

devolved upon Captain G. T. French, R.A., with respect to Kingston.¹ How we have performed those duties is I believe being recognised by conferring on the Officers and soldiers we have trained during seven laborious years the honourable title of "Royal Canadian Artillery." What that labour was, can best be judged by any professional soldier picturing to himself the task of raising and training an artillery garrison and re-arming a fortress without professional assistants², as well as forming and conducting a theoretical and practical school of all arms, as may be seen by the curriculum of subjects taught. The scholastic monotony has been varied by the necessity for using my pupils to suppress civil disturbances, but *vires acquirit eundo*. To the assistance given by Master Gunner Donaldson, R.A., and the sergeant gunnery instructors, I am indebted, but the credit is mainly due to the good material I had to work upon, *i.e.*, the gentlemen selected as Officers, viz., Lieutenant-Colonel Montizambert and those at Quebec, whose zeal, ability, and natural soldierly qualities rendered pleasant a task at times depressing from want of encouragement in quarters where I have perhaps unreasonably looked for it. I have no doubt that Lieutenant-Colonel French, my late colleague, as well as Lieutenant-Colonel Irwin, would endorse these remarks as far as concerns Lieutenant-Colonel Cotton and the Officers of the sister Gunnery School.

The extract from General Orders in the Appendix will best explain the original and dominant idea in the formation of the schools, namely, to carry out garrison duties by means of recruits from the Militia, and at the same time to utilize this garrison as a gunnery school. It soon became evident that at least one battery of trained soldiers was necessary for garrison duties, with a Staff to instruct recruits from the Militia who should be supernumerary to the regular garrison, while of course eight horses were not supposed by any soldier to be sufficient for "instruction in riding and driving, moving field and siege guns, and general purposes." I have no doubt the originators of the plan fondly hoped, as I did, that it would be developed; but not a single gunner or horse has been added to the strength of the establishment during the seven years of its existence.

I obtained from Government the privilege of forage for the private

was given the honour of hoisting the British flag at the conquest. On the withdrawal of the Imperial garrison from Quebec, to an Officer of the Royal Artillery, was handed over, by a detachment of the Royal Artillery and 60th Rifles, the flag, which I have no doubt my Canadian military children would honorably defend, if need be.

¹ Lieutenant-Colonel French subsequently organized the N. W. Mounted Police, and was succeeded at Kingston by Lieutenant Irwin, R.A., now Lieutenant-Colonel in the Canadian Militia.

² The Royal Artillery Sergeant Assistant Gunnery Instructors were not sent out until the following spring. Meanwhile the fortress had been re-armed during a Canadian winter by recruits of three months. The Washington Treaty had not been signed, but faith in its provisions seemed perfect. The guns had been dismantled to enable the Royal Engineers to repair the platforms, and the troops had been withdrawn before there was time to remount them, but my task was comparatively lightened by the fact that all the artillery stores were left to my hand in the most perfect order by Captain Murray, R.A., under the directions of Colonel Gibbon, commanding Royal Artillery in British North America.