

heartening to the associations and corps of the district which are suffering from this disability, and I beg to express the hope that the range may be put in serviceable shape at the earliest possible date.

**No. 6 District—Lt.-Col. E. Lamontagne, D.A.G.**

The established strength for this district is 2,306, and there were authorized to drill for 1888 1,309. In his report on the camp held at Thfee Rivers, commencing on the 26th June, Lt.-Col. Lamontagne says:

The staff was composed of: Lieut.-Col. E. Lamontagne, Deputy Adjutant General, in command; Major H. Prevost, 65th Battalion, Brigade Major; Lieut.-Col. Baker, 64th Battalion, Supply Officer; Surgeon Lafontaine, 86th Battalion, Principal Medical Officer; Capt. C. Bosse, 65th Battalion, Musketry Instructor; Capt. A. H. Gagnier, 76th Battalion, Camp Quartermaster; Sergt. Copeman, of "B" School, acted as Brigade Sergeant Major.

The tents were pitched and blankets distributed by Camp Quartermaster, Captain Gagnier of the 96th Battalion, and all returned into stores in good order.

The medical chest was placed in charge of the senior surgeon in camp, Surgeon Lafontaine, 86th Battalion. The health of the troops was very good and no sickness of any consequence reported, the camping ground being very dry and elevated.

Muster parade was ordered on the arrival of Lt.-Colonel de Bellefeuille, paymaster of the district, and every man on pay list was accounted for. Major-General Sir Frederick Middleton inspected the rifle range and brigade on the 4th July and expressed himself pleased with what he had seen.

I must say that the arms and accoutrements have been neglected in this district, and in many instances the arms were found rusty and the rural armouries with few exceptions in a very bad condition, which I am glad to say are improving.

As we have a number of paid officers that are yet without certificates I would recommend that pay of rank should be given to officers joining school or a uniform price \$2.50 a day, which would be paid only to successful men, others should secure only the actual expenses of the school.

**No. 7 District—Lieut.-Colonel J. J. Duchesnay, D.A.G.**

The establishment in this district is 3,873, and the strength authorized for drill was 2,117. Of this number 1,095 drilled at Camp St. Thomas, of which camp the staff was made up as follows:—

The D.A.G. in command, Lt.-Col. Taschereau, B.M., Lt.-Col. Forrest, camp quartermaster, Lt.-Col. Hudon, 89th battalion, musketry instructor; Captain Vieu, Levis garrison. Artillery, supply officer; Captain R. G. Bourget, 17th battalion, orderly officer, and surgeon, J. E. M. Turcot, Quebec field battery, P.M.O.

The musketry instruction was fairly carried out, but owing to boisterous and wet weather and the delays occasioned by the frequent passages of schooners, lighters and other boats, firing could not take place at all the distances required by the general orders.

Notwithstanding the stormy weather experienced the new tents stoped the test well. I had for my personal use a tent fitted with the Lewis patent pole and ventilators, and I can safely say that it is most comfortable in warm or cold weather. On a very wet night with the wind blowing a regular gale, I was able to loosen from the inside the tent ropes without being obliged as with other tents to go outside and be exposed to be drenched thoroughly. I would recommend the fitting of a few with the patent poles and ventilators and to have them distributed through the different camps in the Dominion and give them a fair test.

In some corps I found the officers deficient in the drill notwithstanding that they are in possession of qualifying certificates from former military schools. It would be desirable to arrange so that they might be made to go through a course of one month at one of the infantry schools to learn their drill and get acquainted with the new changes.

No inconvenience has really been felt by the change of camp from Levis to St. Thomas as far as the infantry corps were concerned. The commanding officer of the Quebec field battery having had all the proper accomadation in the way of stabling his horses and other comforts complained that he was debarred from the competition for the Gzowski cup, owing to the unevenness of the drill ground.

I again state the urgency of putting the Levis rifle range in a state in par with that of Ottawa and other cities. The expenditure will comparatively be small and the change and improvements will give good satisfaction to the force of this city and of Levis. The Beauport flats range is now crossed by the Quebec, Montmorency and Charlevoix Railway, and considerable repairs will be required in order to utilize it during the winter months, as the annual target practice of city corps is generally carried out at that period of the year.

**No. 8 District—Lieut.-Col. G. J. Maunsell, D. A. G.**

The authorized strength in this district is 2,437. During the year renewed the maximum number of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers

and men to receive pay for drill in the district was, 1,378, exclusive of the Infantry School Corps.

