

"A" BATTERY SCHOOL OF GUNNERY.

KINGSTON, ONTARIO,

5th February, 1872.

RETURN shewing the batteries from which the officers, non-commissioned officers and men composing the above battery have come for instruction in gunnery, &c. :-

	N. C. O. and Men.	Officers.
Kingston Field Battery - - -	63	1
Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery - - -	2	1
Hamilton Field Battery - - -	1	0
St. Catharine's Garrison Battery - - -	1	1
Toronto Field Battery - - -	19	0
Toronto Garrison Battery - - -	4	0
Wellington Field Battery* - - -	9	0
London Field Battery - - -	4	0
Cobourg Garrison Battery - - -	0	1
Total - - -	103	4

G. A. FRENCH, Lieut.-Colonel,
Commandant School of Gunnery, Kingston,
Ontario.

* One officer coming from this battery to-morrow.

"B" BATTERY SCHOOL OF GUNNERY.

RETURN of officers, non-commissioned officers and men, agreeably to the Adjutant General's instructions dated Ottawa, 5th February, 1872.

CITADEL, QUEBEC,
6th February, 1872.

Rank and Names.	Former Militia Corps belonging to	N-on-Commis-sioned Officers and Men.		Engaged for Twelve Months.	Engaged for Three Months.	Speaking		Average Height Non-Commis-sioned Officers and Men.	Average Chest Measurement.	Batteries from whence Men came.	Name of Corps in which Enrolled.	Remarks.
		N-on-Commis-sioned Officers	and Men.			English.	French.					
Capt. C. Montizambert.	Quebec Garr. Art.	136	7	136	7	89	47	5 8	In.	9 Quebec Garrison Artillery	22 Quebec Garrison Artillery	{ Infantry Battalion proposed to attach to Quebec Garrison Art. Attached. do Sergeants
Lieut. M. Duchesnay	do Field Batt.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Quebec Field Battery	23 Quebec Field Battery.
do C. Short	Sherbrooke Batt.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12 Montreal Garrison Artillery	38 Montreal Garrison Artillery
do G. White	Quebec Garr. Art.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
do J. Tacherau	do	{
Surgeon H. Neilson	do	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Capt. W. Baby	do	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 Quebec Field Battery.	2 Quebec Garrison Artillery
Total	143	7	136	7	89	54	5 7	38	

The battery has been kept a few below strength, because I think it advisable to leave a few vacancies for exceptionally good men.

T. B. STRANGE, Lieut.-Col.,
Commanding School of Gunnery, Quebec.

REPORT OF GUNBOAT AGENT.

TORONTO, 1st March, 1871.

SIR,—I have the honor to enclose a report of the movements and duty performed by the Gunboats "Prince Alfred" and "Rescue" during the season of 1871.

The following batteries of artillery performed their annual drill on board the Gunboat "Prince Alfred":—The St. Catherine's Battery, two officers and forty-eight men; the Collingwood Battery, two officers and twenty-five men; and the Sarnia Battery three officers and thirty-eight men.

The "Prince Alfred" took part in the water defence of the camps stationed at Goderich, Owen Sound, Sarnia, and was also attached to the camp at Niagara, being stationed at Fort Erie during the time the Niagara Camp was held.

The Honorable the Minister of Militia and Defence visited the "Prince Alfred" at Fort Erie, on the 16th June, and Lieut.-General Sir Hastings Doyle, with the Adjutant-General of Militia went out into Lake Huron on the 22nd June, to inspect the Gunboat "Prince Alfred," and the Sarnia Battery (doing duty on board) at their gun drill and target practice.

During the months of October and November the Gunboat "Prince Alfred" rendered valuable service to several ship-wrecked vessels on Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. Among those assisted were the Schooners "M. Thompson," "Ontario," Phoebe Catherine," and "Gold Hunter." In coming down Georgian Bay in a gale of wind and heavy snow-storm the latter vessel became water-logged while in tow of the "Prince Alfred," and unmanageable, and, to save the gunboat and lives on board, was cut adrift, and afterwards went ashore at Wingfield Point, Cabots Head, where the hull now lies.

Owing to her powerful engine, and weight of hull, this gunboat is considered the best wrecking steamer on the lakes, and I would strongly recommend some necessary appliances to be kept on board, such as hawsers, blocks, chains, and spare pumps, which would cheerfully be paid for when used by those assisted.

I may mention that during the time the "Prince Alfred" was employed wrecking, no expense was incurred by the Department, as all wages, fuel, &c., were paid by the Insurance Companies.

This gunboat is now hauled out at Goderich, to make good some repairs, necessary partly from age and partly from the severe gales she had to encounter while wrecking last November. The "Prince Alfred" carries two "Armstrong" and four brass "howitzer" guns, and has been much improved by the alterations made in Sarnia last winter.

On the 9th June I received orders to place the Gunboat "Rescue," lying at Kingston, under the orders of S. Fleming, Esq., Chief Engineer of the Canadian Pacific R.R. Survey, and accordingly, the "Rescue" proceeded to Collingwood, and embarked men and stores for the different surveying points on Lake Superior, and remained in that employment until the 6th of September, when the "Rescue" returned to Kingston, arriving there on the 17th September. A report of the service rendered is enclosed.

This gunboat having been examined by four competent ship-builders and vessel owners, was found to be perfectly sound below light-water mark; and their report, which I had the honor to forward to you, recommended certain repairs and alterations, to make her strong and a more suitable gunboat; and a contract will be forwarded shortly for your approval from parties willing to undertake the alterations which will render her a sound boat for seven or eight years. The engine and boiler are in good order.

Accommodation for officers and crew will be made below deck, the space being not now used, and a strong bulwark raised from the deck, giving security to those on board,—the present upper deck removed, which is now useless against rifle shot.

Number of miles run during the season of 1871 by the log is 8,871, and the places visited were twenty-one.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
G. H. WYATT,
Gunboat Agent.

The Honorable
The Minister of Militia and Defence,
Ottawa.

The Gunboat "Prince Alfred"—

- May 4.—Left Sarnia for Windsor on trial trip.
" 5.—Returned from Windsor to Sarnia.
June 7.—Left Sarnia for Port Colborne, to embark artillery.
" 10.—Received St. Catherine's Battery, forty-eight men and two officers (Captain Oswald and Lieut. Holmes) on board; remained at Port Colborne for drill until 30th June.
" 13.—Left Port Colborne for Fort Erie, and inspected on 17th instant.
" 17.—Disembarked St. Catherine's Battery, and proceeded to Sarnia.
" 20.—Embarked Sarnia Battery, thirty-eight men and three officers (Capt. Wood and Lieuts. Vidal and Kenny), and left Sarnia for Goderich.
" 22.—Steamed out to Lake Huron for target practice, with General Sir Hastings Doyle and the Adjutant-General.
" 24.—Target practice.
" 27.—Left Goderich; into Lake Huron for night quarters; returned to Sarnia, and disembarked Sarnia Battery.
" 28.—Proceed to Goderich.
Aug. 10.—Left Goderich for Windsor.
" 12.—Left Windsor for Goderich.
Sept. 12.—Left Goderich for Collingwood, to take on artillery company.
" 15.—Embarked Collingwood Battery, twenty-five men and two officers (Captain Hogg and Lieut. Donaldson), and left Collingwood for Goderich.
" 17.—Left Goderich for Sarnia, with the Adjutant-General, to join the camp there.
" 18.—Went into Lake Huron, for practice.
" 19.—Left Sarnia for Mooretown, to drill.
" 20.—In River St. Clair, to take part in the naval engagement.
" 21.—Left Sarnia for Owen Sound, with Brigade-Major Denison and artillery on board.
" 22.—Arrived at Owen Sound, and joined camp.
" 23.—Went from Presquille to Collingwood, and landed artillery.
" 25.—Left Collingwood for Goderich.
" 26.—Arrived in Goderich.
Remained in Goderich until 20th October.
Oct. 20.—Left to assist American Schooner "M. Thompson," ashore at Port Albert, Lake Huron. Vessel not lightened; returned to Goderich.
" 21.—Went out again to Schooner "M. Thompson."—Heavy sea; could render no assistance; returned to Goderich.
" 22.—Left to assist Canadian Schooner "Ontario."
" 23.—Worked all day at Schooner "Ontario."—Parted Hawser several times; broke cable chain; returned to port.
" 24.—At Goderich, looking for lost chain.
" 25.—Towed Schooner "M. Thompson," disabled, to Sarnia.
" 27.—Returned to Goderich; assisted crew of Schooner "Ontario" getting her off.

- Nov. 2.—Left for Cove Island, to assist Canadian Steamer "Phoebe Catherine," ashore at Horse-shoe Reef, Lake Huron.
- " 3.—Arrived and worked at Schooner.
- " 4, 5 & 6.—Working at Schooner.
- " 7.—Towed schooner off, and arrived at Owen Sound with her, at 10 a.m.
- " 8.—Went to Presquille for wood.
- " 9.—Left Owen Sound at 6:30 a.m., for Smyth's Bay, to assist Schooner "Gold Hunter," ashore there.
- " 10 to 13.—Taking off schooner, and towing her from reef.
- " 14.—Got schooner off, leaking badly. Proceeded at 3 p.m. down Georgian Bay; when passing Lonely Island heavy sea, with snow-storm, came on; boat making water, from the heavy seas breaking over her.
- " 15.—At 1 a.m. blowing gale of wind from north-east; gunboat laboring hard, from the schooner, water-logged, not steering. At 2 a.m. could see no schooner; masts cut away; found water gaining on fires. The officers on board gunboat supposed schooner had parted tow-line, and cut the line on board, to prevent it getting into the propeller wheel. Sea still breaking clean over; hull covered with ice, and three feet of water in the hold, with two feet on deck. Ran for Owen Sound, to save steamer; snow cleared up at 4 a.m.; saw shore, made harbor at 9:30 a.m.
- " 16.—Clearing up decks, and pumping boat; repaired joints in engine pipes.
- " 17.—Went to Presquille for wood, and put off schooner's deck-load of lumber.
- " 18.—Went in search of Schooner "Gold Hunter;" found hull in Wingfield Bay; crew of vessel had gone to Owen Sound by land.
- " 19.—At Owen Sound anchored.
- " 20.—Went to Big Bay for wood; took fifty cords off shore in small boats; freezing hard.
- " 21.—Left for Colpoy's Bay; anchored under White-Cloud Island; heavy snow-storms.
- " 22.—Dragged anchors; went further up bay; blowing hard, with snow.
- " 23.—Weighed anchor at 8:30 a.m.; went to Wingfield Harbor; sent boat ashore to examine "Gold Hunter" wreck; proceeded to "Tober Murray" Bay at 1:30 p.m.; anchored; blowing half gale wind.
- " 24.—At anchor; blowing hard, and snowing all day.
- " 25.—Left at 9:30 a.m. proceeded past Cove Island into Lake Huron; returned under the island at 12:30. Heavy sea running on lake, and snow-storm.
- " 26.—Blowing hard; went under Tober Murray for shelter from heavy sea.
- " 27.—Weighed anchor; proceeded down Lake Huron for Goderich.
- " 28.—Arrived at Goderich at 2 a.m.; ice in harbor.
- " 30.—Ice too heavy to proceed to Windsor; laid boat up in winter quarters.
- Miles run, 4,280.

"RESCUE."

The Gunboat "Rescue" sailed from Kingston, Sunday, 11th June, to Collingwood, passed through Welland Canal on 14th; coaled ship at Windsor on 16th; arrived at Collingwood 18th; 19th and 20th employed taking on men and stores belonging to the Canada Pacific Survey, and bound to different points on Lake Superior.

20th June, 11 p.m.—Sailed from Collingwood. 21st.—At Little Current. 22nd.—Bruce Mines, and at Ste. Marie, Canadian and American sides of river; coaled ship on American side. 23rd, a.m.—Called at Michipocoten River; landed some stores and party of men. 24th.—Called at Pie River; landed more men and stores; landed

men and stores at Neepigon River. 25th.—Called at Silver Island; arrived at Prince Arthur's Landing at midnight. 26th.—Landed remainder of men and stores. 27th to 2nd July.—At anchor Prince Arthur's Landing, waiting orders.

July 2nd.—Sailed from Prince Arthur's Landing, bound to Collingwood; called at Silver Island; coaled ship. 3rd.—Called at Pie River and Michipocoten River. 4th.—Coaled ship at Sault Ste. Marie, American side; called at Canadian side, also at Bruce Mines. 5th.—Called at Little Current. 6th.—Arrived at Collingwood.

Remained until 3rd of August waiting for stores and men for Lake Superior. 3rd, 6 p.m.—Sailed from Collingwood, calling at Little Current. On the 4th, at Sault Ste. Marie, Canada side; took on a party of men for Canada Pacific Railway Survey; crossed to American side, took on board coal. 6th.—Called at Point aux Pins for coaling. 7th.—Landed party of men and stores at Michipocoten River. 8th.—Anchor, Gros Cap, for shelter; blowing hard. 9th.—Proceeded to Pie River; landed men and stores. 10th.—At anchor in Herring Bay for shelter. 11th.—Arrived at Neepigon River; landed men and stores. 12th.—Called at Jack-fish River; landed men and stores. 13th.—Called at Silver Island; 2:30 p.m., arrived at Prince Arthur's Landing; landed remainder of men and stores. On the 14th and 15th at anchor Prince Arthur's Landing.

16th.—Sailed from Prince Arthur's Landing, bound to Collingwood, calling at Silver Island for coal. 17th.—At Neepigon River. 18th.—At Jack-fish River. 19th.—At Jack-fish River, waiting Mr. Rowan's return from visiting surveying party. 20th.—Pie River. 21st.—At anchor in Herring Bay until 31st, waiting Mr. Rowan's return from visiting surveying party on Pie River. 1st Sept.—At anchor at Gros Cap, waiting for weather to moderate, so as to allow Mr. Rowan at Michipocoten River. 2nd.—At Gros Cap. 3rd.—Landed Mr. Rowan, and proceeded to Point aux Pins, and coaled ship. 4th.—Passed through Sault Canal; called at Canada side to mail letters. 5th.—Arrived at Collingwood.

6th.—At Collingwood. 7th.—Received orders to return to Kingston. 8th.—In Tober Murray for shelter. 9th and 10th.—Arriving at Sarnia at 11:30 p.m. 11th.—At Windsor, coaling. 13th.—Arrived in Welland Canal. 17th.—Arrived at Kingston, having been employed for Canada Pacific Railway Survey from 9th June until 18th September. "Rescue" moored in Navy Bay from 17th Sept. until 27th Nov., when proceeded to St. Catherine's, to go into winter quarters, by order from Gunboat Inspector.

Total distance run by "Rescue" during season of 1871, four thousand five hundred and ninety-one miles.....	4,591
Total distance run by "Prince Alfred".....	4,280
Total.....	8,871 miles.

Places visited by the Gunboats.

Fort Erie, Port Colborne, Amherstburg, Windsor, Sarnia, Mooretown, Goderich, Kincardine, Collingwood, Owen Sound, Little Current, Bruce Mines, Michipocoten, Pie River, Neepigon River, Silver Islet, Sault Ste. Marie, Fort William, Prince Arthur's Landing, and Jack-fish River.

Respectfully submitted,
G. H. WYATT,
Gunboat Agent.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX No. 1.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 1.

DEPUTY ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
LONDON, ONT., 30th October, 1871.

SIR.—In submitting my annual report of the district under my command, I have the honor to state that, although the authorized strength of the district up to the 1st October, 1868, was 5,517 men of Volunteer Militia, the present authorized strength is 4,770, consisting of

3 Troops Cavalry	14 Officers	135 N. C. O and Men.
2 Batteries Field Artillery	10 "	140 "
2 " Garrison Artillery	6 "	110 "
11 Battalions Infantry, with two Independent Companies, being 74 Companies.	288 "	4,385 "
Total	318	4,770

The corps are nominally full, but the number who turned out for their annual drill this year which is the real test of the actual strength in the district, are 311 officers and 3,952 non-commissioned officers and men, leaving a deficiency of 820 non-commissioned officers and men, wanting to complete.

