

AMMUNITION.

Free issues for Practice.

The number of rounds of ammunition ball and blank issued to the Militia for annual practice was 638,430 rounds of ball and 124,850 rounds of blank. (*Vide* Appendix A.)

Issues on Repayment.

The following quantities of "Snider" ball and blank "Martini-Henri," Martini-Metford, Winchester, and Spencer ammunition were issued on repayment during the year, viz., 354,483 rounds of Snider ball, 6,000 rounds Snider blank, 566,639 rounds Martini-Henri, 13,000 rounds aiming tube, 1,850 rounds Martini-Metford, 3,350 rounds Winchester rifle and 200 rounds of Spencer, all the above issued to Militia Corps, and Rifle Associations for target practice and rifle competitions.

The total amount received for these issues, including powder for the noon-gun at Ottawa, was \$12,337.19. (*Vide* Appendix B.)

Powder, shot and shell were issued to field and garrison batteries for annual practice and salutes. (*Vide* Appendix C.)

The Cartridge Factory of Quebec supplied the following during the year:—Shells, common, for 9-pr. R.M.L. gun, 2,148; shells, Shrapnell, 9-pr. R.M.L. 1,144; cups, tin, for 40-pr. R.B.L. gun, 600.

ARMS. .

The arming of the Canadian militia with the new "Lee-Enfield" magazine rifle has necessitated an increase in the staff of armourers, by two expert and up-to-date men from the Imperial service in England, the time of these armourers will be fully occupied in preparing the new rifle for issue and imparting instruction to the other armourers and caretakers in the various military districts.

There is much to be done, and the staff hitherto engaged in the care and repairing of the old rifles, will have their time still further drawn upon, when the issue of the new arm takes place.

So far no armourer has been stationed at London, Ont., or at St. John, New Brunswick. It is now proposed to have one appointed for London, and in the near future it is expected that the service of an armourer will be available for St. John.

HARNESS AND SADDLERY.

The permanent saddler at Toronto has been doing good service during the past year, in making needful and useful repairs to harness and saddlery, which could not otherwise be utilized and which at the moment could not be replaced, a considerable saving has therefore been effected.

It is strongly recommended that workshops be established at Kingston and Quebec for the repair of harness and saddlery.

MILITARY PROPERTIES.

The military properties in the various districts of the Dominion have received as much care and attention as the means at the disposal of the department would admit—and the reports from the officers in local charge show their condition to be fairly satisfactory.

The buildings at the Old Fort, Toronto, however, are fast going into decay. Certain repairs to the main store building are being carried out in the meantime. The erection in the near future of suitable buildings and a powder magazine at this station must become necessary.