRAUBENZEE,  
Deputy-Adjutant General, Kingston.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 3.

RETURN showing the Establishment; the Number actually Drilled; Figure of Merit of Battalion; Figure of Merit of the best Company in each Battalion and the Best Shot, together with Amount paid by District Paymaster.

Corps.	Establishment.		Number actually Drilled.		Figure of Merit of Battalion.	Musketry.		Amount Paid by District Paymaster.	Remarks.
	Officers.	Non-Comms and Men.	Officers.	Non-Comms and Men.		Figure of Merit of best Company in each Battalion.	Best Shct.		
3rd Regiment Cavalry.....	13	126	9	65	.....	.....	1,146 50	.....	
4th do .....	15	168	5	69	.....	.....	1,140 00	.....	
Durham Field Battery .....	6	74	4	58	.....	.....	1,150 00	.....	
Kingston do .....	6	74	5	51	.....	.....	1,147 56	.....	
Cobourg Garrison Battery .....	2	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Napanee do .....	2	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Port Hope do .....	2	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Trenton do .....	2	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
14th Battalion .....	20	252	16	245	.....	.....	1,689 00	.....	
15th do .....	20	252	19	248	29-41	No. 1 Co., 42-17..	1,773 00	Sergt. Hume, No. 6 Co...	
16th do .....	20	252	12	249	.....	.....	1,637 00	.....	
40th do .....	26	378	5	82	.....	.....	561 00	.....	
45th do .....	20	252	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
46th do .....	20	252	19	265	.....	.....	1,854 00	.....	
47th do .....	22	294	13	252	35-08	No. 5 Co., 48-84..	1,686 00	Sergt. F. Bailie.....	
48th do .....	20	252	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
49th do .....	20	252	4	83	.....	.....	546 0..	.....	
57th do .....	20	252	14	251	.....	.....	1,671 00	.....	
Total.....	256	3,298	125	1,918	.....	.....	16,001 06	.....	

B. VAN STRAUBENZEE,  
Deputy-Adjutant General,  
Military District No. 3.

KINGSTON, December, 1879.

## MILITARY DISTRICT No. 4.

HEAD QUARTERS,  
BROCKVILLE, 3rd December, 1879.

SIR,—I have the honour 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 military year 1879-80, together with "Abstract Inspection Report" and other returns, as required by the regulations and orders.

The strength of the force in the district, complete establishment, is:—

Officers and men, all arms.....	2,756
Horses .....	270

And is comprised of the following corps:—

*Cavalry.*

Prescott Troop, Captain John Raney.....	1
Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, Captain John Stewart.....	1
Total Troops.....	2

*Artillery.*

Ottawa Field Battery, Captain John Stewart.....	1
Gananoque Field Battery, Major Wm. McKenzie.....	1
Prescott Battery of Garrison Artillery, Captain P. Coughlin....	1
Total Batteries.....	3

*Rifles.*

	No. of Companies.
41st Battalion, Lieut.-Col. Cole.....	5
56th " "The Lisgar Rifles," Lieut.-Col.* Jessup.....	7
Total Companies of Rifles.....	12

*Infantry.*

1st Battalion, Governor-General's Foot Guards, Lt.-Col. Ross..	6
18th " " Lieut.-Col. Urquhart.....	6
42nd " " Buell .....	7
59th " " Bergin .....	7

Total Infantry Companies in Battalion. 26

*Independent Companies.*

Metcalf Infantry Company, Captain Morgan.....	1
Goulburn " " Garvin .....	1
Vernon " " McGregor.....	1

Total Independent Companies..... 3

Total Troops, Batteries and Companies..... 46

Strength authorized to perform the annual drill for 1879-80, as per General Orders, dated 29th May, 1879:—

Officers and men, all arms.....	1,500
Horses.....	130

The selection of corps to perform the drill was made pursuant to the above-General Orders, which resulted as follows, the number shown after each corps being the actual strength of officers, non-commissioned officers and men who actually performed the drill:—

*Cavalry.*

	Officers, N.-C. Officers and Men.	Horses.
Prescott Troop.....	39	35
Princess Louise Dragoon Guards.....	38	38
Total.....	77	73

*Artillery.*

Ottawa Field Battery.....	79	28
Gananoque Field Battery.....	78	28
Total.....	157	56

*Rifles.*

41st Battalion, Nos. 1, 3 and 4 Companies.....	129
56th " "The Lisgar Rifles," Nos. 1, 5, 6 and 7 Companies.....	182
Total.....	311

*Infantry.*

1st Battalion, Governor General's Foot Guards, 6 Companies.....	278	4
18th Battalion, Nos. 1, 5 and 6 Companies.....	133	
42nd " Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 7 Companies.....	179	
59th " Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Companies....	317	4
Goulburn Infantry Company.....	42	
Total, Infantry.....	949	8

Total, all arms, who performed the drill and  
were inspected..... 1,494 137

*Prescott Troop of Cavalry - Captain John Raney.*

This troop performed the drill in eight consecutive days at Prescott. The officers and troopers were quartered in Fort Wellington during the period, and were inspected by me on the 28th June.

The officer commanding again availed himself of the services of Lieut.-Colonel Lovelace, Instructor of Cavalry, Montreal, to assist during the training. The troop presented a smart appearance; physique good; horses fair; arms and appointments fairly clean; bridle and other straps require more oil.

Drill, as per "Inspection Report," very fairly executed. The troopers are all farmers who generally own the horses they ride, and being on the frontier and well acquainted with the roads, would be very valuable in case of trouble.

*The Princess Louise Dragoon Guards—Captain John Stewart.*

This Troop was inspected by the Brigade Major on the 11th October, who reports it efficient in every particular. Drill, as per "Inspection Report," well done. In addition to performing escort duty to His Excellency the Governor General at the opening and closing of Parliament, and at various other times during the year, the troop proceeded to Montreal and took part in the review there in presence of His Excellency the Governor General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, on Her Majesty's Birthday.

*The Ottawa Field Battery—Captain John Stewart.*

This corps performed the drill in camp near Ottawa in twelve days, and was inspected by the Inspector of Artillery on the 5th July, at which time the District Paymaster mustered and paid the battery. This corps now fires all necessary salutes at the capital, and also proceeded to Montreal and took part in the review on Her Majesty's Birthday.