The actual strength present at inspection was 1,397. The full number authorized to receive pay performed drill for 1888-89.

The D. A. G. remarks as follows:—Although the period since last report—from November, 1887, to November, 1888—has not been marked by much that is important, and unfortunately biennial not annual drill of country corps (Cavalry and Infantry) still continues. There has been, I consider, steady progress in drill and discipline in the force generally, and besides increased attention to target practice, both in Corps and in Rifle Association.

On the brigade camp held at Chatham, commencing on the 26th June, the D. A. G. thus reports:

The following were the staff: Lt.-Colonel Maunsell, D. A. G., Commandant; Major Gordon, I. S. C., Brigade Major; Lt.-Colonel Blaine, 62nd Fusiliers, Instructor of Musketry; Surgeon Bishop, 73rd Battalion, Principal Medical Officer; Quartermaster (Hon. Major) A. Lipsett, 71st Battalion, Camp Quartermaster; Captain Seely, No. 3 Brigade Garrison Artillery, Supply Officer.

From the time of the camp being authorized until its breaking up, Lt.-Colonel McCulley, 73rd Battalion, whose headquarters are at Chatham, was untiring in his efforts for the success of the camp; securing and preparing excellent grounds with a good and convenient rifle range, and an abundant supply of pure water. Lt.-Colonel McCulley, in his efforts, received the cordial support of the citizens of Chatham. In proof of the kindly spirit of the citizens I may mention the generous action of one citizen in particular, J. B. Snowball, Esq. On hearing that the Brighton Engineers were in want of material with which to construct a bridge of considerable length, capable of taking 9 pr. field guns—Gzowski Engineer competition—this gentleman placed at the disposal of the corps, free of cost, an abundant supply of timber from his extensive lumber yards.

Distances by rail to Chatham not being great (the Infantry School corps and Brighton Engineers proceeded by the recently opened Northern and Western Railway) corps arrived in camp at an early hour on the afternoon of the 26th June. Drill commenced in earnest on the following morning.

When country corps have not been in camp for a period of two years it is unquestionably a difficult matter to take up drill where it had been left off so long ago; officers become "rusty", in their manner of imparting instruction. Better things cannot be expected from non-commissioned officers. (The men are, it is true, eager to acquire knowledge). It is marvellous, therefore, in view of this, to observe the steady progress from day to day. This progress could only be secured by the attendance from time to time of officers and non-commissioned officers at the schools of military instruction of the different arms of the service to which these officers and non-commissioned officers belong. I need only here refer in brief to my remarks in previous reports as to the advantages accruing from the presence in camp of "A" company and staff infantry school corps. These advantages were not less appreciated in this camp.

I regret extremely that the general officer in command was unable to inspect this encampment, for highly as he commended the brigade camp at St. Andrews last year, I am of opinion that the force in Chatham camp was not a whit inferior in point of zeal, nor as regards efficiency; the conduct of the men being exemplary and all ranks did their duty in an admirable manner.

I was most fortunate in the selection of staff. In Major Gordon I found an efficient brigade major, accurate in detail, attentive to general results. In an officer of Lieut.-Colonel Blaine's standing in the force, I had an instructor of musketry who carried out both in letter and spirit the orders relating to target practice. The duties of camp quartermaster were correctly performed by Major Lipsett.

I must again bear testimony to the satisfactory working of the plan recommended by the general officer in command, of appointing a principal medical officer, with one large hospital tent where the patients of each regiment or corps would be treated by their own medical man. The report of Surgeon Bishop is submitted herewith. I beg to support that officer's suggestion as to the issue of a few rubber sheets for the hospital tent. I also direct attention to the recommendation for the improvement of the supply of medicines.

**No. 9 District—Lt.-Col. P. W. Worsley, D.A.G.**

The total established strength in this district is 3,708. The strength authorized to drill last year was 2,004, of whom 1,017 drilled at Camp Aldershot, opening on the 4th September. The corps there assembled were the Kings Troop of Cavalry, the 69th Battalion, Lt.-Col. Starralt; 72nd Battalion, Lt.-Col. Spurr, and 75th Battalion, Lt.-Col. Kaulbach.

The undermentioned were the Brigade Staff:—Major Gordon, R.S. I., Brigade Major; Lt.-Colonel Irving, B.M., No. 12, Musketry Instructor; Lt.-Colonel Chipman, 68th Battalion, Supply Officer; Lt.-Colonel