

much like to see the City Regiments in Camp, as well as the Rural Regiments, if not in the Camp for the District, then in one of their own near the city, where they could practice route marching, out-post work, advanced, rear and flank guards, fire tactics, &c. If the Government would allow transport and Camp equipage for this purpose I believe many of the City Regiments would infinitely prefer this arrangement to parading about the country for show and picnicing. I may remark here that a City Regiment, the 65th Mount Royal Rifles actually did join the Camp at Three Rivers for a short time, for which they deserved great credit.

#### CAMPS.

I visited the following Camps during the year:—June 20, Niagara; do. 22, Stratford; do. 26, Gananoque; July 4, Three Rivers; do. 5, Sherbrooke; do. 10, St. Thomas. As usual I was struck with the zeal and anxiety of both officers and men to make the most of the too short time allowed them. By discontinuing the mere parade movements I was enabled to get more rifle drill and instruction performed, and by the few alterations in the firing practice we were able to get more satisfactory results, but still far from what it ought to be. I found by taking at hap-hazard so many squads of 25 men in each Camp that on an average of 6 to 8 men in each had never fired any description of fire arm.

I would again urge the advisability of the Government authorising a small sum of money to be given as prizes for shooting in each Camp. It is true Government makes a handsome allowance to the different Rifle Associations, but I would also again urge that though these associations doubtless do a certain amount of good, they do not add to the efficiency as riflemen of the whole force. This is forcibly pointed out by Lieut.-Col. Worsley, Deputy Adjutant General, District No. 9, in his report, to which I beg to draw your attention in connection with my general remarks on this subject in my last year's report. I again strongly recommend the adoption of fixed Camps in each District as being more satisfactory, and I believe, more economical than constantly changing the locality. Special care should be taken to provide good rifle ranges close to the camps. Also I would again draw attention to the necessity of having properly equipped medical Field Panniers for each Camp.

With regard to the Artillery attending camps, as I find that owing to their having to get horses together, pack the guns and waggons, fit harness, &c., a day is fully taken up, I would beg to recommend that the officers, sergeants, drivers and horses be allowed pay for the day before going into Camp, as well as the days in camp.

With regard to canteens in camp, it appears to me that the following would be a suitable arrangement:—There should be but one canteen to each camp, and the privilege of establishing such canteen should be awarded by tender, and the money so obtained be devoted to assisting in providing prizes for rifle shooting at that camp. The tender to be called for and accepted by the Deputy-Adjutant General of the district, who will send in a statement with his yearly report of the amount received and its distribution. The canteen to be restricted of course to the sale of groceries, &c., beer, ginger beer, soda-water, &c.; no wine or spirits.

#### DRILL HALLS.

Since my last report the Montreal, Quebec and Hamilton halls have been completed and are in use, and are all handsome and suitable buildings. I am in hopes that the Toronto hall will soon be commenced, but am sorry such delay should have occurred about it, as the two excellent regiments there are justly entitled to every facility for having their drill, &c., which at present is done under difficulties.

A good many of the different halls require repairing, &c., in some cases rebuilding, and I would beg that they may be considered this coming year, they being not only necessary for drilling purposes, but also for the safe custody of stores, arms, &c.

**EQUIPMENT.**—I beg to refer you to the remarks under this head in my last year's report. I may add as regards the rifle that since my last report the Imperial Government have, I believe, decided on the rifle of the future—it being a magazine rifle, and they have also approved of the system introduced by Captain Hartson, 10th Royal Grenadiers, converting the Martini-Henry into a magazine rifle.

I would beg to suggest that a certain number of Martini-Henry rifles in addition to those we now have be purchased from the Imperial authorities year by year, and that the rights of using Captain Hartson's patent be secured at the same time, with a view to issuing them by degrees to the force; in the meantime I propose with your sanction to call in all the Sniders now in possession of the corps, that are not in good order, and replace them with the new and good ones already in store. I would also urge the necessity of getting some of the valise equipment from the Imperial government, so many every year. I am quite aware of the difficulties a young country must have in keeping up quantities of

military stores that may not be used for years, or haply at all, and I believe that if our immediate wants in guns, arms and accoutrements can be supplied within 2 or 3 years that no very great reserve would be necessary.