*The Gananoque Field Battery—Major William McKenzie.*

This corps performed the drill in camp about two miles west of Gananoque, and was inspected by the Inspector of Artillery on the 30th June, and on the following day the District Paymaster mustered and paid the battery.

*1st Battalion, "Governor General's Foot Guards"—Lieut.-Colonel Thomas Ross.*

This corps performed the drill during the summer, and was also present and took part in the review at Montreal on the Queen's Birthday, at which time it presented a most creditable appearance. In addition to furnishing guards of honour on all occasions when required for His Excellency and Her Royal Highness, a non-commissioned officers' guard is constantly kept mounted at Government House, when His Excellency and Her Royal Highness are at Ottawa. This battalion was inspected by the General Officer in command.

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

Nos. 1, 5 and 6 Companies performed the drill in consecutive days at local head quarters. Nos. 1 and 6 were inspected by me; No. 5 by the Brigade Major. Nos. 1 and 6 paraded very clean, except the breech blocks and shoes which were not so clean as they ought to be. The clothing is very old and much worn, and would have been renewed had a supply been in the Dominion stores. The physique not quite up to former standard; drill as per "Inspection Report," fairly well done. More squad drill is required, which it is almost impossible to carry out under the present short period for drill. These two companies are well officered, and the Lieut.-Colonel and Adjutant were present. The Brigade Major reports No. 5 Company as having paraded very clean, and being composed of good men. The officers are efficient, but drill, as detailed in "Inspection Report," only passable. All carried out target practice.

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

Nos. 1, 3 and 4 Companies performed the drill at local head quarters; No. 1 during the summer, and 3 and 4 in consecutive days, and all were inspected by me. Drill, as per "Inspection Report." No. 1 good; men, arms and accoutrements very clean. No. 3, drill indifferent; physique fair; clothing worn out; arms fairly clean; accoutrements not clean. No. 4, drill good; physique good; clothing worn out; inside of rifles clean; breech blocks, slings and accoutrements not clean. All carried out target practice; Lieut.-Colonel Cole was present at all the inspections.

*42nd Battalion—Lieut.-Colonel J. D. Buell.*

Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 7 Companies performed the drill during the summer at local head quarters. All were inspected by me, except No. 7 Company, which was performed by the Brigade Major; drill as per "Inspection Report." Nos. 2, 3 and 7 clean and soldierly, and drill very good. No. 1, men active and good; very clean and drill fair, but more squad drill required; much improved since last inspection. The clothing of No. 3 is worn out. The whole of the arms and accoutrements were exceedingly clean. Altogether these four companies are highly creditable. The whole carried out target practice.

*56th Battalion, "The Lisgar Rifles"—Lt.-Colonel H. D. Jessup.*

Nos. 1, 5, 6 and 7 Companies performed the drill at local head quarters in consecutive days; No. 5 in camp at Ottawa 14 days. All were inspected by me, except No. 6, which duty was performed by the Brigade Major. Drill as per "Inspection Report." No. 2, physique good, except one man, too old; very clean; manual and firing indifferent; company drill and skirmishing fair; squad drill required. No. 5, very clean and soldierly; physique good; men intelligent and steady; drill good; the camp a model of neatness, and the whole highly creditable to both officers and men. No. 6, clean and soldierly; physique and drill good; a serviceable company. No. 7 company is composed of recruits, except 12; physique fair; men steady and drill fair; excellent progress for so short a period; arms and accoutrements very clean; clothing worn out. Captain Carmichael can always turn out a good serviceable company. All carried out target practices.

*59th Battalion—Lt.-Colonel D. Bergin.*

This corps, seven companies strong, performed the drill in camp at Cornwall (battalion head quarters) in eight clear days, and was inspected by me. General appearance much improved; physique good; arms and accoutrements clean; men very clean; drill, as per "Inspection Report," passable, but more squad drill required. If more time could be devoted to drill, the composition of this battalion is of such a character as to promise a very superior corps. There being no range available, target practice could not be carried out.

*Goulburn Infantry Company—Captain Wm. Garvin.*

This company performed the drill in camp at local head quarters, and was inspected by the Brigade Major, the Deputy-Adjutant General being engaged in other inspection duty at the time, who reports the men clean and soldierly; arms and accoutrements clean; clothing worn out; drill, as per "Inspection Report," fair.

*Metcalf Infantry Company—Captain Ira Morgan; and*

*Vernon Infantry Company—Captain Robt. McGregor.*

These two companies were relieved from performing drill for the present year; when last inspected were considered satisfactory.

*Bands.*

There are seven military bands connected with the force in this district. Corps and strength of band as follows:—

Ottawa Field Battery.....	17
Gananoque Field Battery.....	15
1st Battalion Governor General's Foot Guards .....	30
do Drums and Fifes.....	17
	— 47
18th Battalion.....	12
41st do .....	14
42nd do .....	21
59th do .....	16

The General Orders relating to the appointing of "Band Committees" have been complied with, and the accounts of all bands inspected by me have been examined. Improvement is noticeable throughout the whole. The reputation of that connected with the Governor General's Foot Guards is widely known. That of the 18th Battalion show good progress and a better style of music, and the neatness with which the accounts connected with this band are kept deserve especial mention. That of the 41st Battalion is much improved, and being composed of performers of many years' practice, counterbalances in a measure the smallness of the number. That of the 42nd Battalion is highly efficient, and reflect much credit on all concerned. That of the 59th Battalion has been reorganized, and bids fair to be creditable.

It is a noticeable fact that, in some instances, the instruments do not belong to the corps. This is to be regretted, as permanency cannot be ensured unless they are the property of the officers, and under the control of the commander. I would strongly urge acquiring of all instruments as property of the battery or battalion.

#### OFFICERS' UNIFORM.

A great variety of uniforms are used through the district; some in the same corps wearing patrol jackets of different materials and make; some trowsers and forage caps of different patterns, and some trowsers with and some without stripes, and belts and swords of different make and material. Now that the dress regulations have been supplied to officers, no excuse can longer exist for this state of things, and if not corrected previous to next inspection, a more detailed report of this irregularity will be made.

#### RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS.

The usual interest in these associations appears to have been kept up. The following are the names of those in this district, together with the value of prizes given during the year, showing an increase over former years:—

Metropolitan.....	\$470 00
Brockville.....	240 00
Ramsay.....	174 00
18th Battalion.....	308 00
Guards.....	149 00
Prescott.....	190 00
Perth.....	140 55
Total.....	1,671 55

By reference to the Rifle Match Returns it will be seen the Brockville Association has been in existence seventeen years, and the Metropolitan fifteen years; the others not giving this information. The one at Perth, however, has only had its second annual competition.

#### DRILL SHEDS.

The new shed at Ottawa is now nearly completed, and will be of much service and convenience to the force. It is situated on the end of "Cartier Square," which offers suitable ground for outside parades; but the roughness is very objectionable; a small sum expended in levelling would be of great benefit to the force, and an improvement to the square.

The only other expenditure on sheds in the district this season has been that connected with the repairing of roof of the one at Gananoque.

Those at the following stations are not now used for militia purposes, viz:—Pakenham, Richmond (blown down and reported), Manotick, North Gower and Millar's Corners.

Pakenham is conveniently situated on the line of the Canada Central Railway, and a company could be organized at any time should one be required; consequently it would be well to retain this shed. But as the others are in out-of-the-way places and liable to go to destruction, the desirability of disposing of them might be considered. There is also a lot in Goulburn, on which a shed was formerly erected, but demolished many years ago by a storm, and reported at the time, and there is a similar lot in Huntly, the shed having been burned and reported.

The want of a drill shed at Brockville is very much felt. As yet the municipality has taken no action in the matter. The force having last spring been deprived of the use of the public halls, which had for years been allowed for armouries and drill, is much put about. Although the council have just supplied armouries, there is no place to fall in the men or drill. I would strongly urge some action towards the erection of a suitable building at this important point.

#### FORT WELLINGTON.

This old historical work, which had been left for a long period to go to decay, has, during the past year, been repaired, by which its preservation is secured and appearance improved. I should like to see the guns again mounted on its banquette, as it would have a good moral effect, and also be of much service to the Prescott Battery of Garrison Artillery.

#### GENERALLY.

The strength of the various corps has been well maintained, they being, as a rule, composed of good men. The rural companies generally perform their drill in six consecutive days, that is, two days of three hours each in one, which is not calculated to result as beneficially as a longer period. In many instances squad drill is almost wholly neglected, while position and aiming drill are seldom attempted; which, if practiced previous to firing, would show an increased score.

The officers throughout the district are of opinion that camps are the most suitable and satisfactory way of performing the annual drill. With the exception of the 59th Battalion, which assembled in camp for this year's training, none of the battalions have assembled since 1875, consequently all have become very rusty. Without battalion drill the officers cannot keep up to their work. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest battalion camps of sixteen days with transport and rations free as the most desirable for one year. The following year, brigade camps to be formed for a like period.

The difficulty of procuring qualified officers is on the increase, the system of drill during the past four years not having been calculated to develop such efficiency as to ensure passing an examination. On the application of Lieut.-Colonel Bergin, commanding the 59th Battalion, a Board of Examiners was authorised to assemble at Cornwall, but only about one-third of the officers whose names were submitted came up; this resulted in four second-class certificates being issued.

The condition of the force throughout the district may be looked upon as satisfactory, so far as the present system is calculated to improve it, but camps of exercise are required to bring it up to the former standard. If camps are authorized the present strength of companies is quite too small; what with deducting bandmen, staff sergeants, cooks, guards, and other duties, the companies are so reduced as to make them impracticable for field movements. It is, therefore, desirable they should be restored to the old standard of 55, non-commissioned officers and men.

The Brigade Major has made the usual half-yearly inspection of stores, and witnessed transfer receipts where required. He also assisted in making the annual inspections when it was impracticable for the Deputy Adjutant-General to do so, for which my thanks are due.

Up to the time his services were dispensed with, Lieut.-Colonel Wyllie, District Paymaster, discharged his duties promptly and attentively. The Field Batteries, while in camp, were mustered and paid by him.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. JACKSON, Lieut.-Colonel,

Deputy Adjutant-General,

Military District No. 4.

The Adjutant-General of Militia,  
Ottawa.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 5.

HEAD QUARTERS,  
MONTREAL, 1st December, 1879.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward for the consideration of the General Officer in Command, the annual report of the state of Military District No. 5, under my command.

The nominal enrolled strength of the force of active militia in the district is as follows:—

<i>Cavalry.</i>			
	Officers.	Men.	Horses.
5th Provisional Regiment, 5 Troops.....	19	175	194
6th do 4 do .....	16	140	156
	<u>35</u>	<u>315</u>	<u>350</u>
<i>Artillery.</i>			
Three Field Batteries.....	18	222	84
Montreal Brigade (6 Batteries) Garrison Artillery.....	26	335	4
One Independent Battery.....	3	55	.....
	<u>47</u>	<u>612</u>	<u>88</u>
<i>Engineers.</i>			
One Company.....	3	84	.....
	<u>3</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>.....</u>
<i>Rifles.</i>			
Two Battalions.....	52	670	10
	<u>52</u>	<u>670</u>	<u>10</u>
<i>Infantry.</i>			
Twelve Battalions.....	328	4,594	48
Three Independent Companies.....	9	165	.....
	<u>337</u>	<u>4,759</u>	<u>48</u>
Total, of all arms, ranks and horses .....	<u>6,914</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>496</u>

By the General Order of the 29th May, a quota of 3,000 of all ranks for the district was allowed to drill for 1879-80. First, field batteries to be taken; second, corps of the cities; third, corps not drilled last year; fourth, to complete quota, corps to be selected from each arm of the service. The strength of the field batteries and city corps in the district, comprised in the first and second selection, was so great, viz., 1,938, that only 1,062 of the third—or corps not drilled last year, numbering 1,935—would be taken to fill the quota, leaving 873 without drill for two years. The district having such a strength of field batteries and city corps, and occupying a long and most important frontier, ought, as a special case, to be allowed an addition of at least 750 to the quota, to enable the rural corps to drill once in two years.