With reference to the desirability or necessity of completing this deficiency by means of the ballot, I am of opinion that, presuming it is required that every corps shall assemble for annual drill in the full authorized strength—the aid of the ballot will be required to effect this, as I do not think that every corps can be kept up to its full strength otherwise; and, therefore, viewing the question solely on *military grounds*, I believe the ballot to be desirable; I must, however, state that the commanding officers of the three strongest battalions (and who are second to none in point of efficiency, in drill, and discipline in this district), all report that they can maintain their corps in an efficient state without the aid of the ballot.

The whole of the corps in this district performed the prescribed course of target practice in camp during their annual drill, and all, with the exception of 10 companies, were not less than 40 non-commissioned officers and men. The best shooting battalion in the district is the 27th Lambton Battalion, figure of merit being 19.72, and the best shooting company in the district is the "Widder" or No. 3 company, 27th Battalion, figure of merit 26.57. And I have the honor to annex a return of all the winners of prizes in the district, together with the figure of merit for shooting of every company.

The target practice and instruction in musketry was carried on at both camps under the very efficient supervision of Lieut.-Colonel Moffat, Brigade Major, to whose exertions are due the accomplishment of that portion of the annual training so satisfactorily.

The whole of the men who performed annual drill were *bona fide* enrolled members of the corps, but a great portion of them have joined since the re-enrollment which was ordered to be made within three months from the 1st October, 1868.

I find it impossible to state, with any attempt at accuracy, what numbers of men are likely to take their discharge on completion of their three years, but from the enquiries I have made, I do not think that more than one fourth will leave the force, if the present system of the sixteen days brigade camps is continued for all corps.

There were two brigade camps of exercise this year in the district, at which all the corps performed their annual drill. The first was for sixteen days, commencing on the 16th June, at Goderich, and was formed of the following corps, viz:—

London Field Battery	3 Officers	78 Men and 4 Guns.
7th Battalion	28 Officers	341 N. C. O. and Men.
28th Battalion	25 "	279 "
29th Battalion	18 "	238 "
30th Battalion	31 "	462 "
32nd Battalion	27 "	320 "
33rd Battalion	35 "	429 "
Sarnia Gar. Art. (on Gunboat)	3 "	37 "
Being Total of	170 "	2,184 "

The other brigade camp was for eight days only, commencing on the 15th September, at Sarnia, and was formed of the

St. Thomas and London Cavalry	7 Officers	74 Men.
Mooretown Cavalry	3 "	39 "
London Field Battery, with detachment from Wellington Field Battery.	5 "	71 "
22nd Battalion	31 "	457 "
24th Battalion, with Windsor and Leamington Companies.	25 "	272 "
25th Battalion	22 "	251 "
26th Battalion	25 "	324 "
27th Battalion	23 "	280 "
Being a total of	141 "	1,768 "

These camps were the first opportunities the force had of learning the new drill, and I feel great pride in being able to report the marked improvement which was evident in their drill at the close of the camp, the great interest which all ranks appeared to take in their drill and duties, and their general very good conduct in camp.

Both at Goderich and also at Sarnia, the brigades had several field days under your command, at one of which Lieut.-General Sir Hastings Doyle was present, and, having inspected the brigade, expressed himself very much pleased with the appearance of the force and the creditable manner in which they drilled, and particularly complimented Lieut.-Colonel Shanly on the soldierlike appearance and efficient state of the Field Battery under his command.

From the additional experience this year of brigade camps, I am confirmed in my opinion, which is supported by that of the commanding officers of corps, that the sixteen days brigade camps are the only means of giving the force proper instruction in their duties, and that they are the most popular among the force, and also that June is the best and most convenient month in the year for the corps to go into brigade camps in this district.

I would respectfully beg to recommend that the two independent companies in the County of Essex may be amalgamated with the nearest battalion, viz.: the 24th Kent Battalion.

The method of mustering the men in camp, which has always been performed in this district by the district paymaster, accompanied by the Deputy Adjutant General and Brigade Major, appears to work satisfactorily, and I would recommend its being continued.

The manner of procuring horses for the field batteries of artillery has become an important subject for action before the next annual drill, and I believe that the most simple

and effectual manner will be to grant a yearly bonus of about twenty dollars a team to those owners who duly enrol and register their horses for service in the batteries.

I would beg to draw attention to the necessity that would exist for an Engineer company in each brigade division in event of war, as at present there is no arm of that force in this district.

The cavalry force in the district is also under strength, there being only three troops; and I would, therefore, suggest the formation of three more troops so as to make a regiment of cavalry.

I also beg to call to your notice the many applications which I have forwarded from gentlemen offering to raise new companies in this district, which is so much below its original quota for the population. There are now no less than four battalions viz., the 24th, 25th, 27th, and 29th, which, being five companies strong, are quite inefficient as regards numbers, and I most respectfully urge the department to authorize that the strength of these battalions may be increased to their proper quota.

I am happy to state that the average of officers and men per company, who performed their annual drill this year in camp is in excess of any previous year, viz:—

Average strength per company in 1871 is 3 officers, 53 N. C. O. and Men.

Average strength in 1870 was 3 officers, 49 N. C. O. and Men.

Average strength in 1869 was 3 officers, 47 N. C. O. and Men.

In conclusion, I beg to bring to your notice, the hearty co-operation and assistance which I have received from officers of all ranks, and particularly from the staff officers of the district under my command.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN B. TAYLOR, Lieut.-Col.,

Deputy Adjutant-General, Commanding Military District, No. 1.

The Adjutant General of Militia.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 2.

OLD FORT, TORONTO,

13th November, 1871.

SIR.—Having already forwarded for your information, agreeable to the instructions contained in your communication of the 7th August last, the Tabular Inspection and Target Practice Reports, Return of Prize Winners, of the Volunteer Militia in Military District No 2, which have performed their annual drill for the year 1871-72, I now beg leave to give the information required, in accordance with the queries contained in the above communication.

1st.—The required quota, or establishment of corps of Volunteer Militia, in Military District No. 2 is as follows:—

	Officers.	N.C. O. and men.	Horses.
Cavalry	21	325	346
Artillery.—Field Batteries	15	225	171
Garrison do	9	165	.....
Infantry.—14 Battalions, 5 independent companies.....	442	6,210	70
Total...	487	6,927	587
All arms and ranks, 7,412.	587	Horses	

2nd.—Actual strength of corps which have performed annual drill, 1871-72:—

	Officers.	N.C.O. and men.	Horses.
Cavalry	22	273	282
Artillery.—Field Batteries	14	209	170
Garrison do	5	128	.....
Infantry	378	4,982	68
Total...	419	5,592	520
All arms and ranks.....	6,011	520	Horses.
Establishment.—All arms and ranks.....	7,412	587	„
Officers, non-com. officers and men, all arms and ranks, performed drill 1871-72.....	6,011	520	„
Wanting to complete establishment	1,401	67	„
Deficiency,—Officers.....	68	.....	„
N.C. Officers & men	1,333	67	„

The cavalry and field batteries mustered well—the two batteries, Toronto and Hamilton were full. The infantry requires, according to the above, 1,333 non-commissioned officers and men to complete their establishment. Although the above number appears large, still, when distributed among 14 battalions, from 6 to 10 companies strong, it will not appear so heavy; the average muster of 9 battalions out of 14, being nearly 50 per company; the remaining 5 battalions averaging 38 per company,—decidedly too weak.

The honor and credit of the strongest muster in camp this year, is due to the 38th battalion, county of Brant, Lieut-colonel Patton commanding, 5 men only being required to complete its full establishment,—very creditable to the above corps.

3rd.—Can the above deficiency be made up in the future by volunteering? If not, by ballot, in accordance with the militia law.

The opinions of the officers commanding corps vary as to the mode, as will be seen by the enclosed correspondence, of filling up vacancies in their respective corps; although a majority of them desire to fill up deficiencies in numbers by means of the ballot.

The existing militia law does not authorize the ballot in filling up companies belonging to volunteer militia corps, deficient in strength, in the manner desired by some of the commanding officers; still, even if it did, I much question the propriety or usefulness of such a proceeding.

I am strongly of opinion that a volunteer militia regiment, composed of part volunteer men and part balloted men, would not work well or efficiently. There would be a constant jarring or ill-will between the two classes. Better to have either a volunteer militia regiment, or the regular militia, according to militia law.

It is not for me to decide as to the merits of which force the country requires; but having now been connected with the force many years, I may be pardoned in saying a few words upon the subject.

I much question whether a regular militia, or balloted force, would turn out as promptly, and muster as well as the present force has done, when called upon in the service of the country. I think that it will be admitted on all hands, that the willing are always more available than the unwilling.

The record of the past shows that the existing force has cheerfully met all the active service duties required of it and that, too, with no ordinary sacrifice to a large proportion of the members composing the force. The past, then, is no bad guarantee for the future.

I am inclined, then, to the opinion, under existing circumstances, that the establishment of a volunteer militia force, would be more in accordance with the wants and wishes of the Dominion at large, than a balloted force.

It cannot be denied for a moment that the musters of regiments, (or rather the companies composing them), are not as strong or as reliable as they ought to be, when required to assemble for annual drill or otherwise.

That the burden of such musters fall too heavily upon the captains of companies, the officers commanding the regiment and its staff, and depends too much upon the personal influence exercised by these officers, more especially the captains.

To encourage the ranks and file, and relieve the officers mentioned, I would respectfully suggest the following:—

1st. Regular issue of clothing under the existing prescribed forms.

2nd. Further assistance in the formation of rifle ranges at Company head-quarters. Targets, &c., in order that the rank and file might be better enabled to practice at home, as a means of preparation for the target practice required, and competition for prizes, when performing annual drill in Camp.

3rd. An allowance of 25 cents per man, per company, for 12 additional drills of 2½ hours (each) at such time as the captains of companies (in rural districts) may deem best. Officers pay in proportion.

A parade for target practice, included as a drill parade.

Above parades to take place between 15th September and 15th May.

To constitute a drill parade, three-fourths of the establishment of the company must muster under an officer,—duly certified.

4th. When deemed necessary and approved of, the transfer of a company head-quarters from one part of a county to another.

In addition to the above, there is one step further, which if carried out, would have a most beneficial effect, in upholding the present force.

It has been very generally reported to me, by officers connected with the force, that the men on returning to their respective homes (especially in rural districts), after the performance of the annual drill are frequently told, that *they are fools for their pains*, in going to drill, better to remain at home, and work on their farms, as others do, and it will pay them better.

Again, some townships in counties neither contribute money for drill sheds nor for volunteer companies; other townships in the same county *do both*.

Now, I do think it would be only just to make the man who will not serve (unless compelled), to contribute in money, for the recompense of those who give their time in attending drill, and who are willing to turn out, in order to defend the very homes and farms of those who are thereby enabled to remain at home and enjoy their farms in *peace and security*. The above suggestions are respectfully offered and if entertained would have a very good effect upon the existing force.

The regular militia, on the other hand, would give far less trouble to all concerned, orders would issue, men would be warned according to law, would assemble on a named day; would be armed, clothed and drilled; when paid would return home, arms and clothing returned into store, and the force would be seen no more until the following year for the annual drill, unless especially ordered out for regimental drills, at headquarters of corps, or for local duty.

The musters of the men would be sure, companies full strength, and the community at large would be drilled in detail, year after year. There is no doubt but what this system is the most just and fair to all. Whether it would work as well as the present system remains to be proven.

4th. Target practice report, average figures of merit of corps, &c.

Having already forwarded a tabular return of the target practice, prize winners, &c., of the corps which have performed their annual drill, except the 31st battalion volunteers, which has just been received, and which I now beg leave to forward.

It remains for me to bring before your notice briefly some of the results of this year's practice.

The regiment which made the highest average figure of merit is the 31st Battalion (County of Grey), scoring 16.78 points.

The Company which made the highest average figure of merit is No. 6 Company, 31st Battalion, scoring 23.81 points.

The best shot in the district, Private John Parks, No. 6 Company, 31st Battalion, scoring 51 points.

Private John Howarth, No. 5 Company, 38th Battalion, made a similar number of points, viz: 51. I may mention, at 600 yards both the above men made 18 points, at 400 yards Private Parks made 18 points, Private Howarth, made 16 points, the former thus winning the prize. The 31st "Grey" Battalion, Volunteer Militia, thus making the highest average battalion figure of merit, the highest average company figure of merit, and the best shot in the district. Average battalion figure of merit, 16.64 points. Average figure of merit of the best shots of regiments, 42 points. Highest average figure of merit of companies 13 points.

5th. Whether the men who performed annual drill were *bona fide* enrolled members. With a few exceptions, which have lately come to my knowledge, through the reports of officers commanding corps, the large mass of the men were all duly enrolled members of their respective corps.

6th. Number of men likely to take their discharge prior to next years annual drill.

It would be a very difficult matter to obtain reliable data, by which the numbers of men likely to take their discharge prior to next years' drill, could be ascertained. As a rule all regiments lose numbers, one-fourth or fifth may be taken as a fair average.

7th. Brigade camps of exercise.

The formation of the brigade camp of exercise at Niagara, on the 6th June last, for 16 days drill, has had, and I am satisfied, the formation of the camps will have a very marked and beneficial effect, not only on the increased strength of the corps but also on the efficiency of the force, officers and men.

The following force mustered at Niagara camp:—

	Officers.	N. C. O. and Men.	Horses.
7 Troops of Cavalry,	22	273	283
3 Field Batteries,	14	209	170
Infantry (11 Batts.)	296	3,970	53
Brigade Staff,	7	4	6
Total,	339	4,456	511

All arms and ranks, 4,795; horses, 511.

The above force was concentrated and moved into camp, on the 6th June, with the exception of one corps, the 39th Battalion (County Norfolk,) which joined on the day following. Having had upwards of 120 miles to move from its regimental head-quarters. The only casualty was a horse belonging to the Welland Field Battery, which took sick on the march from the head-quarters of the Battery, Port Robinson, to Niagara, 20 miles, and subsequently died. This battery marched into camp. When it is considered this force was moved by waggon, steamboat and rail the same day, no little credit is due to the officers in command of corps, more especially to the officers commanding the field batteries in moving their guns, waggons and untrained horses, by steamboat and rail, without any accident whatever. The average distance of the corps moving into the camp was upwards of 90 miles.

The troops of cavalry were formed into a regiment for drill purposes, under the command of Lieut.-Col. McLeod.

The 3 field batteries were placed under the command of Capt. Smith, Hamilton Field Battery.

The Infantry were divided into brigades for drill purposes, and officers appointed to command for that purpose.

Company and battalion drill under commanding officers of corps.

Brigade drill under the personal command of the Adjutant General of Militia.

The force was inspected on two occasions by the Hon. Sir George E. Cartier, Minister of Militia and Defence, who expressed his approbation of the arrangements of the camp, the

appearance and steadiness of the force, the zeal for the service, and their general good conduct.

The Adjutant General conveyed his thanks to the officers and men in camp, for their obedience to orders their soldier-like behavior on parade, and good conduct.

Considering that this was the first brigade camp of exercise, which has been formed in this district, much credit is due to the officers, non commissioned officers and men of the force while in camp : movements on parade without confusion, moving into camp and returning to their respective homes. Much credit is also due to Lieut. Mason, 13th Battalion, as supply officer; Lieut.-Col. McKenzie, 35th Battalion, as camp quarter-master; Major Dartnell, unattached, as musketry instructor, for the manner in which they performed their arduous duties.

The medicine boxes issued last summer to the volunteer militia corps, with a few additional medicines, will, as far as I am able to judge, answer very well the purpose for which they were intended.

Relative thereto, I would beg respectfully to bring before your notice the position of surgeons of regiments, now holding that rank for some years past, and beg to suggest the propriety of granting them promotion to the rank of "Surgeon Major," after a certain term of service, a step which would be received with much satisfaction. These officers have frequently made great pecuniary sacrifices in leaving their homes and their practices in order to attend to their military duties.

The formation of the brigade camp of exercise for 16 days' drill, with its target practice, prizes, &c., having given great satisfaction, and proved of much benefit to the force, I would beg respectfully to suggest that the whole of the volunteer militia force of this district be assembled next June at Niagara, for a similar period of drill, the local advantages and central position of which place give it a preference to any other place in the district. Although Drummondville holds a good central position, a large extent of available ground for camping purposes, water easily obtained—yet not so advantageous in all respects (especially with respect to the target practice) as the former place.

