

The offer of sixteen horses on loan from the Kingston Street Car Company, will, I trust be accepted. No charge for hire is asked; the forage being the only cost to Government. This would enable a complete field battery of instruction to be established this winter, and also provide for the instruction of cavalry and gentlemen cadets.

Instead of developing the artillery schools or making them schools of all arms, at a minimum cost as regards staff, the strength of "B" Battery has been decreased by General Order after arriving at Kingston. The number was found inadequate at Quebec, as previously reported (page 252, Militia Report for 1878; page 248, Report of 1879). I have also reported to Major-General Luard, commanding Militia, furnished parade states, and explained the duties to be performed, and I trust that he will concur in my recommendations, and see the necessity of increasing the rank and file sufficiently to admit of men being struck off guard duty to attend a regular course of lectures and artillery drills, otherwise a staff of instructors is being maintained without sufficient men to work upon, as I have frequently represented. An increase of 30 gunners and 16 horses is the least number that would be of any avail to afford adequate artillery instruction. The cadets at the Royal Military College could be taught equitation and field battery drill, by means of the horses and equipment of the artillery school, as at West Point and Woolwich.

I have conferred with Lt.-Col. Hewett, R.E., on the points relating to the R. M. College, and he concurs, and a scheme for the further instruction of militia officers by the Professors of the R.M. College, in connection with a system of practical drill and duties at the Gunnery School, has been submitted. The examination returns for the past nine years show, that I have without any assistance but that of the officers I have myself instructed, given instruction in artillery, the tactics of all arms, fortification, military surveying and military law, in addition to the duties of command and inspection. I think it due to myself and these officers to explain, that I never would have undertaken such a task had I for a moment supposed I would be left to struggle on all these years without an increase of staff. Considering the necessities of the situation before the conclusion of the Washington treaty and after the withdrawal of Her Majesty's troops, I could not conscientiously think I was educating artillery officers to take the place of the Royal Artillery, if I had merely given elementary instruction in gunnery, with a knowledge of gun drill and material, nor do I now consider such elementary knowledge sufficient for the militia artillery of Canada. I supposed that if I made a commencement, that the militia instruction would keep pace with the development of the country. As the gunnery school I command is now stationed at Kingston, the instruction in such subjects as fortification, military surveying, military administration could be much more effectually taught in connection with the R. M. College, by its complete and excellent staff of military professors, for which purpose a class of militia officers could be attached to the military college in accordance with the proposal submitted by Lt.-Col. Hewett, R.E.

To enable the Gunnery School at Quebec to benefit by such expansion, and to secure uniformity in military instruction and certificates therefor, as well as discipline, it would be advisable to form "A" and "B" Batteries into an instructional brigade, with at least one complete field battery of instruction, "C," to be stationed at Kingston. Ontario containing more field artillery and cavalry than the whole of the rest of the Dominion, "A" and "B" might be changed every five years, between Quebec and Kingston, to benefit by the broader instruction in connection with the theoretical classes at the R. M. College, and the practical school for all arms which would be thus established at Kingston, and which is hardly possible elsewhere, from the fact of the R. M. College, with its staff of professors, having been here established.

During the past nine years, Capt. and Brevet Lt.-Col. Montizambert has assisted me in the duties of discipline and instruction, and the responsibilities of payment have devolved upon him. Lieut. and Brevet Capt. Short has specially superintended the field artillery and equitation. I venture to hope that the substantive rank of Major to the former and Captain to the latter, with the slight increase of pay it involves, may