The district staff found it a difficult matter to select the rural corps for drill, and keep within the quota. In this they were kindly favoured by the officers commanding the 50th and 51st Battalions, who waived the claims for drill of four companies in each battalion who were not drilled last year, preferring to wait till next year for an opportunity of drilling the battalions at full strength in camp, if possible.

The corps named below performed the annual drill:—

<i>Cavalry.</i>			All Ranks.	Horses.
Corps.				
5th Provisional Regiment.....			179	179
6th do .....			70	70
<i>Artillery.</i>				
Montreal Field Battery .....			80	28
Shefford do .....			80	28
Richmond do .....			62	28
Montreal Brigade Garrison Artillery.....			252	.....
Montreal Engineers.....			58	.....
<i>Rifles.</i>				
1st Battalion, "Prince of Wales".....			271	5
3rd do "Victoria".....			275	5
<i>Infantry.</i>				
5th Battalion, "Royal Fusiliers".....			275	4
6th do "Fusiliers" .....			272	4
11th do "Argenteuil Rangers".....			131	3
52nd do "Brome" Light Infantry.....			139	4
53rd do "Sherbrooke" Light Infantry. ....			222	.....
54th do "Richmond" do .....			91	2
58th do "Compton" do .....			182	4
60th do "Missisquoi" Borderers.....			105	2
79th do "Shefford Highlanders".....			182	5
Wakefield Company.....			41	.....
Aylwin do .....			39	.....
Total drilled.....			3,006	371

CAVALRY.

The 5th Provisional Regiment (four troops), under command of Lieut.-Colonel Taylor, went into camp for six days drill at Compton on the 22nd September. The regiment was inspected by the Deputy Adjutant-General on the 26th. The camp was

well pitched, and the horse lines in proper form. The march past by troops and squadrons was well done; the field movements and several exercises well performed. Horses were linked under cover and skirmishers sent out with blank firing in a manner which showed that the troopers were well up in their work. The horses, with three exceptions, were well fitted for service; the three exceptions were too light for cavalry; the owners promised to replace them with heavier horses. After inspection, muster parade was held by the District Paymaster, Lieut.-Colonel Amyrauld. The men were all able-bodied and active young men.

The great improvement noticed in drill and discipline made by the four troops since the regiment was formed, induced the Deputy Adjutant-General to submit for the favourable consideration of the General Officer in Command, a proposal to give the five independent troops in the district the advantage of belonging to a regiment, by attaching the Sutton Troop to the 5th Provisional Regiment, and forming the Montreal, St. Andrews, Huntingdon and Missisquoi Troops into a regiment, to be known as the 6th Provisional Regiment. This proposal was approved of, and the regiment gazetted in General Orders of the 11th November.

The Montreal Troop (now No. 1, 6th Regiment), under the command of Captain McArthur, drilled at head quarters, and was inspected by the Deputy Adjutant-General on the 17th July. The troop was full, all good men and well mounted; the drill and sword exercise, under the command of the Captain, was well done. This troop drills at stated times throughout the year, and is always ready for escort and other duty. Lieut.-Colonel Lovelace acts as drill instructor.

The Sutton Troop (now No. 5, 5th Provisional Regiment), Captain Shepard commanding, drilled for 12 days at troop head quarters, under the instruction of the officer commanding. The Deputy Adjutant-General inspected the troop on the 3rd October. The troop mustered full strength; all active, able-bodied and intelligent young men. Horses very good; troop drill and sword exercise very fair; accoutrements and saddlery in good order.

The Huntingdon troop (now No. 3, 6th Provisional Regiment), Captain Barr commanding, drilled 12 days at head quarters, Havelock, and was inspected on the 25th October by Lieut.-Colonel Bacon, Brigade-Major, Annexed is the report of the inspection (marked A).

The St. Andrews and Missisquoi Troops did not drill.

## ARTILLERY.

### *Field Batteries.*

The Montreal Field Battery, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Stevenson, went into camp for 12 days on the Exhibition Grounds, a place well fitted for a camp. The battery mustered full strength, men and horses. The camp was well laid out; camp duties and drill thoroughly carried out (as they have always been), under the instruction of the veteran and popular commanding officer. The battery was inspected on the 8th August by Lieut.-Colonel Irwin, R. A., Inspector of Artillery, accompanied by the Deputy Adjutant-General and Brigade-Major. The inspection was thorough in all its details, and will be reported on by the inspecting officer. After inspection, muster parade was held by the Deputy Adjutant-General and District Paymaster. Roll was called; all present or accounted for. A detachment of the battery went subsequently to the Island of Orleans for gun practice, as no safe range could be had in the vicinity of Montreal.

### *Shefford Field Battery.*

This battery, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Amyrauld, went into camp at Granby on the 1st September for 12 days' drill; the battery mustered in full strength. A large number of the non-commissioned officers and men have gone through the School of Gunnery and are well up in drill and camp duties.

The battery was inspected by Acting Inspector Lieut.-Colonel Montizambert, of "B" Battery, and also by the Brigade Major, Lieut.-Colonel Hon. M. Aylmer, under whom muster roll was called. Annexed is report of inspection (marked B).

Lieut.-Colonel Amyrauld brought his battery by railway to Montreal on the 24th May to take part in the review in honour of Her Majesty's birthday. In the march past the battery held its own with the other batteries. In the sham fight the celerity with which the battery took up its position on the left flank of the enemy, and the rapid fire maintained on the attacking party, showed the battery to be in an efficient state.

### *Richmond Field Battery.*

Under command of Major Hon. H. Aylmer, mustered for drill in camp at Richmond on the 26th June. Unfortunately the camp equipage was not received until the 27th, consequently, the men were billeted until the camp was pitched.

The guns of this battery are 24-pounder Howitzers. A number of the men have gone through the school of gunnery and are well up in their work. The non-commissioned officers and men are all well fitted for artillery service; horses very good. The battery was inspected by the Inspector of Artillery in drill and efficiency. The Deputy-Adjutant General inspected the men, clothing and equipments on the 7th July, and with the District Paymaster, held muster parade, all present. The battery is not quite up to its strength.