The necessity being obvious of forming the troops of cavalry into a regiment, when in camp last time, I now beg to recommend for your favorable consideration the propriety of forming the following corps of cavalry into a regiment :—

- No. 1.—The Governor General's Body Guard.
- " 2.—The Oak Ridges Troop.
- " 3.—The Markham Troop.
- " 4.—The St. Catharines Troop.
- " 5.—The Grimsby Troop.
- " 6.—The Burford Troop.
- " 7.—Queenston Mounted Infantry Company.
- " 8.—The Barrie Mounted Infantry.

(The two latter corps require to be changed into troops of cavalry for the above purpose.) To be denominated "1st Regiment of Cavalry (Hussars)."

As there are now existing 4 companies militia in the county of Wentworth, I would beg to recommend for favorable consideration, the propriety of permission being granted to organize 2 or 4 more companies in this county, which can be carried out without any difficulty. By this means every county in Military District No. 2, will have its county battalion of militia.

The establishment of the school of military instruction, in Toronto, in January last, resulted in the admission of 77 candidates, all, generally speaking, intelligent, respectable young men, who passed through the school as undermentioned :—

No. of candidates who obtained 1st class certificates.....	13
do do 2nd do do	36
Withdrawn by permission.....	6
Struck off the strength of the school by order of the Adjutant General.....	2
Total.....	77

I beg leave to forward the enclosed report, from Major Dartnell, late Brigade Musketry Instructor at Niagara camp, and to recommend for favorable consideration the valuable suggestions therein contained.

In view of the ensuing annual drill in brigade camp, next summer, I beg to suggest and to recommend the propriety of forming a staff of officers, for service when required, in order to attend to the important duties belonging to the "supply," the "quarter-master's," "transport" and "musketry instruction" departments; it being very obvious, last summer, how important it is that the duties appertaining to these departments, should be efficiently attended to and carried out.

It gives me much pleasure in being able to bring before your notice, the efficient manner in which the district staff officers have performed their respective duties.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Your most obedient servant,

WM. S. DURIE, Lieut.-Col.

Deputy Adjutant General, Military District No. 2.

The Adjutant General of Militia.

REPORT OF BRIGADE MUSKETRY INSTRUCTOR, NIAGARA CAMP.

WHITBY, September 20th, 1871.

I have the honor to submit herewith the nominal list and scores of the various corps forming the camp of Volunteer Militia, lately assembled at Niagara, and also the returns showing, (1) the designation of the various corps, (2) the figure of merit of each company, (3) the name of each company and battalion prize winner, (4) the figure of merit of each battalion, (5) the number of men in each battalion who fired the prescribed course and (6) the number of men in each battalion who did not fire at all.

In the latter return the various battalions are placed in their order of merit, the 37th or Haldimand Rifles standing first, their figure of merit being 14.40; the 11th or lowest being the 19th (Lincoln), with a figure of merit of 8.69. The exceptionally tempestuous weather which prevailed during the practice of this corps will (in part at all events) account for their low position.

The companies of each battalion are placed by battalions, in the order of their figure of merit. The company which obtained the highest figure of merit in the camp is No. 5 Company, 37th (Haldimand), which obtained 22.99; No. 5 Company of 38th (Brant), and No. 8 Company of the 13th (Hamilton), standing second and third of 20.79 and 18.56 respectively.

The total number of men who fulfilled the prescribed course was 3,527 divided into 3,295 using the Snider-Enfield, 232 cavalry using the Spencer Carbine. This involved the expenditure of 49,425 rounds of Boxer cartridge and 2,320 of Spencer ammunition.

There was much complaint of the quality of the ammunition, but in only a few instances did these complaints appear to be well founded. The powder in some packets of cartridge was found to be so completely "mealed" from damp, as to prove entirely useless. I would suggest the inspection of the ammunition in store with a view to the condemnation of such portion, as, on active service, would prove useless. Out of the large number of 49,425 rounds of Boxer cartridge expended, there were only about 30 miss fires, the greater part of which were occasioned by weakness of the main spring of the rifle used. One rifle burst, the probable cause being dirt or mud in the muzzle. The man had no muzzle-stopper. Indeed these should never be used with breech-loading arms. An armourer in camp would be of great service. There are many rifles perfectly unserviceable, which could be repaired while the various corps are in camp for their annual drill, at a much less expense than by any other plan.

The quality of the Spencer ammunition was very bad. In one troop there were 32 miss fires; a portion, however, of these were caused by defects in the weapon. Many of the boxes, also, which should contain 42 rounds were deficient to the extent of from 2 to 5 or 6 in each package. I regard the Spencer carbine a most dangerous weapon in the hands of any troops but those most thoroughly trained in its use, and even then liable to accident, and the source of danger to its user and his comrades. The best score made with it (27 out of a possible 40), does not speak much for its accuracy.

The range at camp, Niagara, was most admirably situated, about a mile from the camp, upon the ordnance lands lying north of the town and west of Fort Missasaugua. It affords the advantages of safety, level ground, sufficient room, and a position which enables the men to fire towards the north, thus placing the sun in rear of the firing squad during the most of the day. Its disadvantages are exposure to the prevailing westerly winds quartering from the right (a direction the most unfavorable for accurate shooting), and a water back ground, which, on a sunny afternoon, renders the targets almost invisible from glare, and distorts their form and apparent distance. The latter defect could be remedied by the erection behind the targets of wooden screens painted black.

The targets were erected in sets of three to each of the prescribed ranges, or nine in all. It would have been better if each set had been placed in *echelon*, thus bringing the firing parties at each range in closer proximity and more under the sight and control of the superintending officer. The shorter ranges should have been placed on the *left* and the *right*, instead of the reverse as they were arranged here. This is for greater safety, as *ricochet* balls, on account of the "spin" of the bullet being to the right invariably deflect in that direction, and thus are dangerous to any party of men stationed to the right front.

The butts used were those known as "Blands," and with a few precautions and alterations proved commodious and safe. If drawings and specifications of this butt were appended to the Militia report, it would prove very acceptable to those interested in rifle ranges.

Several slight accidents to the markers occurred, chiefly from carelessness at the firing point while the disc was up and the trap in the butt roof open, or from "cross-firing" on the wrong target. The system of marking was that known as "Hills," by means of discs. I regard it by all odds the most accurate and satisfactory. In no case was I able to detect any error in the marking. The case of the brush in rear of the disc pointing out each shot, while at the same time its exact position and value is indicated, almost entirely obviates error, and conduces much to the accuracy of the shooting.

By your permission I introduced a new system of firing, by which each man fired his five shots consecutively at each range. A large saving of time, particularly at the long ranges, was thus effected, and some confusion obviated. In addition, instruction was more effectively imparted as the recruit fired his five shots in succession, errors of position or sighting were more readily corrected, and the marksman had the advantage of firing his five shots as much as possible under equal conditions of wind, weather, &c.

I also adopted the plan of forming the squads well in rear of their respective firing points, making the men "ground arms," and retire a few paces behind their weapons, which they had no occasion to handle until called out in succession to the firing point, at which place the access of any but the marksman and the scorer was strictly forbidden. These precautions prevent the possibility of any such lamentable accident as occurred at La Prairie.

The duties devolving upon the Brigade Instructor of musketry, in addition to those laid down in the camp regulations were as follows. (1) To superintend the collection of materials required for the ranges, and the placing of the targets in position. (2) To select and organize a staff of efficient markers, and arrange the detail of their duties. (3) To arrange the general and daily detail. (4) To receive the various corps as they came upon the ground, form them into squads, furnish the officers in command with forms of returns, and instruct them in their use, and also in the system of marking. (5) To arrange the detail of each company and squad at the various ranges. (6) To collect and examine with care the returns as handed in. (7) To copy the same fairly. (8) To analyze the scores, and

ascertain the highest, and finally make up therefrom the camp abstract and report containing, amongst other things, the company and battalion figure of merit.

I found it necessary to remain continuously on the ground from 5.30 a.m., to 6.30 p.m., the firing continuing without any cessation each day during thirteen hours. The making up of the returns and abstract, have involved over a week's continuous labor since the breaking up of the camp.

The highest figure of merit obtained by the various battalions is low. The large number of recruits who fired a rifle for the first time in their lives on this occasion, and the prevalence of weather extremely unfavorable to accurate shooting, will, in part, account for this. Very few country ranges are to be found over 500 or even 400 yards in length, which will form an additional reason for the very low average at 600 yards.

I found that a very large proportion of the officers in charge of squads, were completely ignorant of even the first principles of musketry instruction, the formation of squads, scoring, marking and other details of target practice. Those companies in each battalion which have obtained the highest figure of merit, will almost invariably be found under the command of officers who take an interest in rifle practice and are able to instruct their men.

The whole end and aim of all military drill and discipline is to enable the soldier to use with skill and intelligence the weapon with which he fights, so as to render it as destructive as possible to the enemy. To place a rifle in the hands of a recruit who has no previous training, and send him out for ball practice, is beginning at the wrong end. There is no more important or necessary feature in the training of our Militia than the fact that each man, to a certain extent, should become familiar with the weapon upon which he has, in actual warfare, to depend. The recruit even has learned something, even if he scores all misses for his fifteen shots, he has to that extent become familiar with it. The expenditure of the annual allowance is insured, instead of the latter being fired away, as is often the case by a few crack shots in each corps. Something further, however, is necessary to be done in order more fully to carry out the object in view, and render this annual practice of more practical value, and the sequence of former instruction and preparation. To this end each battalion should have its own musketry instructor, who could put his regiment through some sort of training, and afford it some instruction before it puts in its appearance at the butts.

To supply a competent staff of such officers, the formation of a school of musketry is necessary, and could be easily effected through the machinery of the military school. If a small annual allowance were made to each battalion musketry instructor, officers would quickly be found who would graduate at such school; even as it is, much could be done by imparting some knowledge of position drill, &c., to the military school cadets, and taking them out for actual target practice. A greater amount of knowledge among the officers will quickly raise the figure of merit among the men. These battalion musketry instructors would form most valuable aid to the Brigade Musketry Instructor, and by relieving him from attention to many details, would enable him to give greater attention to the more important of his duties.

Until some such system be organized which would furnish the class of officers indicated, it would be a great advantage if the Brigade Musketry Instructor had assigned to him three or four intelligent non-commissioned officers to act as sergeant-instructors at each range, to watch the firing, and to be responsible that the orders of the commanding officer are carried out. I found it impossible, even with the closest attention, and in spite of my continual presence on the ground for thirteen hours of each day, to prevent instances of positive neglect or disobedience of my orders and instructions, and I much felt the want of some such assistance.

For the nine targets in use at camp Niagara, the lowest number of markers that should be furnished is fifteen, which would include a sergeant in charge and a cook. These men should be furnished with tent or barrack accommodation in the vicinity of the range, and rations issued to them separately. In Rifle Association matches the number deemed necessary is two to each butt, with a relief of two more; this would give 36 instead of

15, but in the later case but one marker would be furnished to each target. The actual work is laborious, and the constant strain on the man's attention is very wearying. A good marker must be quick, intelligent, sober, careful and honest, and to secure such men (who are also exposed to some danger to life or limb), some liberality should be shown.

Much delay at the firing point would be avoided if the issue of—ammunition, formation of squads, filling up of returns, &c., took place in camp. The various squads should come on the ground ready at once to march to the firing points and commence their practice. I would suggest that a few orders be compiled for the further regulation of these matters, and the instruction of the officers and distributed to each regiment, on the latter being placed in orders for target practice.

From the abstract return it will be sure that the large number of men omitted to attend ball practice. I have given the number which actually fired in each regiment as compared with those actually in camp, from which it will be seen that while some commanding officers sent to the butts almost every available man on their muster roll, others were extremely remiss in this respect.

Very great inconvenience was experienced from the want of efficient buglers. Many companies had no bugles. Others had no buglers, while there were not a few who having both were unable to blow the simplest calls. This deficiency much increased the chances of accident, and was also another cause of annoying delay.

I append herto a diary of the weather during the practice. There were but two or three days favorable for accurate shooting, and on those days there was a marked improvement in the scores. On one afternoon so fierce were the blasts that the targets were frequently blown over, and I had to direct the practice to cease at 3 p.m., owing to the impossibility of keeping them in position for more than a few minutes at a time.

I must here express my sense of the valuable assistance I received from Staff-Sergeant Danford, of 2nd G. O. R., in charge of the targets, markers, store ammunition, &c. Intelligent, ready, willing and obedient Sergeant Danford, is the type of a model non-commissioned officer. No better man could have been found for the performance of the duties allotted to him.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
GEO. H. DARTNELL,
Major.

To Lieut.-Col. DURIE,
Deputy Adjutant General Militia,
Toronto.

WEATHER DIARY, during Target practice at Camp Niagara, June, 1871. Detail.

June 7th.....Wind.....a.m.—N.W.
p.m.—W., strong.
9 companies G.O.R.....Weather....Clear and hot; excessive glare towards evening, rendering targets indistinct and distorted. An unfavorable day.

June 8th.....Wind.....a.m.—N.W.
p.m.—N., stiff breeze.
9 co's of 10th Royals.....Weather....Cloudy, clearing up towards evening; less glare; a better day for shooting; much cooler.

June 9th.....Wind.....a.m.—calm.
p.m.—light breeze from N.N.W.

No. 10co., 10th Royals } Weather....Cloudy and calm in the forenoon; p.m.—bright; evening sultry, and great glare.
12th York. }
Gov.Gen.Body Guard. }

June 10th.....Wind.....a.m.—high wind from W.
p.m.—half gale.
5th, 7th, 8th and 12th...Weather....Cloudy, Violent thunder shower in the p.m. Targets constantly blown over. Ceased practice at 3.15 p.m.
19th...
York squadron.....

June 12th.....Wind.....a.m.— } brisk wind from N. down the range.
p.m.— }
6, 7, and 8th. 19th....Weather....Cloudy at times. Best day yet. Shooting much improved.
All. 39th....

June 13th.....Wind.....High from the West all day.
7 companies 34th.....Weather....Clear and cold; not so good a day as on 12th.
3 troops Cavalry on 12th

June 14th.....Wind.....Light, from N.W.
No. 4 company, 34th....Weather....Cloudy. Showery towards p.m. A favourable day.

June 15th.....Wind.....a.m.—light from N.W.
p.m.— " E.
37th.....Weather....Clear; a very favourable day.

June 16th.....Wind.....Light, from N.N.E.
38th.....Weather....Fine. Slight haze during most of the day; otherwise clear. Very favourable.

June 17th.....Wind.....South, or up the range.
44th.....Weather....Very similar to preceding day. Favorable.
Casuals, 2nd and 10th,
and Cavalry.....

June 19th.....Wind.....Brisk, from W.
Casuals of remaining Weather....Bright and clear. A favorable day.
corps.....

MEMO.—The range is assumed to be North and South; the targets facing South, and the firing parties North.

GEO. H. DARTNELL,
Major, Brigade M.I.

MILITARY DISTRICT, No. 3.

KINGSTON, October 11th, 1871.

SIR,—In forwarding my Annual Inspection Returns for the year ending 30th June, 1872, I have the honor to report that the quota authorized to go into Camp in Military District No. 3, was 2,500 men, and in compliance with General Order 5th May, 1871, the following corps went into Brigade Camp at Kingston on the 21st June, and performed their sixteen days drill.

CORPS.	Actual Strength.			Wanting to complete Establishment.	In Camp.		
	Officers.	Men.	Horses.		Officers.	Men.	Horses.
Northumberland and Durham Squadron	11	104	115	6	11	104	11
Frontenac Squadron	10	110	120	.....	10	110	114
Kingston Field Battery	6	72	.....	3	6	72	62
15th Battalion	26	260	.....	70	25	260	5
16th "	35	375	.....	65	30	375	4
40th "	35	438	.....	57	32	414	5
46th "	25	321	.....	9	23	321	4
47th "	29	331	.....	54	22	331	4
49th "	23	289	.....	.....	20	289	5
57th "	26	276	.....	54	24	276	5
					203	2552	319
The 14th Battalion joined the Brigade at drill on Tuesday and Wednesday, 27th and 28th June	19	174	.....			
	18	162	.....			

The duties in camp were carried on in accordance with the general order, 5th May, 1871, the morning and 10 o'clock drills of corps under command of their respective officers, and a brigade parade every afternoon at 3 o'clock, under the command of the officer commanding the camp, when the whole force marched to Barriefield Common and went through a brigade field day of about two hours duration.