#### GENERAL REMARKS.

I have no reason to alter my opinions expressed in former reports in the following points:

The advisability of reducing the number of the Militia and the necessity of calling out every corps every year. The advisability of giving more encouragement to the Engineer Branch of the Force.

The necessity of more guns of position and new field Battery guns.

The question of rifle instruction for the force in general, including the necessity of more ammunition for rifle and use of Morris or other tubes for winter practice.

#### Personal.

In celebration of the completion of the new drill shed the citizens of Montreal last week honoured the Minister of Public Works, Sir Hector Langevin, with a grand reception in it, and presented to him a bronze statue of himself, modelled and cast in Paris by G. Hébert expressly for the occasion. Among the distinguished people at the reception were Sir John Macdonald, Hon. Mr. Costigan, Sir Adolphe Caron, Hon. Mr. Foster, Mayor Abbott, Messrs. A. F. Gault, R. S. White, M.P., Senator Drummond, A. T. Lepine, M.P., Col. Lebellesfeuille, Col. Mattice, Col. Caverhill, Col. Lyman, Ald. Cunningham, Capt. Prevost, A.D.C., Col. Massey, Col. Bond and many others. After Sir Hector replied to the address presented all his colleagues in the Cabinet were called upon to speak.

It is reported from Halifax that the 66th Batt. Princess Louise Fusiliers are about to lose their able and popular commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Chas. Macdonald. He will be succeeded by Major Humphrey, who also has the good fortune to be exceedingly popular with the command, and to combine efficiency with popularity.

#### Regimental News.

Daniel Wilson died at Halifax last week, aged 60. His father fought at Waterloo, and his son enlisted in the Royal Artillery and afterwards in the Eleventh Hussars. He was close beside Lord Lucan and Cardigan, heard the fatal order given, and rode into the valley of death. His horse was disembowelled, but he seized another and continued the fight. The second was killed and Wilson himself wounded, but he managed to retreat with the other handful of heroes. He afterwards served through the Indian mutiny and was present at Cawnpore and Lucknow and took part in thirteen other Indian engagements. After serving his time he came to Halifax and joined the Princess Louise Fusiliers (militia), of which he was paymaster-sergeant at his death.

#### Brantford.

At the annual meeting of the Dufferin Rifles' Rifle Association, recently held, Capt. W. A. Wilkes, the Secretary, presented a report from the council, from which the following extracts are made:—

"Your council regrets that a large number of the members of the regiment do not avail themselves of the advantages of weekly target practice, nor do they turn out in such large numbers at the annual matches as is desirable, although more were present this year than at previous matches. No regiment is considered thoroughly efficient unless it is known as a good shooting regiment, and efficiency with the rifle can only be attained by constant practice. To meet objections of a good many the prize meeting has for the past few years been held on one day instead of two, and the "regimental" match has been so arranged that only half a day need be taken up by those who cannot spare a whole day from business. Your council hopes that representative teams will this year be sent to both the Ontario and Dominion Rifle Association matches, and with this end in view steady practice will be undertaken during the spring and summer months. The prizes won at the matches were distributed at the Armory by His Honor Judge Jones on October 4th. A large number of citizens were present, in addition to a full parade of the regiment, showing the interest taken by the citizens in the association. Your council has again to thank His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin and Ava for his continued kindness in sending to the regiment each year the handsome bronze medal for rifle competition. His name will always be linked with the best wishes of the association and regiment."

Major Rothwell submitted the report of the Treasurer, showing a balance in hand of \$68.75. The following are the officers for the coming year:—Lt.-Col. C. S. Jones, President; Major T. H. Jones, Capt. McGlashan, Vice-Presidents; Major B. H. Rothwell, Treasurer; Asst.-Surgeon Bishop, Secretary; William T. Harris, M.D., E. R. Bishop,