### *Garrison Artillery.*

The brigade of Montreal Garrison Artillery, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Fraser, drills weekly, either by gun detachments, batteries or brigade. The brigade was inspected on the 25th October by the Inspector of Artillery, accompanied by the Deputy-Adjutant General and Brigade Major. The brigade paraded on the Champ de Mars as a battalion for infantry drill; marched past in column and quarter column; deployed into line; manual and firing exercises by the Acting-Adjutant; and a number of battalion movements by the Commanding Officer, after which the brigade marched to the drill shed for gun drill. The parade movements were well done; the men very steady in the ranks. This corps is composed of a very fine body of men, all of the right size and build for artillery work. The fife and drum corps is very efficient. The Inspector of Artillery will report on the technical part of the drill. This corps is weak in officers; there are vacancies for two field officers, an adjutant and five or six lieutenants. Field officers and adjutants require first-class certificates. None of the captains have first-class certificates, and they cannot obtain them without going to the school of gunnery, Quebec. These officers are all engaged in business, and cannot afford the time to attend the school. Provision ought to be made to allow officers situated as they are to qualify for first-class certificates at the head quarters of the brigade. Officers who maintain efficient batteries, such as compose the Montreal Brigade, deserve every encouragement to induce them to remain in the service, but if promotion is blocked they will lose heart and give up.

### *Engineers.*

The two companies of Montreal Engineers were, by General Order of the 10th of April, amalgamated, to form one company under the command of Major Kennedy; strength to remain at 84 non-commissioned officers and men. The company performed the annual drill, and was inspected on the 30th August by Lieut.-Colonel Irwin, Inspector of Artillery, accompanied by the Deputy, Adjutant-General and Brigade Major. The company mustered on the Champ de Mars; 58 of all ranks; all active and intelligent men; the company marched past and went through company drill, manual and firing exercises very fair. The company then marched to the Bonsecour Hall to go through some technical drill in "Barrel Piercing," &c. The Inspector of Artillery will report upon this part of the drill.

## RIFLES AND INFANTRY.

*1st Battalion, "Prince of Wales Rifles."*

This Battalion, the senior in the Dominion, is in an efficient state. Weekly drills are kept up during the year. The regiment paraded for inspection by the Deputy Adjutant-General on the Champ de Mars, on the 25th October, Lieut.-Colonel Bond commanding. The battalion marched past in column, quarter column, changed ranks and passed at the double, in splendid style. Line was formed, and the manual and firing exercise performed under Major Bond. The Colonel then put the regiment through a number of battalion movements, including the new "line of attack" All the movements were performed with celerity and precision, showing that officers and men knew their work thoroughly. The regiment never appeared to better advantage than at this inspection; the men were well sized, the clothing and accoutrements clean and well put on. The light and neat chako, combined with the leggings, gave the men an active and natty appearance, such as riflemen ought always to have. The fife and drum band is full and effective. The battalion has also a good corps of buglers.

*3rd Battalion, "Victoria Rifles"—Under command of Lieut.-Colonel Whitehead.*

This Battalion drills weekly, squad, company and battalion drill, throughout the year. The Adjutant has a class of non-commissioned officers and candidates for appointment as such, for instruction in drill and interior economy, each must pass an examination before he can be appointed or promoted. This class has been the means of securing intelligent non-commissioned officers to the battalion. The battalion was inspected by the Deputy Adjutant-General and Brigade Major on the Champ de Mars on the 8th September. The ranks were full, the men in marching order, preparatory to leaving for Toronto after inspection. The battalion marched past in column, quarter column, and at the double. The march past was very good. After forming line, the senior Major put the regiment through the manual and firing exercises; this was done very steadily. The Colonel then took command. The deployments and column movements were well executed. The men looked well in their new uniforms, with haversacks and greatcoats neatly packed. The band (brass and bugles) is very strong and effective. After inspection, the battalion marched to the dépôt to take the cars for Toronto to take part in the review to be held there in the presence of His Excellency the Governor General. From reports received subsequently the "Vics." were second to none on parade.

*5th Battalion, "Royal Fusiliers"—Lieut.-Colonel Crawford, commanding.*

This battalion keeps up drills at stated times through the year; the officers spare no pains or expense to make the corps efficient. In addition to the Highland tunics and tartan trews, the plaid has been adopted. The battalion was inspected on the Champ de Mars on the 5th July by the Deputy Adjutant-General and Brigade Major. The regiment presented a fine appearance on parade; fine, able-bodied men, as Highlanders should be; uniforms, accoutrements and arms in excellent order. The march past in column and quarter column was steadily done. The manual and firing exercises, under the Major, were done with precision. Colonel Crawford put the regiment through a number of field movements, all well carried out. The band (brass) is in a good state of efficiency. The pipers play well, and are as near perfection as pipers can be.

*6th Battalion, "Fusiliers"—Lieut.-Colonel Martin, commanding.*

This battalion, like the others, keeps up regular drills through the year. The battalion drills, preparatory to inspection, are held on the Champ de Mars by moon and gaslight: officers and men work well together. The battalion is in a good state

of efficiency. The regiment was inspected on the Montreal Lacrosse Grounds on the 11th October by Lieut.-Colonel Bacon, Brigade Major. For a report of the inspection I refer to his report annexed (marked A). The battalion has two bands, brass and fife and drums both very good.

*11th Battalion, "Argenteuil Rangers"—Lieut.-Colonel Hon. J. C. Abbott, commanding.*

Companies Nos. 1, 4, 5 and 8 drilled in camp at Lachute, and were inspected by Lieut.-Colonel Bacon on the 11th July. Annexed is the report of the inspection (marked A), showing the state and efficiency of the companies in camp.

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

None of the companies of this battalion drilled this year. The captain of No. 1 Company has left the limits; the company is disorganized. The arms, accoutrements and clothing have been placed in charge of Captain Beauvais, No. 3 Company. The accoutrements of the battalion are very old, many articles unfit for service. New life is required in the battalion to make it effective. St. John's is an important position and an efficient battalion ought to—and can be—kept up there if proper action is taken by the commanding officer. An effort will be made this winter to bring the corps up to its former state of efficiency.

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

Four companies did not drill last year. The commanding officer and the officers of these companies thought it advisable to waive their claim for drill this year, preferring to wait till next year with the view of having the whole battalion brought together in camp. The battalion has a fife and drum band in a fair state of efficiency.