On the 26th June, the camp was visited by the Adjutant General of Militia, who mustered the whole of the officers, men, and horses in camp, and on that afternoon and the two following, the brigade was inspected by him, when fifteen rounds of blank cartridge per man, and twenty rounds per field gun were fired.

On the completion of the inspection, he called the commanding officers to the front and expressed himself as much pleased with the appearance and efficiency of the several corps composing the brigade; he also issued a complimentary order to the brigade.

The two squadrons of cavalry were formed into a provisional regiment under the command of Lt. Col. Boulton, the senior officer, and worked very well together.

All the corps in camp (except the cavalry) went through their target practice, and at the last brigade parade I presented the money prizes to the best shot in each battalion and company, amounting to \$305, and a badge to the best shot in each battalion, company badges had not been received.

Each corps has a good band, I detailed two of them to play in camp every afternoon from 4 to 6 o'clock, they were also practiced together as a brigade band, and played the brigade past at the inspection.

The arms, accoutrements, and clothing of all corps were in good order, except the clothing of the cavalry which was worn out.

The conduct of the men in camp was very good, no complaints were made to me by commanding officers, nor by the civil authorities of the city of Kingston.

The under-mentioned garrison batteries of artillery went into Fort Henry at Kingston, on the 4th September, and performed their annual drill of eight days under the command of Lieut. Col. French, Inspector of Artillery and Warlike Stores.

CORPS.	Actual Strength.		Wanting to complete to Establishment.	In Fort.	
	Officers.	Men.		Officers.	Men.
Garrison Battery, Trenton	3	56	.....	3	56
do Napanee	3	36	19	3	36
do Cobourg	3	47	8	3	45
do Port Hope	1	47	8	1	47
Total	10	186	35	10	184

They were mustered by me on the 6th; strength as above stated.

There was also a camp at Cobourg on the 12th September, where the undermentioned corps performed eight days drill in accordance with the general order 4th August, 1871.

CORPS.	Actual Strength.		Wanting to complete to Establishment.	In Camp.		
	Officers.	Men.		Officers.	Men.	Horses.
Napanee Troup, Cavalry	4	46	9	4	46	50
45th Battalion	29	299	86	26	299	5
48th do	26	301	29	25	301	5
Total	59	646	124	55	646	60

The camp was inspected by the Adjutant-General on the 21st September, when there was a brigade field day, the men being provided with ten rounds of blank ammunition per man. The infantry completed their target practice; and after the inspection, the Adjutant-General presented the prizes and badges to the best shots in each battalion and company.

The camp broke up on the evening of the inspection.

The best shooting corps in the district is the 48th battalion. F. of M. 14.53.

The best shooting company is No. 1 of the 48th battalion.

The best shot in the district is Corp. Fred. Hobbs, No. 1 Company, 45th battalion.

14th Battalion. Figure of Merit.

Best shot in the Battalion.

No. 1 Company,	
2	"
3	"
4	"
5	"
6	"

15th Battalion. *Figure of Merit*, 8.74.

Best shot in the Battalion, P. D. Belnapp.

		F.M.
No. 1 Company.....	Private J. Beckett,	8.72
No. 2 ".....	" D. Belnapp,	11.16
No. 3 ".....	" J. Shaw,	7.84
No. 4 ".....	" W. Johnson,	9.55
No. 5 ".....	Drum Major Stanger,	11.15
No. 6 ".....	Private H. Ming,	4.50

16th Battalion. *Figure of Merit*, 13.85.

Best shot in the Battalion, Serjeant N. Ostrander.

		F.M.
No. 1 Company.....	Private B. Gillispie,	12.02
No. 2 ".....	" B. Palin,	12.00
No. 3 ".....	Serjeant A. Marsh,	13.26
No. 4 ".....	" N. Ostrander,	15.34
No. 5 ".....	Private W. Miller,	13.06
No. 6 ".....	" P. Campo,	10.05
No. 7 ".....	" D. Minnis,	14.01
No. 8 ".....	" A. Hart,	18.10

40th Battalion. *Figure of Merit*, 12.74.

Best shot in the Battalion, Serjeant E. Nix.

		F.M.
No. 1 Company.....	Private J. McNutt,	9.83
No. 2 ".....	Corporal Irwin,	6.33
No. 3 ".....	Private T. Ogilvie,	13.90
No. 4 ".....	Serjeant E. Nix,	20.96
No. 5 ".....	Private E. Yeaman,	11.09
No. 6 ".....	Corporal W. Peck,	13.64
No. 7 ".....	Private W. Fowler,	14.13
No. 8 ".....	" H. Dopey,	10.85
No. 9 ".....	" J. Wright,	13.95

45th Battalion. *Figure of Merit*, 11.37.

Best shot in the Battalion, Corporal Fred. Hobbs.

		F.M.
No. 1 Company.....	Corporal Fred Hobbs,	16.22
No. 2 ".....	Private W. Fisher,	10.51
No. 3 ".....	" W. Sanders,	9.73
No. 4 ".....	Corporal A. Eldige,	8.43
No. 5 ".....	Private S. Ellery,	10.89
No. 6 ".....	" T. Williams,	12.91
No. 7 ".....	Corporal T. Dever,	10.94

46th Battalion. *Figure of Merit*, 10.12.

Best shot in the Battalion, Serjeant-Major A. B. McGuire.

		F.M.
No. 2 Company.....	Corporal G. Ferguson,	8.51
No. 3 ".....	Private J. Henderson,	9.26
No. 4 ".....	" W. Allen,	13.30
No. 5 ".....	" A. Goodfellow,	8.63
No. 6 ".....	" W. Staples,	11.07
No. 7 ".....	Serjeant W. Gray,	9.94

47th Battalion. *Figure of Merit*, 14.03.

Best shot in the Battalion, Serjeant J. Baillie.

		F.M.
No. 1 Company.....	Private J. Spooner,	13.35
No. 2 ".....	Corporal P. Lyons,	12.66
No. 3 ".....	Private W. Davis,	15.97
No. 4 ".....	" Abbott,	11.52
No. 5 ".....	Serjeant J. Baillie,	23.30
No. 6 ".....	Private C. Davis,	10.71
No. 7 ".....	" W. Asselston,	11.30

48th Battalion. *Figure of Merit*,

Best shot in the Battalion, Private R. Perry.

		F.M.
No. 1 Company.....	Serjeant J. Loyst,	24.04
No. 2 ".....	Private R. Milligan,	8.70
No. 3 ".....	Serjeant G. Humphries,	9.90
No. 4 ".....	Private W. Glen,	16.22
No. 5 ".....	Corporal Amey,	15.00
No. 6 ".....	Private R. Perry,	14.52

49th Battalion. *Figure of Merit*, 13.46.

Best shot in the Battalion, Private E. Johnson.

		F.M.
No. 1 Company.....	Serjeant D. Cunningham,	13.36
No. 2 ".....	" Drury,	12.10
No. 3 ".....	Private S. Tressell,	18.47
No. 4 ".....	" E. Johnson,	11.78
No. 5 ".....	" R. McTaggart,	12.63

57th Battalion. *Figure of Merit*, 10.35.

Best shot in the Battalion, Serjeant G. H. Leslie.

		F.M.
No. 1 Company.....	Private T. Alford,	12.99
No. 2 ".....	Corporal J. Godfrey,	7.01
No. 3 ".....	Bugler H. Denny,	9.92
No. 4 ".....	Serjeant G. H. Leslie,	10.34
No. 5 ".....	" J. Rae,	12.54
No. 6 ".....	" J. Lobb,	9.32

The progress made by the troops in the sixteen days camp was very satisfactory, and should, if possible, be continued yearly, but the eight days camp is objectional, as there is too little time to devote to instruction in drill and rifle practice, to be of real value to the volunteer.

I do not think that corps can be kept up to their establishment by the present system of volunteering. I believe the time has arrived when the ballot must be resorted to, to fill up.

The whole of the men were reported *bona fide* as members of corps. There were a good many lads from fifteen years old, who would be perfectly useless if ordered on active service, but as captains are anxious to have their companies as strong as possible at the annual drill, they take men that would not be accepted were the ballot in force.

I have not been able to ascertain from commanding officers, the probable number of men who will take their discharge before next annual drill, but from all I can learn, the number will be large, this is as it ought to be, there should be new men at each new enrolment.

The district paymaster attended in both camps, and paid all the corps before they left for home.

There will be no difficulty in horsing the Kingston Field Battery, it is composed of farmers in the neighbourhood, and they bring their own horses.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

ALEX. PATTERSON,

Lieut.-Colonel, Acting D. A. General of Militia,
Military District, No. 3.

The Adjutant General of Militia,
Ottawa.

MILITARY DISTRICT, No. 4.

DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

BROCKVILLE, 28th October, 1871.

SIR,—As directed by your circular of the 7th August last, I have the honor to submit this my annual report on the operations of the active militia in military district No. 4.

Previous to commencing that for the current year, permit me to narrate what transpired just previous to the close of the year ending 30th June 1871, and connected with corps which had not been inspected and included in last years report.

Pursuant to general orders dated Ottawa, 19th May, 1871.

I took over the district on the 23rd of that month. On the following day, I proceeded to Perth, where a number of companies of the 41st and 42nd battalions were assembled to celebrate the "Queen's Birthday." The force thus assembled went through an ordinary field day with blank ammunition. This being the first time the companies had paraded since the encampment the year previous, I cannot say much as to the precision and regularity of the movements. The Brockville and Ottawa Railway Battery of Garrison Artillery, Captain Lowe, being present, I made the annual inspection of that corps, which numbered two officers and 71 non-commissioned officers, gunners and musicians. The battery paraded very clean and soldierly, and were efficient in company and battalion drill. The band of twenty performers, composed principally of professionals from the army, is considered highly efficient. The arms and other stores are always kept in most excellent condition.

On this occasion, the manager of the Brockville and Ottawa Railway, H. Abbott,

Esq., conveyed (this being the second time), all volunteers to and from Perth free, and the corporation of that town in a like liberal manner, provided all with a substantial dinner. The men were well behaved, and all returned to their homes without accident.

Now that the annual drills are performed in camp, I question the propriety of having these periodical musters, which entails much labour on the company officers, harasses the men, and results in but little, if any, benefit.

On the 14th June, I inspected the Pembroke Infantry Company, Captain Dickson, which paraded two officers and 38 non-commissioned officers and men. The arms, accoutrements, clothing and other stores were clean and in good condition. Simple battalion movements and company drill were well executed. The skirmishing and firing could not well be excelled. The officers are efficient and zealous.

On the 20th June, I inspected the whole of the force at Ottawa. The Field Battery, Captain Forsyth, had just completed the annual drill, and paraded as usual most creditably, numbering 3 officers, 51 non-commissioned officers, gunners and drivers, and 49 horses, these horses are generally owned by the drivers, who are farmers in the vicinity of Ottawa, and are the ordinary work horses of the country.

The drill consisted of the usual field battery movements, with firing, walking and trotting past, all of which were smartly and well executed.

The Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery, Lieut.-Col. Forrest, paraded 12 officers and 246 non-commissioned officers and gunners, this corps is composed of a good body of men, and, having acted up to this time principally as riflemen, performed battalion and light infantry drill very fairly.

The band of about 26 performers, was at that time young, but showed such progress as to warrant the speedy acquiring of that proficiency for which they are now noted.

Nos. 3 and 5 batteries of this brigade being country corps, had, in compliance with general orders, been encamped for eight days on Major's Hill, during which period, big gun drill had been carried on at the drill shed. The former numbered two officers and 34 non-commissioned officers and men, and the latter three officers, and 52 non-commissioned officers and men.

The Ottawa Rifle Company paraded 3 officers and 36 non-commissioned officers and men, and performed the usual rifle company movements creditably and efficiently.

The Civil Service Rifle Company, Captain White, composed exclusively of employés of the government, paraded 3 officers and 32 non-commissioned officers and men. Arms and clothing clean and good, no accoutrements in possession except waist belts, frogs and small pouches, which are of poor quality. Much improved in drill during the year, manual and firing exercises, company drill and skirmishing very fairly executed.

In the event of the ordinary force being all called away from the city on frontier service, as on several previous occasions, the value of this company would then be apparent. The protection of the public buildings and city property would solely devolve upon them, consequently I would suggest the issue of the complete equipment, and such encouragement as to ensure a full company of 55.

The arms, accoutrements, and other stores of the whole of the other city corps being kept in charge of a resident caretaker, are, as a rule, to be found clean and in good condition, which, owing to the leaky roof and open condition of the armories, entails much extra labor on the caretaker, and sometimes, notwithstanding his care and assiduity, it is with difficulty the arms are preserved from rust and deterioration.

The insufficiency of these armories, as well as the drill shed, are such as to warrant my calling your attention thereto.

In winding up the operations of the year ending 30th June, the whole of the drill pay, allowances for drill instruction, care of arms, &c., were promptly paid, consequently there are no complaints from any part of the district.

I now beg leave to commence my report for the present year, as required by your instructions.

1. The quota for this district, as shown on page 17, last years report, is 3,064 officers and men, actual quota or nominal strength as authorized by the number of corps organized,

3,238, exclusive of the Civil Service Rifle Company, which I have not included in any of these calculations.

2. The actual number which have performed drill this year is 2,567. The Brockville and Ottawa Railway Battery of Garrison Artillery, numbering 77 will have completed by the 31st inst., making a total of 2,644, showing a deficiency of 594.

3. This deficiency is made up as follows, viz:—

Ottawa Field Battery	6
Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery	38
Gananoque Battery	12
Iroquois	16
18th Battalion	39
41st	70
42nd	19
43rd	160
56th	58
59th	176
Total	594

Under our present volunteer system, I fear this large deficiency cannot be made up in the localities where companies are now organized. There being but a small per centage of the population who will, through the love of the service or patriotism, voluntarily serve, many of whom are taking discharges on completion of their respective terms; and, although we have many in the ranks who have served from six to twelve years, there is no disguising the fact, that each succeeding year shows the force to be composed of a larger proportion of the floating population or indifferent citizen, who are seldom present at more than one annual period of drill; while the men who have a stake in the country refrain from volunteering themselves, and frequently discourage others from doing so.

In some counties, such as Prescott for instance, the volunteer element seems to have become exhausted, and captains find so much difficulty in recruiting, that, they think the labor too great to undertake to maintain their companies purely by the voluntary system.

Had the ballot not been advocated, I have no doubt the force could have been kept up to its present deficient numbers by the extra exertions of the captains; but the frequent resignations of the officers show the desire to escape so laborious a task, and many have concluded to let their companies go down, unless authorized to fill vacancies as they occur, by resorting to the ballot. And were this power given, I believe volunteering would be more brisk than at present, as the whole population would feel interested in encouraging the movement.

4. The shooting figure of merit of the corps in this district is as follows, viz.: District average 11.91. Best shot in district, Serjeant William McIntyre, No. 4, Company, 41st Battalion, Merrickville, score 51 points.

WINNERS OF ARTILLERY PRIZES.

Ottawa Field Battery.

Captain Forsyth.
Serjeant R. C. Millar.

Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery.

Lieut.-Colonel Forrest.

No. 1 Battery..... Serjeant Jno. Scott.
No. 2 "..... Corporal Jas. Hughes.

No. 3	"	Gunner Wm. Morrow.
No. 4	"	Bandsman, Jno. Blythe.
No. 5	"	Gunner, D. Mullegan.
No. 6	"	" Hy. Fee.
No. 7	"	" Vaun.

Gananoque Battery.

Captain McKenzie,
Gunner, Jno. Haislep.

Iroquois Battery.

Captain McDonell,
Gunner, Thos. Huggard.

WINNERS OF INFANTRY PRIZES, AND BEST SHOTS IN CORPS.

18th Battalion, Vankleekhill.

Lieut.-Colonel, Higginson.
Commanded in camp by Major Shields.
Average figure of Merit, 11.64.

WINNER OF BATTALION PRIZE.

Serjeant J. McKerchar.

No. 1	Company,	10.99	Serjeant J. McMahon.
No. 2	"	13.47	" G. Lighthall.
No. 3	"	8.13	" W. Hamilton.
No. 4	"	13.31	" W. Mooney.
No. 5	"	10.98	Private J. Gordon.
No. 6	"	12.97	Serjeant J. McKerchar.

41st Battalion.

