

settlement began to get bolder as winter approached, pleased no doubt at the thought of the many scalps and prisoners which might become their prey, and relying on the inexperience of the settlers, the small military force, and the impunity with which they had been allowed to lay waste the country during the preceding 35 or 40 years. Several parties were waylaid, stragglers were cut off, and the horrors of a border war were beginning to be in evidence.

An immediate increase in the military strength of the colony, both for defence and offence, was essential, and little time was lost in getting such an organization into shape for action. Defensive works were increased and strengthened, two independent companies of Rangers—accustomed to the woods and to Indian warfare—were raised, and the organization of a militia force in a somewhat rough form was decided on by the Council.

On Sunday, the 10th of December, 1749, after divine service, all the male settlers between 16 and 60 years of age were assembled on the Parade (then a rough and unlevelled field,) and the Militia of Nova Scotia thus practically came into existence. There was little or no pomp or ceremony; it was mainly in the nature of a muster of the men of the settlement, to see who were available for duty, and what conditions existed as to arms, accoutrements and clothing. The following officers were gazetted in the sole official record of that day—the Order Book of the Governor and Council.

**Captains:**—John Galland, Wm. Foy, Alex. Callendar, John Kent, Gregory Berners (or Ewers), John Heete, Robt. Campbell, Wm.. Brown, John Collier, John Creighton, David Haldane.

**Lieutenants:**—Henry Windale, Wm. Shaw, Thos. Hancock Thos. Jenkins, Thos. Lewis, Robt. Reeves, Thos. Harison, Henry Scomberg,—Deschamps. Thos. Saul, Henry Wilkins, —Collingwood,—Hoar.