*51st Battalion, "Hemmingford Rangers"—Lieut.-Colonel Rogers, commanding.*

This battalion also has four companies without drill last year. The commanding officer and company officers thought it best to put off the drill for this year and go into camp with the whole battalion next year. The officers of the 50th and 51st know well by experience the advantage of battalion drill in camp over that of company drill at company head quarters. The 51st have a brass band; state of efficiency fair and improving.

*52nd "Brome" Battalion—Lieut.-Colonel Hall, commanding.*

Four companies drilled this year. Nos. 2, 5 and 6 Companies were inspected by the Deputy Adjutant-General, and No. 4 by the Brigade Major. The inspecting officers were accompanied by the officer commanding the battalion.

No. 2 Company, Captain Peters, mustered at head quarters, Knowlton, for inspection on the 1st October; a good company of active young men. Drill very fair considering the company had not drilled for two years. Clothing and arms in good condition. The accoutrements are old; some waist belts unfit for service.

No. 6 Company was inspected same afternoon at Bolton Centre. This company, under Captain Mooney, is composed of fine stalwart young men. Company drill and manual and firing exercise were performed very creditably. The clothing, arms and accoutrements were in good order.

No. 5 Company, Captain Drew, was inspected at Mansonville on the 2nd October. This company is also composed of good men. Company drill, manual and firing exercise fair. "Line of attack" was tried for the first time with all the companies. This movement will be a popular one with the rural corps. The arms, accoutrements and clothing were in good order.

No. 4 Company, Captain Hall, was inspected by the Brigade Major. Annexed is his report, (marked B). The 52nd has no band.

*53rd Battalion, "Sherbrooke" Infantry*—Lieut.-Colonel Ibbotson, commanding.

The four city companies drilled at head quarters, and were inspected by the Deputy Adjutant-General, accompanied by the Brigade Major, on the 27th August. The ranks were full, up to the strength allowed to drill, of good active men, but their appearance as soldiers was not improved by their parading without pouch-belts and pouches. This omission was pointed out to the commanding officer by the D. A. G. (The regiment will not parade again for inspection without the whole of their accoutrements). Battalion movements and manual and firing exercise were fairly performed. "Line of Attack" has evidently not been practised much during the annual drill. The officers and men have procured the regulation helmet. The new head-dress gives the corps a martial appearance. The brass band is very efficient.

Two rural companies, Nos. 5 and 6, are attached to this battalion.

No. 6, Captain Rolfe, was inspected at Ascot Corners on the 28th August, by the Deputy Adjutant-General. The company looked well; all the men active and fit for service. Accoutrements all on; belts clean, arms and clothing in good order. Company drill, manual and firing very fair. This company is a credit to the battalion.

No. 5 Company, Lieut. Phelan, was inspected at Magog on the 11th September, by the Deputy Adjutant-General, accompanied by the Brigade-Major and Lieut.-Colonel Ibbotson. Good men; arms, accoutrements and clothing in good order; company drill, manual and firing passable. This company needs more drill to enable it to take its place in battalion.

*54th Battalion, "Richmond" Infantry*—Lieut.-Colonel Right Hon. Lord Aylmer, commanding.

Only two companies, Nos. 5 and 6, were allowed to drill for pay this year, but the other companies—to keep up with the paid companies—determined to drill without pay. This they did, and with the exception of No. 3 (which owing to absence of the captain at the time), all mustered for inspection at their company head quarters.

The Deputy Adjutant-General, accompanied by the Brigade-Major, with the Commanding Officer and the Adjutant of the battalion, inspected the companies as follows:—

#### *Companies for Pay.*

No. 5 Company, Captain Mairs, was inspected at Alverton on the 4th November. The weather was very cold, and the men paraded in great coats; the ranks were full, all fine able men. Company drill, manual and firing very fair; arms, accoutrements and clothing in good order.

No. 6 Company, Captain Watts, was inspected at Drummondville on the 6th November. This company was also full; all good men, fit for service, and fairly drilled. The arms, accoutrements and clothing in good order.

#### *Companies without Pay.*

No. 1 Company, Captain McKenzie, mustered for inspection at Dunville on the 5th November. Good active and intelligent men; drilled fairly. This company is famed for its shooting qualities. Arms and equipment in good condition.

No. 2 Company, Captain McLean, mustered for inspection at Flodden on the 4th November. The men of this company were all tall and active young men, the average height of the company, was five feet ten, the flank men were giants. Company drill was very fair, the arms, accoutrements and clothing were in good order.

No. 4 Company, Lieut. Hill commanding, in the absence of Captain Boyd. This company mustered strong for inspection on the 3rd November, at its head quarters, Windsor. A fine body of men, well drilled, fit to take its place in battalion; movements, arms, accoutrements and clothing in good order.

Lieut.-Colonel Lord Aylmer has good reason to be proud of his regiment drilling efficiently, as it has done, four companies without pay.

*55th Battalion, "Compton" Infantry*—Lieut.-Colonel Cook, commanding.

Five companies drilled at their respective head quarters, and were inspected by the Deputy Adjutant-General, accompanied by the Commanding Officer and Adjutant of the battalion.

No. 2 Company, Captain Ross, was inspected at Lingwick on the 8th October. Good muster; all good men, and well drilled; one of the best drilled companies in the rural corps. The arms, accoutrements and clothing were in good order.

No. 3 Company, Captain McIver, and No. 5 Company, Captain McDonald, mustered for inspection at Sandy Bay, Lake Megantic, on the 8th October, under command of Major Ramage. These companies are composed of a fine body of strong stalwart Highlanders. They were put through a few battalion movements; manual and firing exercise, and line of attack—all very creditably performed—the arms, accoutrements and clothing in good order.

No. 6 Company, Captain Cook, was inspected at Hatley on the 10th October. Good muster, all good and active young men. Company drill, "manual and firing," and "line of attack" fairly done; arms, accoutrements and clothing in good order.

No. 7 Company, Captain Trenholme, was inspected at Coaticook on the 11th October. Good muster; light active young, many of them recruits. Company drill, "manual and firing," and "line of attack," fair; arms, and accoutrements in good order, some of the waist belts old and out of repair. All these companies have adopted the Glengarry cap for a head dress, which gives them a smart appearance.