Lieut.-Colonel Cole, Brockville.
Average figure of Merit, 15.26.

WINNER OF BATTALION PRIZE.

Serjeant Wm. McIntyre.

No. 1	Company,	12.71	Private H. Fitzsimmons.
No. 2	"	11.36	" J. Wilkinson.
No. 3	"	13.26	" R. Gardiner.
No. 4	"	24.30	Serjeant Wm. McIntyre.
No. 5	"	15.30	Private J. Wilson.
No. 6	"	19.24	" R. Boale.
No. 7	"	10.70	Ottawa Rifle Company, Serjeant J. Pearson.

42nd Battalion.

Lieut.-Colonel Buell, Brockville.
Average figure of Merit, 13.44.

WINNER OF BATTALION PRIZE.

Serjeant J. Lanskail.

No. 1	Company,	14.32	Serjeant H. Lockhart.
No. 2	"	15.03	" J. Lanskail.
No. 3	"	13.29	" A. McLeod.
No. 4	"	15.81	Private J. Young.
No. 5	"	12.28	Corporal W. Dixon.
No. 6	"	9.92	Private J. Tomlinson.
No. 7	"		Pembroke Infantry Company,
		13.48	Private H. McCabe.

43rd "Carleton," Battalion, Head Quarters, Ottawa.

Lieut.-Colonel Bearman.

Average figure of Merit, 13.91.

WINNER OF BATTALION PRIZE,

Private W. Hamilton.

No. 1	Company,	12.40	Private R. Griffin.
No. 2	"	16.33	Serjeant J. Boyde.
No. 3	"	13.14	Private W. Howes.
No. 4	"	13.65	" J. Gault.
No. 5	"	8.64	" W. Hamilton.
No. 6	"	15.80	" W. Fetherston.
No. 7	"	14.20	" A. Collins.
No. 8	"	16.34	Corporal J. G. Craig.
No. 9	"	14.50	Serjeant A. Stewart.

56th Battalion, Lisgar Rifles, Prescott.

Lieut.-Colonel Jessup.

Average figure of Merit, 9.49.

WINNER OF BATTALION PRIZE,

Corporal J. Landon.

No. 1	Company,	7.58	Bandsman P. Galagher.
No. 2	"	7.14	Serjeant M. Barnes. (No prize.)
No. 3	"	6.66	" A. Young.
No. 4	"	6.42	Private H. Laing.
No. 5	"	8.12	" D. Hartwell.
No. 6	"	15.61	Serjeant R. F. Checolley.
No. 7	"	14.92	Corporal J. Landon.

59th "Stormont and Glengarry," Battalion.

Lieut.-Colonel Bergin, Cornwall.

Average figure of Merit, 8.24.

WINNER OF BATTALION PRIZE,

Serjeant J. C. Douglas.

No. 1	Company,	6.84	Private D. Kerrigan.
No. 2	"	7.89	" W. S. Keith.

No. 3	"	8.60	Corporal J. Barnhart.
No. 4	"	7.30	Private J. McDougall.
No. 6	"	10.75	Serjeant J. McPherson.
No. 7	"		Register lost J. C. Douglas.

The whole of the above companies fired fifteen rounds per man while in camp. The following which were under two-thirds of their strength, were not entitled to prizes, viz.:

No. 4 Company, 41st Battalion. Nos. 4, 8 and 9 Companies, 43rd Battalion. No. 2 Company, 56th Battalion; and Nos. 4, 6 and 7 Companies 59th Battalion.

The best shooting battalion in the district is the 41st. The best shooting company is No. 4, 41st Merrickville.

5. So far as I could learn, the whole of the men were "bona fide" members of the several corps, but I rather suspect that many were present whose term of service had expired, and who came out merely to fill up the companies.

6. It is quite impossible to form any estimate as to the number of men who will claim their discharge on completion of their three years service, some of the captains say that none of their men will re-enlist, others and nearly all say, that a large proportion will claim their discharge after the completion of this year.

7. The nine batteries of garrison artillery from this district, went into Forts Henry and Edward at Kingston, and performed sixteen days drill as artillery under command of Lieut.-Colonel French, Inspector of Artillery and Warlike Stores.

Being engaged with the brigade camp at Prescott at the time, I was unable to visit the artillery while performing their drill.

On the 12th September, a brigade camp of exercise was formed at Prescott, composed of the following corps, which are more fully detailed in the tabular inspection report here with enclosed, viz.:-

Ottawa Field Battery, Captain Forsyth.

18th Battalion, Major Shields.

41st " " Lieut.-Colonel Cole.

42nd " " Buell.

43rd " " Bearman.

56th " " Jessup.

59th " " Bergin.

Ottawa Rifle Company, Captain Mowat.

Pembroke Infantry Company, Captain Dickson.

The Ottawa Field Battery, four guns and 55 horses, with the Ottawa Rifle Company as an escort, marched from Ottawa to Prescott, a distance of 59 miles. These corps carried their supplies, camp equipage, and ammunition, and were properly equipped for field service, and with the exception of one horse being kicked while on the way, the march was performed without accident, all coming into camp in excellent condition, the march occupying three and a quarter days, exclusive of Sunday, which was a day of rest.

The other corps were all moved by waggon, rail and steamboat. Owing to a change of time in the running of the boats on the Upper Ottawa, the Pembroke Company was detained two days on the road each way. The other corps all reached the camp and were comfortably under canvas in good time on the day of leaving their head quarters. The number of hours required to assemble the brigade is shown in the accompanying tabular report.

The system of sixteen days drill in brigade camps of exercise, is much to be commended. The wonder now being that anything could have been accomplished in eight days.

This being the first year the men were rationed by the department, the want of proper scales, and utensils for carrying supplies was much felt. The using of blankets for the conveyance of bread from the supply officers' store is very objectionable, and the wear and tear thus caused, will in a few years, cost the government more than to provide suitable baskets or dishes for that purpose.

The system of annual money grants to captains of companies in lieu of cooking and other utensils, is I think unsatisfactory. If these grant were properly expended, a few years allowances would provide every article required, but the uncertainty of the system leads captains to trying anything for a make-shift for that particular occasion. The consequence is, that each succeeding year finds many of the companies no better equipped in this respect than at first. I think much money would be saved, and more general satisfaction given, were the department to provide or establish a pattern for all necessary utensils.

The 41st and 42nd battalions have managed to provide these articles in a very serviceable and compact form, the former corps having added picks and shovels all of which are stored with their respective quartermasters.

During the encampment the general orders of the 5th May last, were carried out with as much precision as possible.

The target and artillery practices were kept up regularly, and, with very few exceptions indeed, the whole of the men fired the allotted allowance.

The system of giving money prizes to the best shots, has resulted most beneficially, and could the number be increased, it would further stimulate the men to acquire a thorough knowledge of the rifle.

During the first three days in camp, owing to the large number of recruits, I confined the drill to squad, company, and battalion, after that I had one brigade drill daily, and the progress made was truly wonderful. Where the officers were intelligent or efficient, the battalions were got into brigade movements without difficulty, in fact the efficiency of the force, may be determined by that of the officers.

One day during the period, I divided the brigade, sending two guns and three battalions to occupy a strong position among some hills and bush about one and a half miles from the town. This force under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Jessup, moved off with proper advance and rear guards and took up the position. With a similar force I moved out to the attack, my advance guard felt the enemy's outlying picket, the leading battalion was at once extended in skirmishing order, and the troops were brought into action, manœuvring as in the presence of an actual enemy. The firing, changes of position, flanking and defence were creditably performed. After an engagement of about two hours (the first brigade was out about five hours), the cease fire and assembly were sounded, when the whole formed together and marched back to camp.

This days proceedings were witnessed by a large concourse of spectators, many of whom were from the neighbouring states. The last two days of the encampment being under your immediate command, it is perhaps unnecessary for me to more than allude to the attack and defence of Fort Wellington.

The visit of His Excellency the Governor-General and suite, the Honorable the Minister of Militia and Defence, the Honorable Messrs. Dunkin, Aikins, and a large party of officers, ladies and gentlemen from Ottawa and other parts of the Dominion, added much to the *eclat* of the camp.

Although the early part of the day proved wet, and interfered very much with the movements of the troops, the presence of so many distinguished visitors, and the presentation of the prizes for shooting by Lord Lisgar, his subsequent address and *levee*, were highly appreciated by the brigade.

Throughout the encampment the conduct of the men was remarkably good, necessitating but very little punishment.

The general dissatisfaction of the surgeons relating to the insufficiency of the medicines, and the men regarding the quantity of the ration, are matters requiring attention. The reports of the several surgeons which were forwarded a few days since, will explain as to the former.

Although the orders stated distinctly that every man should provide himself with sufficient cooked rations to keep him until the morning of the second day, with few exceptions this order was disregarded, consequently after a very early breakfast at home, with perhaps the exception of an apple, a glass of beer, or some other such useless article pro-

cured on the road, they ate nothing until their first meal in camp on the second day, and in order that their hunger might be appeased, consumed the greater part of that day's ration for the first meal, this caused the same scarcity for two or three days. This, with the great cry for butter, caused much trouble, and in some instances almost mutiny. And as the press and citizens generally sympathised with the men, their imaginary grievances became much magnified.

If the service is to be made popular with the people of the country, a more liberal ration will require to be issued, and I beg leave to suggest the following, which would, I think, meet the difficulty:—

A half ration of bread, tea and sugar to be issued on day of arrival in camp, one and a half full rations on second day, pork to be issued, say two days in the week. The present ration to be left intact with the following change, coffee to be struck off and the tea largely increased, which would, perhaps, allow a slight deduction in the sugar, a ration of barley for soup to be added, and say three or four cents per diem to be paid in cash to each man, which would enable him to procure such other necessities as might be required. If approved, it might be considered whether it would not be advisable to pay this money to the captains in advance, on reaching camp.

I also found the ration of fuel wood too small, and it had in many instances to be exceeded. An allowance of wood for the guards, particularly in cold weather, would be a great boon. In the forage ration, I think the straw might be struck off and its equivalent given in hay. The ration of straw for the men might be reduced considerably, and rye straw allowed, it being cheaper and cleaner than oats.

The system of drill as authorized, is a great improvement on the old, both officers and men comprehend the movements more readily, and after a few days of brigade drill, can, with careful handling, perform creditably almost every movement required on actual service.

Owing to the prescribed nature of the ground occupied by the force during the two days you were present, enabled you to see them only to a great disadvantage, and which prevented you from seeing the real efficiency of the brigade.

While on this subject, permit me to say that, without an appropriation for the rental of a large field for brigade drill, it will be impossible to carry out, in this district, on a large scale, that system of field manœuvres so essential to the efficiency of the force, and which could be practised during these annual brigade camps of exercise.

I would also suggest the desirability of a more thorough system of musketry instruction, which is so essential to make the men even passable shots. If a short course of position and aiming drill, with a few very short lectures on the theoretical principles, together with some instructions in judging distance could be carried out, the greater efficiency in this, one of the most essential duties of the soldier, would become apparent.

8. The actual strength of the force which will have performed sixteen days drill in this district for the present year, will be as follows:—

At Forts Henry and Edward, Kingston.

Garrison Artillery.....	28 officers,	434 men.
Brigade Camp Prescott.....	164 „	1,941 „
Brockville and Ottawa Railway Garrison Artillery, 2 „	75 „	
	194	2,450
Total officers and men.....	2,644	
Horses at Prescott Camp.....	90	

As the Civil Service Rifle Company receives no pay, I have not included that corps in this calculation.

With reference to the best system of filling up the corps to the maximum strength (the deficiency for the present year being 594 officers and men), I forwarded to you a short time since, letters from the whole of the officers commanding corps in this district, who are, without exception, of the opinion that the time has now arrived when officers should have the power to fill vacancies as they occur from time to time, by resorting to the ballot.

9. There being but two independent companies in the district, it is very desirable that they be attached to some battalion.

Could a re-organization of the force be carried out without interfering with the claims or rights of many worthy and efficient officers, so as to form county battalions, I believe the change would be beneficial; but as the brigade is working most harmoniously and satisfactorily as at present organized, I cannot see my way clear at present to recommend any change. I would, therefore, suggest that the Ottawa Rifle Company be changed to a corps of Engineers, or attached to the 56th battalion. At present there is no Engineer Corps in the district, which makes the brigade quite deficient in that respect. Should authority be given, no doubt a corps of this description could be organized in some favorable locality.

If the Ottawa Rifle Company is attached to the 56th battalion, I think No. 5 Company of that corps, at Farran's Point, which is infantry, might with advantage to both corps be attached to the 59th battalion.

The Pembroke Infantry Company being the only corps in the county of Renfrew, I would recommend that it be attached to the 42nd battalion, which is the nearest infantry corps, and made up of companies principally from along the line of the Brockville and Ottawa Railway, which when completed to Pembroke, will enable that company to reach the battalion head-quarters in a few hours.

While on this subject, I beg leave to call your attention to the very great importance of having a few troops of cavalry organized in the district, which are not only required to make the brigade complete, but would, in case of trouble, be of incalculable benefit in patrolling the extended and exposed frontier of the district.

Three troops have been offered, two of which are enrolled, being composed of our best yeoman, all of whom own their own horses, and as a rule are owners of real estate in the country, by accepting their services, we secure the sympathy and influence of a class of men whose services no country can dispense with, during trouble or invasion.

10. Heretofore there has been no difficulty experienced in procuring horses for the field battery, they being owned by the drivers who are as a rule farmers. But should a retaining allowance be authorized, I have no doubt it would secure increased efficiency.

11. During the encampment, I mustered the several corps, and called and checked the nominal and numerical rolls, by which the pay lists were corrected.

12. In conclusion, permit me to express my thanks to the mayor and corporation of Prescott, for their liberal support during the encampment, their supplying of water to the troops, which was most efficiently performed, and their contribution towards the rent of the field for drill, saved the department between two and three hundred dollars.

To the Ottawa River Navigation, The Union Forwarding, and the Canada Navigation Companies, I am indebted for their promptness in carrying out my wishes for the conveyance of the force over their respective lines. The St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway Company as on several former occasions performed the transport service most efficiently, and although taxed very severely, moved the large number of men passing over their line with such expedition as to secure certain connections, which enabled the men to reach their homes in the shortest possible time. Without the hearty co-operation of the officials of this road, much inconvenience would have been felt.

It is very gratifying that so large a body of men was moved to and from the camp without an accident being reported.

I also acknowledge the valuable services of the officers who served on my staff during the encampment, viz:—Major Scott, 42nd battalion, supply officer; Captain McDonald, 59th Battalion, Acting Brigade Major; Lieut. Weatherley, Civil Service Rifles, Musketry Instructor, and Captains Butterfield and Wells, 18th battalion, orderly officers.

The district paymaster, Lieut.-Col. McDougall, with his usual promptness, has performed his duties most efficiently, and in addition to the ordinary duties of the district, was present both at Prescott and Kingston, and paid all claims before the troops left for their homes.

I trust you will not think it out of place, if I acknowledge the services of Mr. J. Neil McLean, caretaker of Fort Wellington, who has during the past year, as well as on former occasions, received from the department and issued to the brigade major, the whole of the camp equipage, targets, ammunition, &c., and in many instances devoted much time in superintending the drying, packing, and shipping the same.

To the officers throughout the district, I am particularly indebted for their assistance and co-operation, without which, the several duties could not have been carried on. Their readiness to conform to orders and inculcate discipline in their respective commands, have assisted very materially in bringing the operations of the year to a successful termination, which has left the brigade in a much higher state of efficiency than on any former occasion.

Your order for the enlistment of a detachment of men for service in the North West, reached me on Friday 13th October. I at once telegraphed to the several officers commanding corps in the district, and on the following day received answers offering more men than were required. I allowed them Sunday and Monday to prepare, and on Tuesday they assembled at Brockville, where on that and the following day, they were medically examined, attested, enrolled, armed and accoutred. The detachment left for Collingwood on Thursday, where they arrived in one week from the receipt of your order.

Had the quota for this district been double the number, they would have been forthcoming in the same short period, which speaks volumes for the patriotism of our people. In making the enlistments for this service, I endeavoured to select men who would make good citizens, and settle in the North West, after their period of military service will have expired.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. H. JACKSON, Lieut.-Colonel,

Acting D. A. G. M., Military District, No. 4.

DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

BROCKVILLE, 22nd November, 1871.

SIR,—I have the honor to report that I made the annual inspection of the Brockville and Ottawa Railway Battery of Garrison Artillery, Captain Lowe, yesterday.

Present, on parade, 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 trumpeter, 22 musicians, and 48 non-commissioned officers and gunners; total of all ranks, 73.

Drill consisted of manual and firing exercises, which were well performed, and company drill passably well executed.

The men are of a very superior class, both in physique and appearance. They paraded very clean and soldier-like, were very steady on parade, and reflect much credit on the captain, as also the manager of the railway, who takes a deep interest in the welfare of the corps.

The band of twenty-two performers is in a high state of efficiency.

The arms and accoutrements are very clean and in perfect order. The clothing has been in use five years, and although it has received the best of care, shows much wear, which is more particularly noticeable in the trowsers.

The armory is well regulated, and very cleanly kept.

On the whole, the corps is a great acquisition to the Active Militia, and particularly to the town.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. H. JACKSON, Lieut.-Col.,

Acting D.A.G.M., Military District No. 4.

To the Adjutant General of Militia,
Ottawa.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 5.

HEAD QUARTERS, MONTREAL.
(WINNIPEG, MANITOBA,
December 10th, 1871.)

SIR,—I have the honor herewith to forward to you, my annual report of Military District No. 5, the tabular returns connected with which were transmitted in October last.

You will observe from these returns that the authorized quota, or establishment, is considerably larger than the strength actually inspected; the quota for the District being as follows:—

	Officers.	N.C. Officers, and Men.
Cavalry	12	220.
Field Artillery	5	74.
Infantry (including Garrison Artillery)	371	4,913.
The actual strength inspected, being:—		
Cavalry	11	172.
Field Artillery	4	64.
Infantry	284	3,331.
Thus leaving a deficiency in:—		
Cavalry	1	48.
Field Artillery	1	10.
Infantry	81	1,477.

The details shewing the quota and inspected strength of individual corps, will be found in the tabular statement already alluded to.

As a large number of the men in the district will complete their service before the conclusion of the present financial year, I have endeavoured to ascertain by communications with officers commanding corps, whether they consider it probable that recruits or re-enlisted men are likely to fill the ranks of their respective battalions. With very few exceptions the answers are in the negative; and a strong desire is expressed that the ballot may be enforced.

My personal observation induces me to endorse these opinions. Indeed, I feel satisfied that, unless an emergency should arise, the actual strength of the district will, at the ensuing drill season, be found at least one third less than it is at present, unless that it is perfectly and distinctly understood that drafting will be placed in operation in regimental districts which may not furnish the authorized quota *as established by the Corps at present Gazetted*.

The system of massing corps in camps of instruction, so far as the district under my command is concerned, has been successful. The tabular statement of the district shows, that with the exception of the Brigade of Garrison Artillery of Montreal, which was encamped for drill at St. Helen's Island, and the St. John's Battery of Garrison Artillery which drilled at its own head-quarters, the whole of the corps under my command assembled on the 27th of June, for sixteen days drill at Laprairie, where, together with those in Military District No. 6, they were formed into a Divisional camp under my command, consisting of three Brigades, numbering in full, 5,310 of all ranks. The details of the strength of corps is shewn in the tabular statements.

The drill at the camp was varied by several reviews and field-days, on one of which occasions, the camp was honored by a visit and inspection by His Excellency the Lieut. General commanding Her Majestys forces in B. N. A., and the Honorable the Minister of Militia and Defence.

On the 8th July, leaving a force of four hundred men as a camp guard; the whole of the remaining force was crossed over to Montreal, and formed into division in conjunction with the Grand Trunk Railway Corps and the Montreal Garrison Artillery, on Logan's Farm, making a total of 6,170 of all ranks.

Your personal inspection of the force on the occasion, obviates the necessity of any remark from me on its appearance.

The distance from the encampment at Laprairie to Logan's Farm is about eleven miles. The St. Lawrence was crossed by the troops, partly by train over the Victoria Bridge, from an improvised station on the Grand Trunk Railway, and partly by the various ferry steamers. The corps moving earliest, started from camp at four a.m., and the whole, after the field day, were re-embarked by seven p.m. No casualty occurred either crossing or returning.

The subsistence of the troops was carried on as on service, and the system of supply and rationing was found to work well.

The general conduct of the troops was beyond reproach. I believe that rarely or ever has so large a body of men been assembled, with such an entire absence of crime, and so little irregularity.

Whilst two fatal accidents, one arising from drowning whilst bathing, and the other from the careless handling of a rifle, have to be deplored, it is satisfactory to report that the health of the men was excellent, and that there was no case of serious sickness.

The rifle practice was carried on in accordance with regulations, with the result shown by the target returns noted in the tabular statement in connection with this; and in furtherance of your orders to offer any suggestion I may desire, I respectfully beg to remark, that although, doubtless, the system of conducting the annual target practice at the camps has great advantages, still I do not consider that it leads to at all a fair conclusion as to the best shot of the force. It follows, of necessity, when endeavouring to perform a large amount of target practice in the limited space of time which, too, is required for the objects in the short period of training, that the parties must be too hurried, and, therefore, not accurate in results. The larger the body of men assembled, the more apparent the fact becomes.

I would respectfully suggest, therefore, for your consideration, that the target practice should be performed at company head-quarters, under the supervision of the *Brigade Major* of the respective divisions, on the days of their semi-annual inspections, or by some officer appointed as Rifle Instructor to the district; and that the day on which the company met for target practice should count as one of the drill days of the annual course. In addition to the juster results which would be arrived at, these numerous prize meetings, which they would really be, would greatly encourage rifle practice throughout the country.

The ranges, ten in number, were prepared under the supervision of the Montreal Volunteer Engineers, by whom also a two gun earthwork battery was constructed near the entrance to the barracks, during the period of encampment. The labour of erection of huts for the distribution of rations, &c., and other work, was also undertaken by this useful corps, thereby saving much expense to the Department.

The permanent Militia Staff being otherwise employed, the following officers volunteered for, and performed the Divisional Staff Duties:—Lieut.-Col. Gillmor, Commanding Queen's Own Rifles, (Toronto), Acting Assistant Adjutant General; Lieut.-Col. McKay, Commanding Montreal Garrison Artillery, Acting Quartermaster General, Lieut.-Col. Moore, unattached, Camp Quartermaster; Major Dowker, Montreal Garrison Artillery, Supply Officer; Captain McKay, Montreal Garrison Artillery Aide-de-Camp. My warmest acknowledgments are due to these officers for the indefatigable zeal, and ability with which they performed their various duties. The Brigades were commanded as follows:—

No. 1 Brigade by Lieut.-Colonel Fletcher, Brigade Major.	
2 " " King, "	
3 " " D'Orsonnens "	

The latter of these officers assumed command of the Brigade formed from Military District No. 6, in consequence of the serious indisposition of Lieut.-Colonel Harwood, D.A.G., who was thereby compelled to leave the camp.

From the facilities offered for concentration, its central position, the nature of the

country, and other various advantages, I consider Laprararie to be the most suitable place for a camp of instruction in my district. The chief difficulty is the question of water supply, and I would urge on your consideration the propriety of having a series of wells sunk previously to the next encampment being formed there; this can readily be done, and the cost of sinking will not, I think, be in excess of the expenditure of carting water for a single year's camp. A large cartage expenditure would also be saved by the construction of a landing stage at the old Barrack Wharf.

The difficulty of obtaining horses for the Montreal Field Battery still exists, and to a great extent impairs the efficiency of this fine corps. Many suggestions to obviate this have been made. I am of opinion that the simplest and least expensive method would be, the enrolment of the required number of horses annually, such enrolment being compensated for, by a fee, of say fifteen dollars, which in addition to the fact of the horses retained in this manner; escaping municipal taxation, would, with the drill pay, hold out sufficient inducements to proprietors to ensure the battery being properly and efficiently horsed.

The enrolment should, I think, be made by the officer commanding the battery, subject to approval by the Inspector of Artillery for the Province.

In the rural districts, I consider that the annual drill pay will suffice to obtain horses for batteries. I have already had the honor to submit to you, application for the formation of batteries in the second and third brigade divisions.

For details relative to the strength, drill, proficiency at target practice, &c., of individual corps, I beg to refer you to the tabular returns of the state of the District already furnished.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. OSBORNE SMITH,

Lieut.-Colonel, D. A. G.,

Commanding Military District No. 5.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 6.

MONTREAL, 15th November, 1871.

Sir,—In conformity with your instructions I have the honor to report for your information, that all the Volunteer Corps of Military District No. 6, under my command, have performed their Annual Drill for 1871-72 at Laprararie Camp in June last, with the exception of four companies. The companies of Arthabaskaville, Three Rivers, St. Valère de Balstrode and the Company of Wolton, have performed their Annual Drill at their own Head Quarters.

All the corps whose names are mentioned in the Inspection report have performed their Annual Drill of 1871-72 at Laprararie Camp, under the command of Lieut. Col. d'Odette d'Orsonnens, Brigade Major, who took command in my stead, owing to my being obliged to leave camp, on sick leave. Notwithstanding the sudden and painful loss of his son, Lieut. Col. d'Orsonnens remained at camp, attending to all his duties with the utmost credit to himself.

Two lamentable accidents happened during the Annual Drill of the Volunteer Corps of my District at Laprararie Camp.

A private of the 65th Battalion, Carabiniers, Mount Royal, was drowned whilst bathing, and a private of the Sorel Company was accidentally shot at target practice.

Fortunately these accidents, however lamentable they may be, cannot be laid to the fault of any of the officers, and are among those misfortunes almost inevitable, when large numbers of troops are to be found assembled. Thanks to the sanitary measures taken by our medical officers, no other death is to be recorded, and with the exception of a few slight indispositions, no serious sickness has come to hinder the men from performing their daily duties.

I feel happy to record here the efforts made by my Brigade Majors, Lieut.-Col. d'Orsonnens, Lieut.-Col. Hanson, and Lieut.-Col. de Bellefeuille, and by the officers commanding the different Corps, in connection with the Laprararie Camp.

Notwithstanding the number and apparent success, I feel it my duty to inform you that the greatest part of the volunteer corps of to day can scarcely reckon on two thirds of their "Cadres" in a case of sudden emergency.

In more than one locality, on account of the floating population to be found there, it would not be prudent to rely on even half of the men regularly enrolled.

After having consulted with the officers commanding Corps in my District, I have come to the conclusion that the ballot must be resorted to.

Several well-to-do persons have told me that they would willingly shoulder the musket were they obliged so to do, but that their occupations would not allow them to "voluntarily" neglect their business and impair their fortunes, forgetting, undoubtedly, at that moment that to contribute to the defence of his country, is a sacred debt due by every man, therefore, according to my humble opinion, the only just and legal way to have every one share equally, is the "ballot," so by that means every one will acquire in rotation the military knowledge necessary now-a-days to every good citizen.

I will also add, that from what I hear from commanding officers of corps, it is my firm belief that two-thirds of the men who have served their time, will ask to be discharged.

TARGET PRACTICE.

The target practice at Laprararie Camp could not be completed for divers reasons,—the grand field days, and the march to Logan's farm are amongst the chief ones.

I have the honor to forward with this, the report of the target practice, which took place under the command of Lt.-Col. Hanson, Brigade Major.

Thomas Copping, of the second company, of Rawdon, is the one who got the most points (47). I have already had the honor, in a previous correspondence, of recommending him for the district prize.

RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS.

I regret that the allowance for the Rifle Associations in my district only amounted to \$100. That sum was handed to Lt.-Col. Hanson, President of the Rifle Association of Joliette.

With this report I forward you the report of the Rifle Association of Joliette, and I may add that I feel proud to draw your attention to the marked progress made by both officers and men of that division.

CAMPS.

I am happy to inform you that the new system you inaugurated has everywhere met with the approbation of the Volunteers, and the best proof of it is the number of men present at Laprararie Camp.

MILITARY STORES.

In order to equip, with as little delay as possible, every man with all he requires, I would suggest that military stores should be established in every district, with all that is necessary for the service.

I cannot conclude this report without drawing your attention to the fact that Infantry is the only "arm" I have in the district under my command.

I wish you would therefore authorize the formation of a company of Engineers, with

two troops of Cavalry, in each of the three divisions of my district. The engineers would act separately, but the six troops of cavalry could form a regiment.

Moreover, I would recommend the formation of two Field Batteries of Artillery. With regard to this last branch of the service, I would suggest that the men should be recruited from the country,—from among the young farmers. Among other reasons, for the following:

It is well known that of all "arms," artillery is that which requires most care, study, and attention.

In towns the population is continually changing place, the men are too often shifted from one place to another, in order to find the means of living; whereas in the country, the well-to-do farmer, attached as he is to the soil, never leaves home, and would, in the course of time, become proficient in that "arm," and with all that, he could always have his own horse at hand when wanted.

Perhaps the appearance—the mere "show"—would not be as brilliant, but in real efficiency, in power of endurance, there would certainly be a great gain.

I remain, dear Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. C. DeLOTBINIERE-HARWOOD,
Lieut.-Col., D. A. G., Military District No. 6.

The Adjutant-General of Militia,
Ottawa.

MILITARY DISTRICT NO. 7.

QUEBEC, 6th November, 1871.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward herewith the Annual Return of Lieut.-Col. Duchesnay, Brigade Major, 7th Division, who, during my absence in Manitoba, performed the duties of Acting Deputy Adjutant General, Military District No. 7.

Two corps only were inspected by me, (*i. e.*) the 61st Montmagny Battalion, and the 8th Volunteer Rifles. The first of these was fairly efficient. Of the second I can only say that for proficiency in drill and smart appearance on parade it is, and has been for some time, the first corps in this District.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

L. A. CASAULT, Lieut.-Col.,

Deputy Adjutant General Commanding Military District No. 7.

Colonel P. ROBERTSON-ROSS,
Adjutant General, &c.

QUEBEC, 6th November, 1871.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward you, herewith enclosed, my Annual Report for 1871-72, together with a tabular annual Inspection Return of all the corps in the District who have performed and completed their drill; also annexed is the District Target Practice Return, and the answers of officers commanding corps regarding the possibility of re-forming their different corps up to their full strength by the Volunteer System. Three of the commanding officers have not yet sent their answers, but on receipt of the same I will immediately transmit them to you to be forwarded to head quarters.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. T. DUCHESNAY, Lieut.-Col.,

Brigade Major, 7th Division, P. Q.

Lieut.-Col. L. A. CASAULT,
Deputy Adjutant General Militia,
Military District No. 7, Quebec.

QUEBEC, 31st October, 1871.

SIR,—I have the honor to report that by General Order, dated 5th May, 1871, Brigade Camps of Instructions were ordered in the several Military Districts of the Dominion of Canada, and the number of volunteers to be brought at these camps limited to 20,000; being then distributed equally in the different Districts.

The allotted number to Military District No. 7, which I am in command of, was 2,320 men, exclusive of officers, and I was ordered to assemble my Division on the 3rd of July, 1871. After making arrangements with the different steamboat and railway companies for the transport of the troops, in accordance with my orders, I managed to concentrate the whole of my Division on the 3rd of July at Point Levis, the appointed place for camping.

The battalions ordered to assemble were as follows; *vide* tabular form showing numerical strength of officers and men in each battalion:—

RETURN showing numerical strength of officers and men in each Battalion at Special Brigade Camp at Point Levis.

Corps.	Number of Companies.	Brigade Staff.	Officers.	Rank and File.	Horses.	Head Quarters.	Distance to point of Concentration.	Remarks.
Cavalry	2	8	11	110	123	Quebec	4	
Field Battery	1		5	71	53	do	4	
9th Battalion	7		26	248		do	4	
17th do	8		29	357		Levis	2	
23rd do	6		23	310		St. Marie	30	
55th do	5		32	232		Inverness	50	
70th do	6		25	216		St. Geniève	75	
Dorchester Battalion	4		16	180		St. Austine	15	
Courty of Quebec do	4		16	183		Charlesbourg	9	
Portneuf do	5		19	229		Pointe aux Trembles	30	
Kamouraska do	4		16	179		Kamouraska	90	
Temiscouata do	4		12	158		River du Loup	120	
Rimouski do	5		19	166		Rimouski	180	
12 Battalions.	61	8	239	2,639	182			

By this table you will see that the force brought out under canvas was 2,886, inclusive of officers. Fatigue parties had been detailed previous to the formation of the camp, so that on arrival at Levis the several battalions found their tents struck up, and immediately took heartily to work, building kitchens, draining round their tents, &c.