*60th Battalion, "Missisquoi" Infantry*—Lieut.-Colonel Rowe, commanding.

Three companies performed the annual drill in camp at St. Armands, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Rowe. The companies were No. 1, Major Sixby; No. 2, Captain Jamieson, and No. 4, Captain Higgins. The camp was well pitched on good camping ground, granted for the purpose by Major Sixby. The Deputy Adjutant-General inspected the camp and corps on the 4th July. The companies were full up to the number allowed to drill; all good active men. The men were inspected by the Surgeon, and all reported fit for service. The arms and clothing were in good order. The accoutrements are old; a number of the waist belts are out of repair. The band (brass) was present and played very well. The battalion marched past in column and quarter column; distance and dressing not well kept; deployment and column movements fair; "manual and firing" fair. "Line of attack" with blank firing was tried for the first time, under command of the Deputy Adjutant-General. The officers and men got into the spirit of the movement in a very short time. This part of the drill will be popular with the frontier corps. The rations provided for the men were good and cheap. No complaints or casualties reported.

*79th Battalion, "Shefford" Highlanders*—Lieut.-Colonel Miller, commanding.

Four companies drilled at company head quarters and were inspected by Lieut.-Colonel Hon. M. Aylmer, Brigade Major. Annexed is his report (marked B). The officers of the 79th have, in a spirit deserving of commendation, organized a military school at Waterloo to enable those of their number who are not qualified to study and practice for examination. The officers pay the instructor and board at their own expense. The school was established before the General Order was issued authorizing a military school to be opened at Montreal. The candidates for certificates can be examined by a board when authorized.

## INDEPENDENT COMPANIES, INFANTRY.

*The "Wakefield" Company*—Major Cates commanding.

Drilled at its head quarters, and was inspected by the Deputy Adjutant General on the 17th October. The company was full; all able and active young men. The Major put the company through the "manual and firing" and company drill, which were well performed, considering the company has not drilled for two years. The arms and accoutrements were in good order. The target returns show that this is a good shooting company. Major Cates and Sergeant Walters were well up in the aggregate at the last Dominion matches.

*"Aylwin" Company*—Captain Chamberlain commanding.

The company drilled at its head quarters, Kazubazua, and was inspected by the Deputy Adjutant General on the 23rd October. The company was full; all able bodied active young men. Company drill, "manual and firing" and line of attack well performed. This company had not drilled for two years. The three officers hold certificates of qualification. The arms, accoutrements and clothing were in good order. The target returns shew good proficiency in shooting.

*The "Eardly" Company*—Captain Lawlor.

Did not drill this year.

If a company was authorized to be formed at Hull, I would respectfully recommend that a provisional battalion be formed of the four companies under the command of the senior officer; it would be a benefit to the three existing companies. The whole could meet at some central point for battalion drill in camp, and acquire a knowledge of regimental duties and drill, which they cannot possibly learn as independent companies.

#### TARGET PRACTICE.

All the corps allowed to drill, that are in possession of targets and safe ranges have had target practice, but some of the commanding officers are slow in forwarding the returns.

#### RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS.

There are seventeen rifle associations in the district, all working efficiently. These associations continue to prove of practical benefit to the force, enabling the members of corps not allowed to drill to keep up their practice. The associations are, viz:—

Province of Quebec Rifle Association.
Frontier, County of Huntingdon, Rifle Association.
District of Bedford " "
Sherbrooke " "
Wellington, Cookshire " "
Richmond County " "
County of Ottawa " "
Montreal Rifle Club " "
Montreal Field Battery " "
Montreal Garrison Artillery " "
1st Battalion Prince of Wales' Rifles " "
3rd " Victoria Rifles " "
5th " Royal Fusiliers " "
6th " Fusiliers " "
Grand Trunk Railway " "
Montreal Engineers " "
Hemmingford Frontier " "

## REVIEW IN HONOUR OF HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY, 24TH MAY.

The day was celebrated in Montreal by a divisional parade of troops, under command of Lieut.-General Sir Edward Selby Smyth, K.C.M.G., commanding the Dominion Militia, in presence of His Excellency the Governor General, Marquis of Lorne, and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise. The review was held on Fletcher's Field. The division was composed of three brigades. The following corps formed the brigades:—1st Brigade, cavalry, artillery and engineers, Brigadier Lieut.-Colonel Stevenson: Montreal Troop: Princess Louise Dragoon Guards; Montreal Field Battery; Ottawa Field Battery; Shefford Field Battery; "B" Battery; Quebec Garrison Artillery; Montreal Garrison Artillery; Royal Military College Cadets; Montreal Engineers, with St. Jean Baptiste Company attached. 2nd Brigade; rifles, Brigadier Lieut.-Colonel Bond; 1st "Prince of Wales Rifles"; 2nd "Queen's Own Rifles"; 3rd "Victoria Rifles"; 8th "Royal Rifles" 65th "Mount Royal Rifles."

3rd Brigade, infantry, Brigadier Lieut.-Colonel Martin; Governor General's Foot Guards; 5th "Royal Fusiliers"; 6th "Fusiliers"; 13th Regiment, Brooklyn; National Guards, N.Y. Naval Brigade. Total of all ranks as per field state 4,290.

After the royal salute and *feu de joie* was fired, the line was inspected by His Excellency the Governor General and the Princess Louise. After inspection, the troops marched past, after which a sham fight took place. A portion of the field artillery, the garrison artillery, engineers and St. Jean Baptiste Company were told off under the command of the Deputy Adjutant General of No. 5 District, to act on the defence in front of the Exhibition Grounds. The main body of the force under the General commanding formed to attack. After some hard fighting, the defenders of the Exhibition Grounds had to yield to the superior force of the attacking party. The battle was then over. An attractive feature in the review was the presence of the 13th Brooklyn National Guards, under the command of Colonel Austen. This regiment came on purpose to do honour to our Queen, by taking part in the review in the celebration of Her Majesty's Birthday. The regiment presented a splendid appearance on parade; fine looking men, a dashing uniform, and steadiness in the ranks during the march past and subsequent manoeuvres, caused them to be the centre of attraction (next to His Excellency and the Royal Princess) to the many thousands of spectators on the ground. The band of the regiment was a splendid one. This review was one of the best ever held in Montreal. The General Officer in command was pleased to make honourable mention of it in General Orders.