SUPPLIES.

The contracts for supplies, beginning only on the morning of the 4th of July, the men had accordingly provided themselves with cooked rations. On the 4th the supplies of meat, bread, groceries, forage, wood, and straw came into work, and from the first day gave general satisfaction. The supply officer, Captain Duchesnay, of the 2nd Battalion Quebec Rifles, whose services I had secured, he being at the time on leave from his regiment, was indefatigable in the performance of his arduous duties, and by his untiring energy carried the arrangements to my entire satisfaction, and to that of all the officers and men of my Division.

The Supplies for the troops in camp were approved at the following rates, viz. :-

Potatoes, and Groceries.	Bread, 3 cents per lb.
	Meat, \$5 95 per 100lbs.
	Potatoes, 1 cent per lb.
	Coffee, 25 " "
	Tea, 45 " "
	Sugar, 10 " "
	Salt, 1 " "
	Pepper, 15 " "
	Forage, 34 cents per ration.
	Straw for men, 50 cents per 100 bundles.
	Fuel wood, \$4 40 Hardwood, per cord.
	\$3 00 Tamarac, per cord.

The rations as laid out in paragraph 291, Regulations and Orders for the Active Militia, cost \$13 75.

CAMP.

There being no sufficient ground to pitch the camp according to regulation, I was obliged to put the tents in double column of companies, and so managed to put together the whole of my Division.

On the 6th of July the Adjutant General of Militia arrived at camp, and immediately began to muster the troops. After the completion of the muster the total force in camp was 2,886 officers and men,

On the afternoon of the 6th the whole Division turned out for inspection. The Adjutant General, accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Macpherson, D. A. A. G., and Lieut.-Col. French, Inspector of Artillery, galloped on the ground, and was received with a general salute at shouldered arms, the troops being in line of columns. He then proceeded through his inspection, the regimental bands playing as he passed their lines. After having expressed himself well satisfied with the appearance of the troops the Division was ordered to march past in columns and quarter columns. As each battalion passed the saluting point they were closely scrutinized by the Inspecting Officer, who was pleased with the steadiness of the marching of volunteers who had only been two days in camp. The force was then divided into two brigades and a sham fight began. The Adjutant-General took command of the 1st Brigade, and the 2nd, under the command of the Acting Deputy Adjutant General of Militia, was ordered to deploy and take cover in an adjoining copse of wood. One troop of cavalry was sent out to skirmish and to feel for an enemy, which was supposed on the march to attack our camp. Skirmishers from the 9th and Rimouski Battalions were sent out to support the cavalry vedettes, which very soon after, coming in contact with the enemys outposts, began to fall back and retire on the main body. In the meantime the skirmishers of the 9th and Rimouski Battalions having encountered those of the enemy a brisk fire began, during which the latter seemed to be beaten back, but steadily disputed every inch of ground. Having received reinforcements our skirmishers were repulsed in their turn. The field battery now did good work, pouring deadly volleys into the enemy's ranks. The Brigade having deployed in line began to advance, and when in a good position commenced to deliver a well fed file fire. The contest became very sharp, having closed on the enemy the line was ordered to charge, which it did with great entrain, pursuing him hotly to a great distance and seeming reluctant to abandon the pursuit. The cavalry who had been kept under cover was ordered to charge, which had the effect of completely routing the enemy. The weather was excessively warm, notwithstanding the men kept heartily to work, and none were found to fall out during the fight. After a little rest the troops marched home after having been three hours in the field.

DISCIPLINE.

The duties in camp were carried strictly according to orders, and under the direct supervision of the Staff. The hours for parade were as follows: 6 o'clock, a.m., Adjutant's parade; 10 o'clock a.m., Commanding Officer's parade; 3:30 o'clock, p.m., Brigade parade, under the command of the Deputy Adjutant General. On Sundays the troops paraded at 9 o'clock, a.m., for Divine Service. The Episcopalians and Wesleyans paraded with the regulars. The Roman Catholics attended Mass in the open air, at which officiated the Reverend Father Casgrain, Chaplain duly appointed to the 9th Battalion. On Sunday afternoon the men were permitted to see their friends in camp from 2 o'clock, p.m., to 6 o'clock, p.m., being the only time when strangers were allowed into camp without passes. Canteens were shut on Sunday afternoon, and it had the good effect of preventing drunkenness. I am happy to have occasion here to testify to the good behavior of the volunteers under my command.

The officers in general appear to ignore their duties, which can be accounted for by the little efforts on their part to make themselves acquainted with them, and the erroneous idea in considering the camp as a place of enjoyment, instead of being specially established for the instruction of officers and soldiers in their different duties. Many of them also, I regret to say, forget the line of demarcation which should exist between the officer and soldier, and without which no discipline can be properly carried out. Strict attention to that essential part of an officer's duty would obviate to many disagreeable consequences to themselves, and would help greatly the officer commanding the District in the discharge of his duties, and the responsibility of his command.

DRILL.

During the Brigade Camp the men were practised daily in the different manoeuvres of Battalion and Brigade. I insisted particularly that the men should be taught Light Infantry Drill and outpost duties. Three days in the week were assigned to Brigade movements, and three days to field days, when every man was provided with five rounds of blank ammunition. I have at another part of my report given a detailed account of a field day, which took place under the immediate command of the Adjutant General of Militia.

The day before the breaking up of the camp Sir George Cartier, Minister of Militia and Defence, accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Osborne Smith, Lieut. Col. Bacon, and Lieut.-Col. D'Orsonnens, paid a visit to the camp. An escort of cavalry had been detailed to meet him at his hotel, and shortly after 9 o'clock, a.m., he drove on the parade ground and was received with a general salute. Sir George detailed Lieut.-Col. Smith to ride through the ranks and to report. The troops were then ordered to march past before Sir George Cartier, who was loud in his praise, in the manner in which the volunteers acquitted themselves. A field day afterwards took place under the command of the Acting Deputy Adjutant General, the men having been provided with ten rounds of blank ammunition. On the conclusion of the manoeuvres, the Minister of Militia and Defence drove to the tent of the officer commanding the camp, and held a levée, at which the whole of the officers in camp were presented. Sir George Cartier expressed himself highly satisfied at the day's proceedings, and stated that these camps had been established to test the advantage in bringing together large bodies of volunteers to learn on a larger scale the manoeuvres in Brigade. He was happy to say that it had proved a great success, and met with general satisfaction. In England they had partly copied our system, showing that although young Canada could teach the mother country some useful hints.

Although these camps have so far proved great a success, I am of opinion that the time for camping is too short to work with efficiency a large body of men. Volunteers who have been twelve months without drill cannot in that short space of 16 days learn well the preliminary exercises, and be put at once at the Brigade movements required of

them. Some of the most necessary branches have to be hurried through without them being taught the practical knowledge of the same. If the whole of the officers were well acquainted with their duties and exerted themselves to be proficient, perhaps some material difference might be experienced, but until then no beneficial results can be obtained.

MUSKETRY.

The target practice was carried out daily under the superintendence of Major J. B. Amyot, of the 2nd Battalion Quebec Rifles, a very efficient officer, and thoroughly cognizant of those duties. Time and accommodation would not allow me to fire the whole of Battalions at more than two distances, viz., 200 and 400 yards. Included in my tabular return will be found a correct statement of the figures of merit of each company and battalion in the District.

Also annexed is compiled a District Target Return showing company, battalion, and district prize winners.

STORES.

The arrangements under this head were very satisfactory, and I received from the Department all the aid in their power. I would beg to recommend that in future a sufficient quantity of stores necessary for 5,000 men should be supplied and stored permanently at the head-quarters of every District, thereby obviating unnecessary delay and break down in a sudden emergency. I must not forget to mention that the camp quartermaster, although a novice in that capacity, acquitted himself very satisfactorily, and was a great help to me. I consider in the new redistribution of the force, that the formation of pioneers in each battalion of strict necessity, and the want of which was greatly felt during the last camp. Provided with the necessary tools they would be of great advantage to the force for carrying out any work needed in camp, and save expenses to the Government. The tools, &c., issued to them would, at the completion of the camps, be returned into the private armories and kept in order, the allowance for the care of arms being sufficient for both.

THE POSSIBILITY OF RE-ENROLLING MEN BY THE VOLUNTEER SYSTEM AFTER THE THREE YEARS ENGAGEMENT.

The three years having expired for the service of companies in the District, I may state with certainty that the two-thirds of the volunteers enrolled in 1868 will claim their discharges. I find by the opinions of the several officers commanding battalions in the District that they all concur in stating that it will be impossible to fill up the rolls anew by the Volunteer System. It is very necessary for the well working of the Volunteer Militia, and to enable officers commanding to have more control over their men that the Government would try to bring in gradually the system of ballot. If a company was unable to complete its quota by volunteers the law might take its course and order that the balance wanted should be filled by ballot out of the men of the first class of the Reserve Militia. Keeping up the Volunteer System compels us to accept as officers men quite unfit for the appointment, either by their social position or their military training. The present schools of Military Instructions may give the rudiments for the making of a good instructor, but the short time they are in it cannot give them the tone and military qualifications so necessary for the formation of a good officer. A college where officers desirous of qualifying as such would receive a higher education would be very desirable, and all the money expended in the numerous Military Schools now existing might with advantage be expended in the establishment of such a college. The facility of communications are such that gentlemen really wishing to qualify would find no difficulty in attending.

FIELD BATTERY.

The Quebec Field Battery, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Lamontagne, in accordance to paragraph 3, Regulations for the training of Field Batteries in camp, performed

a march of 20 miles, with waggons properly packed, all entrenching tools, camp equipment, small arms, &c., strapped in their places. The men having breakfasted early, the tents were struck and packed, and the battery, numbering five officers and 71 men, started at 6 o'clock, a.m., returning at 5 o'clock, p.m. Although the weather was very warm the journey was accomplished without accident. The horses on arrival looked fresh, and seemed ready for more work. This Battery is very effective and could be made more so by a little increase in the allowances for horses. I would suggest that the best way to horse field batteries would be, 1st, to enlist in each battery a sufficient number of men proprietors of horses; 2nd, to give, besides a daily drill pay of \$1 25 per horse, a bonus of 75c. for every approved horse on parade.

PAY.

The number of officers and men who have received at the special camp of Levis, as far as I can ascertain, was 247 officers, and 2,639 rank and file. Out of this number 2,658 officers and men were French Canadians.

Captain Forrest was present at camp two days before the breaking up, and managed to settle the greatest part of the claims. I did not hear any complaints as to the pay of the men, the sole instance being the very small allowance to cavalry and battery horses. I can assert that the officers had to go to a good deal of personal expense to be able to secure the horses necessary, and could not get them for less than a dollar a day.

EIGHT DAY'S CAMPS.

The camps of eight days drill were carried out according to orders by the several battalions who had not joined the special camp. The Quebec Garrison Artillery, the 61st and Charlevoix Battalions assembled at their different camping grounds. The number of officers and men present at these camps was 790.

	OFFICERS.	MEN.
Quebec Garrison Artillery.....	12	188
61st Battalion.....	16	229
Charlevoix Battalion.....	13	232

The 8th Battalion Rifles and Grosse Isle Detachment performed their annual drill at head-quarters, taking 16 days of three hours each to complete their course of instruction. The Gaspé, Bonaventure, and New Carlisle Infantry Companies having completed their term of service and drill, not having informed the Deputy Adjutant General of their intention of putting in extra drill for 1871-72, I have decided to complete my report without them.

In concluding my report I beg to submit the following recommendations, viz.: 1st, The amalgamation of independent companies to the nearest battalion; 2nd, That in the reorganization or redistribution of the force one Engineer company, and one field battery should be formed in each Brigade Division resident therein; 3rd, In order to insure a correct muster at the annual drills to prevent any falsifications of accounts or false musters, the muster should be carefully made by the Battalion Paymaster, under the superintendence of the District Paymaster, the Deputy Adjutant General, and the Brigade Major of the Brigade Division.

I beg, in completing my report, to return my heartfelt thanks for the aid I have received from the Brigade Major under my control and the Staff who assisted me at the Brigade Camp at Levis, as well as from officers in command of corps in my District.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. T. DUCHESNAY, Lieut.-Col.,
Acting Deputy Adjutant General Militia
Military District No. 7.

The Adjutant General of Militia,
Head Quarters, Ottawa, P.O.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 8.

DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
FREDERICTON, N. B., 21st October, 1871.

SIR,—In compliance with your instructions, I have the honor to submit this my Annual General Report on the state of the force, in Military District No. 8, (New Brunswick), under my command.

- (1.) The nominal quota and strength authorized for my district is 3,264 of all ranks.
(2.) The actual strength of the corps is,

Officers	182
N. C. Officers and Men.....	2,554
Total	2,736

The number of officers and men who have performed their annual drill for 1871-72 is,

Officers	173
N. C. Officers and Men.....	2,229
Total.....	2,402

(3.) The actual strength and established strength are identical in almost every instance. The Troops of Cavalry whose services were accepted, and who received clothing at 40 non-commissioned officers and men per troop, and 3 Batteries of Garrison Artillery who were accepted and who received clothing for numbers above the established strength, being the exceptional cases.

Thus, while the actual strength is 2,736, the establishment, 48 existing corps, is 2,784, the discrepancy in the quota being caused by 8 infantry companies being disbanded, which at 58 per company is 464.

In proof of this statement, the average attendance at the inspections of the 48 corps is over 50; the difference being accounted for chiefly by men temporarily absent from their homes or sick, and there being uniform sufficient but for 55 men per company.

I am of opinion that captains of companies should have at least 60 men on their rolls, supplied with 60 uniforms, this would ensure an average attendance of 55 men per company.

The corps above referred to have mostly served their time of engagement, and, although there are some praiseworthy instances in which not a man is desirous of leaving, and many others in which the vacancies created by men taking their discharge, will speedily be filled by good and true men by the volunteering system. I am of opinion that in some few instances, chiefly in cities and towns, the necessity and desirability, "on military grounds," for completing the deficiencies in the ranks by the means of the ballot, as prescribed and authorized in the existing militia law, is now apparent.

Having, in compliance with your instructions, placed myself in communication with officers commanding corps, you will observe that the majority of these gentlemen bear me out, and endorse the above opinion; and, when properly understood, I am convinced that it will produce good results if the system be generally adopted throughout the Dominion, in cases in which *no more volunteers can be obtained*, to call upon that class of the community "comprising those of the age of eighteen years and upwards, but under thirty years, who are unmarried or widowers without children," to serve in the Active Militia for a period of three years.

In the first place a trained Reserve Force will thus be formed, composed of men ready and willing to re-inforce the Active Militia in the hour of need, or again to form part of its quota in time of peace.

(2.) Those will be drawn into the ranks who, perhaps for not sufficient reasons, have hitherto taken no part or interest in the service, leaving the "Enthusiasts," so called, to do all the work.

(3.) By bringing *fresh material* into the force, fresh interest in the service will be created; and, in short, the organization will be more evenly distributed than heretofore.

It is to be hoped, too, "That the people, as a body, will thus more willingly submit to those sacrifices of their time and personal liberties, by which alone the force of the country can be maintained in efficiency, as, failing that, all our own efforts will be rendered nugatory."

In conclusion, I may here quote part of a letter from one of the officers commanding corps, above referred to, in which I entirely concur.

"The fact that the captain of the company has personally solicited the most of the men in the ranks to join, places him in a not sufficiently independent position in regard to them, which certainly tends to undermine the discipline of the force."

He adds that "he thinks it desirable that all reasonable ordinary efforts should be exhausted to procure volunteers before resort be had to a draft or ballot; but on military grounds he thinks that it is desirable that the ballot should be brought into requisition to complete the strength of corps after reasonable efforts have been made to obtain volunteers."

(5.) I am of opinion that the whole of the men who performed their annual drill were *bona fide* enrolled members of the corps according to the Militia Act, except in two instances, in which it was expedient temporarily to attach members of other corps of Active Militia to corps performing drill.

In accordance with General Order of the 5th May, last, a Brigade Camp of Exercise, for 16 days continuous drill, was formed at Fredericton on the 29th June, and styled "Camp Ross," in honor of the Adjutant General.

Hereto appended is a statement shewing the actual strength of corps assembled in this camp. (See page 44.)

The New Brunswick Regiment of Cavalry marched to camp an average distance of 80 miles per troop, crossed three long and tedious ferries, bivouacked at the Jemseg on the night of the 29th, and arrived at Fredericton on the 30th. When returning the regiment left one day before the camp was broken up.

The practical utility of the regiment was thus tested, proceeding to and returning from camp, and much credit is due to Lieut. Colonel Saunders for his systematic arrangements, which ensured the success of so long a march, as well as for the discipline maintained in the corps.

The 71st Battalion was early on the ground on the 29th inst., and did good service in pitching the tents and preparing for the arrival of more distant corps, which came in from time to time during the day.

The 74th Battalion, having had a long distance to travel by rail and steamboat, did not arrive till half-past 8 o'clock p.m., when the men soon settled down for the night in the most orderly manner.

The following system was observed by corps on arrival on the ground:—

- 1.—Tents properly pitched.
- 2.—Cooking places marked out and kitchens constructed.
- 3.—Latrines dug.
- 4.—Wells made.

The usual routine of drill and field manoeuvres, as detailed in General Orders, was commenced on the morning of the 30th instant. A Library was established for the use of the men; H. H. the Lieut. Governor kindly contributed periodicals, newspapers, &c., and contributions were also sent from other quarters.

On the 1st July, "Dominion Day," the Brigade was formed in line, and at 12 o'clock noon, the customary "*feu-de-joie*" was fired, in honor of the day. The brigade was on that day subsequently exercised in field movements, &c. H. H. the Lieut. Governor was present, and a number of spectators were on the ground.

On the 6th July the Admiral of this Station, with H. H. the Lieut. Governor, witnessed the field manœuvres of the brigade on the "Flats" below the town, where the troops were exercised on more than one occasion, and advance and rear guards of cavalry and infantry were invariably thrown out marching from and returning to camp.

On the 11th July the Adjutant General, accompanied by the Director of Stores and the Inspector of Artillery, arrived in camp; the Adjutant General occupying, for the rest of the period of training, a bell tent, next to that of the Deputy Adjutant General.

On the 10th and 13th July the brigade was divided into two forces, in accordance with the Adjutant General's instructions, under command of Lieut. Colonels Upton and Hewitson, respectively, the two senior infantry commanders, one side to act on the offensive, the other on the defensive.

These forces having been exercised on these occasions over ground with which neither officers nor men were for the most part familiar, the results proved most satisfactory. Individual intelligence of officers was practically tested; errors on one side, unless speedily corrected, were taken advantage of by the other; while a valuable lesson of the necessity for the observance of coolness and steadiness in action, was taught. A minute description of the movements on both days is scarcely necessary. I may, however, refer as briefly as possible to the Sham Battle of the 13th July, under the Adjutant General's supervision.

The following is the Brigade Order, intended to convey but a "general idea" of the positions to be taken up by the two divisions, leaving the rest to the knowledge, intelligence, and judgement of the commanders.

CAMP ROSS.

BRIGADE ORDERS BY LIEUT. COLONEL MAUNSELL, D.A.G., CAMP COMMANDANT.

12th July, 1871.

No. 7.—The whole of the corps composing the Brigade will parade their full strength to-morrow, for field manœuvres ("Sham Battle"), in presence of the Adjutant General, as follows:—

First Division.—One Squadron of Cavalry, the 71st Battalion, St. Stephen and Gagetown Infantry corps. Lieut. Colonel Hewitson, at such hour as that officer may direct.

Second Division.—Two Squadrons of Cavalry, 67th Battalion and 74th Battalion, Lieut. Colonel Upton, at 12-30 p.m.

The order of march will be as follows:—

The 1st Division to march by the St. Stephen Road, and take up a strong position on the heights, about two miles from camp, which will be defended from attack expected from an advancing force, either from St. Stephen or Woodstock.

Lieut. Colonel Hewitson will detail a party with spades, to strengthen the position by constructing shelter trenches, if practicable.

The camp Quartermaster will issue spades.

The 2nd Division will march by the upper Spring Hill Road, and on arriving at the residence of Major General Kilner will take the new road connecting with the St. Stephen Road, with the view to advance on Fredericton by the upper route. Both forces will take every advantage which the features of the ground may afford.

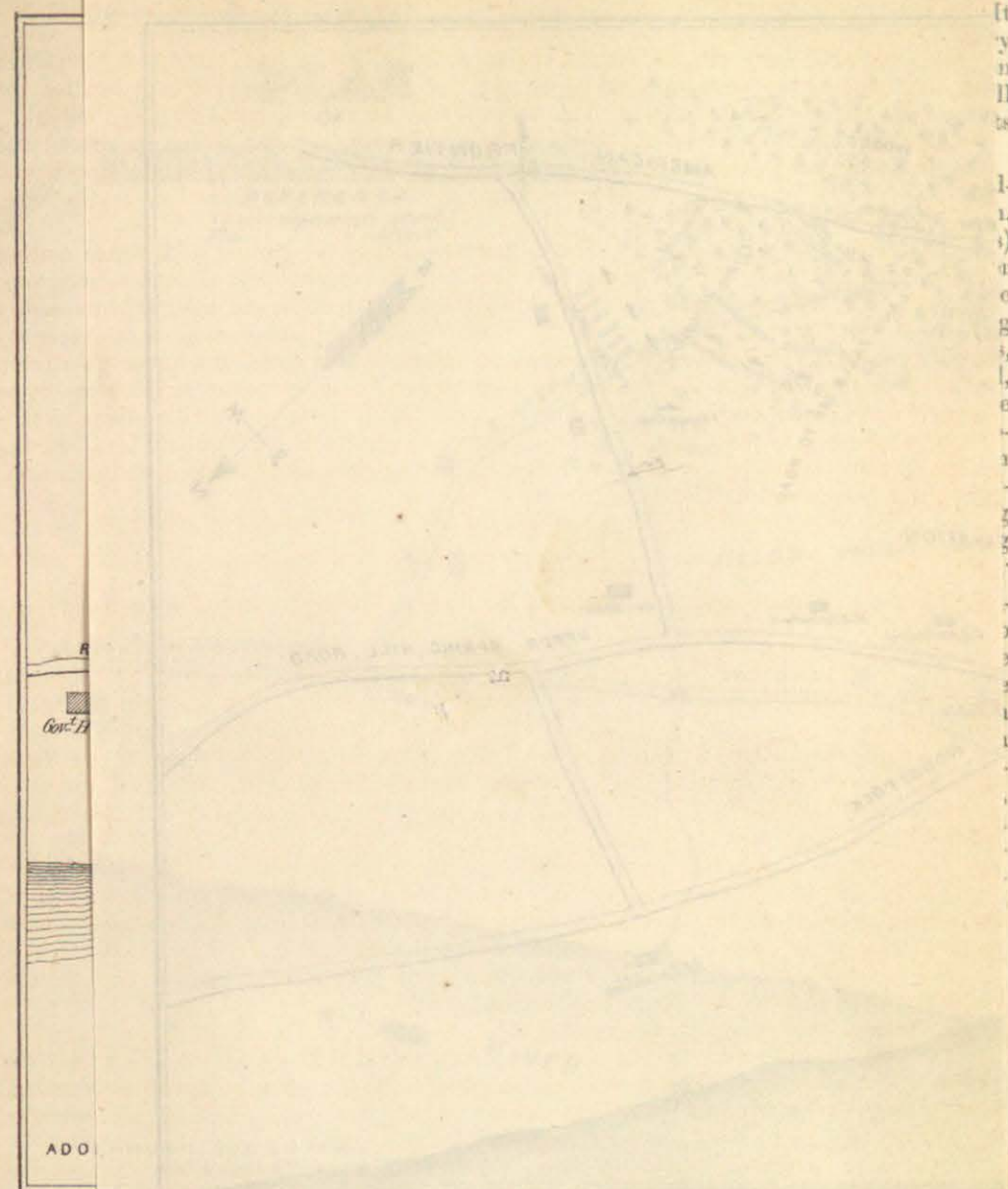
It is to be understood that the Sham Fight shall terminate on the opposing forces coming within one hundred yards of each other.

Lieut. Colonel Saunders will detail a patrol of one troop to proceed by the main Woodstock Road to obtain intelligence, and join the 2nd Division by the road below McLaughlin's, connecting with the St. Stephen Road at General Kilner's.

The Commandant will have general supervision of the movements of both forces; Lieut. Colonel Saunders will direct the general movements of the Cavalry; Lieut. Colonel Otty will act as Brigade Major of 1st Division; Lieut. Colonel Inches for 2nd Division.

Fifteen rounds of Blank Ammunition will be issued per man of both Divisions.

Plan.

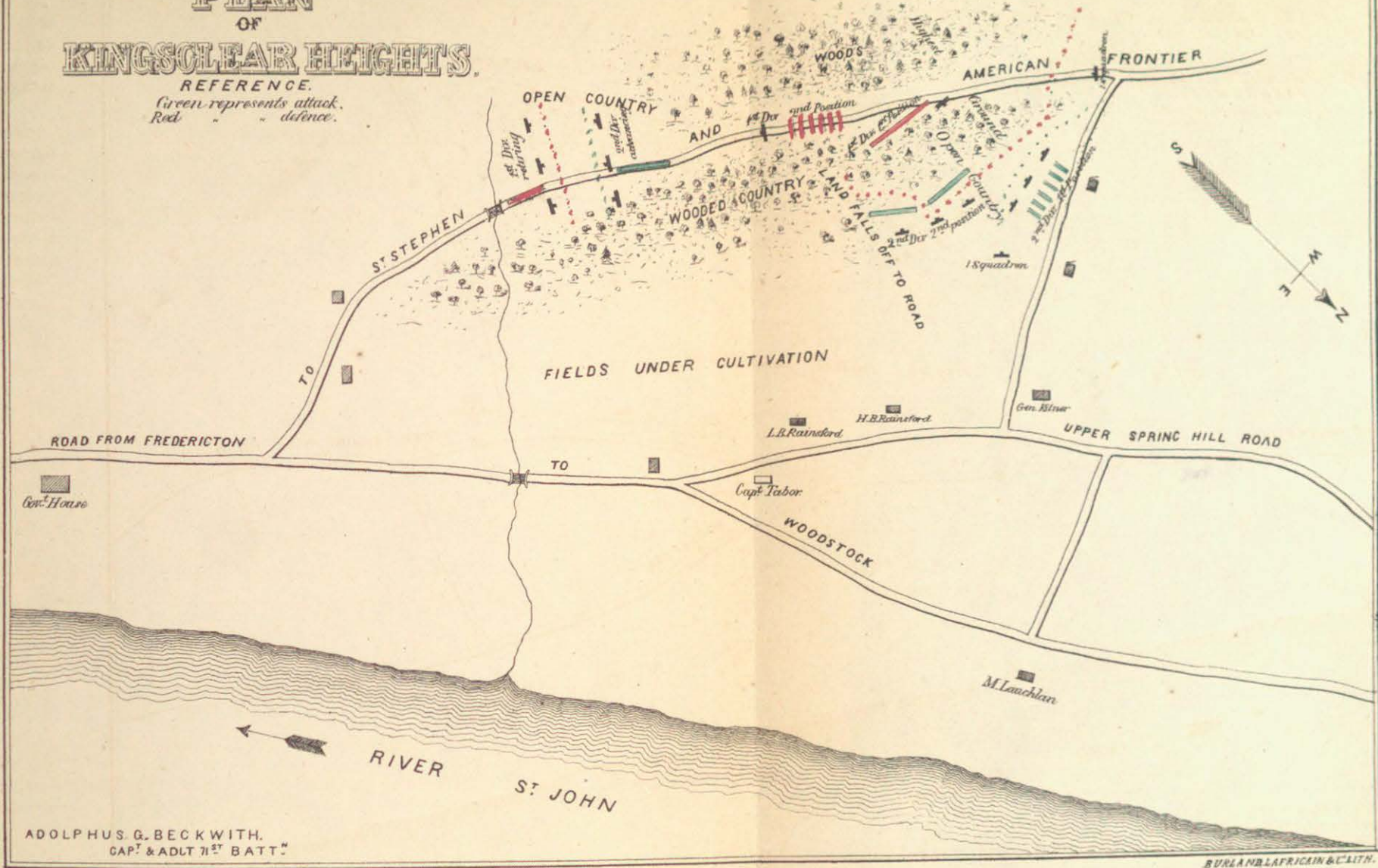


On the 13th the troops paraded for Presentation of Colors to the 67th Battalion, by the Honorable C. Connell, M.P., when the accompanying address was read by Miss Connell, and replied to by Major Raymond, of that corps. The consecration was performed by the Reverend Canon Lee.

The force then marched past, and subsequently was exercised, under the Adjutant General, in a variety of field manœuvres, at the close of which, the money prizes for Target Practice were presented by the Adjutant General, who afterwards addressed the

PLAN OF KINGSLEAR HEIGHTS.

REFERENCE.
Green represents attack.
Red " " defence.



ADOLPHUS G. BECKWITH.
CAPT. & ADLT 71ST BATT.

BURLAND & AFRICAIN & CO. LITH.

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Plan.

I submit a sketch of the country, made by Captain and Adjutant Beckwith, 71st Battalion, copies of which were provided for many officers, for their better guidance. It may now serve to show the positions of the troops. Both forces, with their necessary advance and rear guards, moved off to take up their respective positions: the 1st Division marching by the St. Stephen Road, the 2nd Division by that from Woodstock. You will observe that the former was much smaller (numerically) than the latter, owing to its having to occupy a strong position, and to act upon the defensive.

The position selected by the Commander 1st Division, was an excellent one, admirably adapted for defence from a force advancing either from Woodstock or St. Stephen. His supports and reserve were posted on the heights, while an outpost (line of skirmishers) was thrown out 700 or 800 yards round the base of the hill, concealed from view. Shelter trenches were not considered necessary in such a position, the natural features of the ground, with fallen trees, afforded ample cover. The cavalry of this Division, wearing forage caps, to distinguish them from the cavalry of the other Division, in busbies, were posted at convenient distances on the flanks. The 2nd Division, on the other hand, owing to the nature of the country, with thick woods on both sides of the road, had to move with much caution, and the intelligence party, having joined this force at the place appointed, was sent to reinforce the advance guard; and subsequently, on approaching open country, over which it was resolved to move the main body rapidly, with a view to out-flank the enemy and gain the heights, a squadron of cavalry was directed to dash along the road and engage the attention of, if not actually to come into action with the opposing force, which was naturally supposed to occupy the strongest position in that direction.

This strategical movement ultimately produced good results. While the 2nd Division was advancing by fours from the right of companies, the enemy's skirmishers, hitherto concealed, unexpectedly opened fire, and it was at once seen that they (1st Division) were well prepared to give the advancing force a warm reception; but, numbers prevailed,—the former had to retire on their supports, well posted on the heights, disputing every inch of ground. While this was going on the cavalry were not idle. That of the 1st Division made a dash at the flanks of the opposing skirmishers, who lost no time in forming company squares; that of the 2nd Division, stronger in numbers, having gained the heights, galloped down the road, with a view to charge the flanks of the line now opening fire upon the advancing force, also in line, the Commander, 1st Division, whose force was now suffering from heavy fire in front, speedily met this cavalry attack by forming mass of quarter columns to the left, and directed his fire by successive companies at the cavalry now retiring to a place of safety. Meanwhile the Commander, 2nd Division, changed the front of his line to the right, and advanced steadily but rapidly in line until the heights were gained; fire was opened on the enemy's infantry, now in mass of quarter columns. The Adjutant General at this point rode up, and acting in the capacity of umpire, ordered the firing to cease, and the 1st Division to retire towards Fredericton, with the view to take up, and hold, if possible, a fresh position in the open country in that direction. This, however, proved impracticable, as, although a rear guard was speedily thrown out, and the retreat properly conducted, the advancing force lost no time in following up the retreat, and its advance guard, of skirmishers relieved and reinforced from time to time, doing good service, no new position was taken up by the 1st Division, and finally, both forces were halted at the meeting of the roads from St. Stephen and Woodstock, and the Adjutant General was pleased to express his approval of the general disposition of the troops, as well as to point out any errors in the manœuvres.

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