The following is the field state:—

MONTREAL, 24th May, 1879.

#### FIELD STATE.

*Review and Sham Fight in honour of Her Majesty's Birthday, Montreal, 24th May, 1879.*

Corps.	No. of Officers. and Men.	N.C.O.	Horses.	Guns.
Brigade Staff.....	22	1	22	...
Staff.....	3	.....	3	...
Montreal Troop Cavalry.....	2	35	37	...
Ottawa do .....	3	30	33	...
Montreal Field Battery.....	6	65	45	4
Ottawa do .....	6	63	23	4
Shefford do .....	6	71	29	4
"B" Battery.....	7	130	12	2
Quebec Garrison Artillery.....	2	42	....	...
Montreal do .....	14	288	2	...
Royal Military College Cadets....	1	69	....	...
Engineers.....	5	64	....	...
St. Jean Baptiste Infantry Co'y..	3	72	....	...

	Staff.....	3	.....	3	...
Rifles.	1st or Prince of Wales' Rifles.....	21	260	4	...
	2nd Queen's Own.....	31	500	5	...
	3rd Victoria.....	26	313	5	...
	8th Royal.....	26	299	4	...
	65th Mount Royal.....	19	277	4	...
Infantry.	Staff.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Governor-General's Foot Guards..	20	313	4	...
	5th Royal Fusiliers.....	22	283	3	...
	6th Fusiliers.....	21	304	4	...
	13th Brooklyn,.....	79	441	10	...
	Naval Brigade.....	2	20	...	...
		350	3,940	252	14

THOMAS BACON, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Brigade-Major.

*Guards of Honour on the arrival and departure of His Excellency the Governor-General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise.*

The 6th Battalion Fusiliers furnished the guard of honour at the depot on the arrival of His Excellency and Princess on the 23rd May.

The 5th Battalion, "Royal Fusiliers," furnished the guard of honour at the depot on the departure of His Excellency and Princess on the 28th May.

Voluntary guards were furnished by the 3rd Battalion, "Victoria Rifles," at the opening of the "Fine Arts Exhibition," and at the concert at the skating rink. The "1st Prince of Wales' Rifles" furnished a guard of honour at the Academy of Music.

*Guards on Armouries.*

During the trouble in Quebec with the rioters, it was deemed advisable to place guards on the Montreal Armouries. Guards were posted from the city corps on the several armouries on the 18th August, and kept on till the 21st, when the guards were taken off.

MONTREAL DRILL SHED.

As reported last year, the drill shed still remains in ruins. The centre is used by the City Corporation as a depot for lumber, stone and rubbish. Some of the side rooms still left standing are used by the artillery and 3rd Battalion as gun sheds and armouries, but these rooms are not safe; the windows are broken, the roof leaks, and the flooring is rotten, so much so that it is dangerous to practice gun drill. The brigade suffers from want of a proper drill shed. The use of the old City Hall does not, by a long way, compensate for the loss of the drill shed. The hall is not large enough for a battalion to drill properly; it is at a distance from some of the armouries, and triples the expense of guarding the armouries when an alarm arises. Four guards are required at present; whereas, if the shed was rebuilt, one guard would suffice.

The Montreal Brigade is a credit to the city. This fact is admitted by all who have seen it, therefore an effort should be made by the citizens interested in the maintenance of the brigade to bring an influence to bear upon the city authorities to have the drill shed rebuilt before the close of another year.

RIFLE RANGE, POINT ST. CHARLES.

The ground leased by the Militia Department at Point St. Charles is the only place in the neighbourhood of Montreal suitable for a rifle range. From information lately received, there is a probability, within a few years, of the ground being sold for building lots. An effort should be made before it is too late to secure the ground for a permanent range. This, I have good reasons to believe, could be done without much expense to the Department, as mentioned in a report by Lt.-Colonel Bacon, Brigade Major, dated 18th September, 1877, and forwarded to head quarters—namely, by an exchange of a portion of Logan's Farm (Government property) say acre for acre, for the ground at Point St. Charles. The neighbourhood of Logan's Farm is being rapidly built on, and the farm is valuable for building lots, but of little use for military purposes. An overture from the Hon. the Minister of Militia to the Grey Nuns, owners of the Point St. Charles property, for an exchange, would likely be favourably received and entertained.

STATE OF THE DISTRICT.

I have again, with pleasure, to state, "that an excellent spirit prevails throughout the district in favour of the Active militia, and a truly loyal and willing spirit exists in the whole force."

I beg to acknowledge with thanks, the very cordial support and efficient aid in the work of the district received from Lt.-Colonels Bacon and Aylmer, Brigade Majors, and Lt.-Colonel Amyrauld, District Paymaster.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN FLETCHER, Lieut.-Colonel,

Deputy-Adjutant General,

Military District No. 5.

The Adjutant-General of Militia,  
Head Quarters, Ottawa.

(A.)

MILITIA BRIGADE OFFICE,

1ST BRIGADE DIVISION, QUEBEC,

MONTREAL, 29th November, 1879.

SIR,—In compliance with your orders, I have this season inspected the under-mentioned corps after their completion of the annual drill for 1879-80, viz:—Huntington Troop of Cavalry, Captain Barr, at Havelock: 6th Battalion, "Fusiliers," Lieut.-Colonel Martin, Montreal, and Nos. 1, 4, 5 and 8 Companies, 11th Battalion, Major and Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Rogers, Lachute, and have the honour to report thereon for your information.

The Huntington Troop numbered 2 officers and 31 non-commissioned officers and troopers at inspection. Two absentees were satisfactorily accounted for.

After my inspection of the men, horses and appointments, the troop marched past in line in "fours," and filed past, and performed some simple field movements creditably. The sword exercise, pursuing practice, was then performed by word of command, on the move and at full gallop, the inspection finishing with a charge in line.

The troop is composed of a fine class of young men, not more than half-a-dozen of them exceeding the age of 25 years. The troop is well horsed, some of the mounts being really fine chargers. I was much struck with the improvement in drill, and the captain, who has drilled it himself, is deserving of praise for its state of efficiency.