

*Composition of Force.*

Volunteer and  
regular militia.

9. We are of opinion that the proposed force should consist of the volunteer militia corps of the great cities, and of active battalions of regular militia to be raised in the rural districts; a proportion of artillery and cavalry being distributed throughout the force.

*On the Battalion System.*

Infantry to be  
organized in  
battalions.

Reasons.

10. For the following reasons we consider that the infantry should in all cases be organized in complete battalions.

11. It appears that the failures and disasters of armies composed of irregular troops have generally arisen, not from a want of courage or of drill amongst the private soldiers, but from a want of discipline throughout the entire body.

12. The discipline of an army, we consider, consists, in a downward direction, of a perfect system of circulating orders, and a complete chain of mutual responsibility by which these orders are carried out. In an upward direction it consists of the habit acquired by the individuals composing a large body of depending with confidence upon and acting implicitly under the orders of one directing mind.

13. We think that the habit of command, of circulating orders, and of carrying out the system of mutual responsibility, can only be acquired by great practice.

14. That confidence in superior command and in the system of mutual responsibility is the result of an intimate knowledge of the system, and a conviction that the machinery by which it is worked is in perfect order. This knowledge, however, is not, in our opinion, sufficient. Discipline, we consider, must be acquired by long habit, or it will not stand the test of active service, where excitement and danger so often deprive the mind of its ordinary functions.

15. Generals of disciplined troops move their armies into action with confidence and freedom, for they know by their system of discipline they can "keep them in hand," and trust to them in the hour of danger and excitement.

16. We do not think that discipline and mutual confidence, which are so essential to the organization of an army, could exist to any great extent in a body composed of independent companies.

17. Even were these independent companies formed into battalions for service, we think that captains who had been accustomed to be independent would never submit with confidence to strange lieutenant-colonels, nor would lieutenant-colonels have confidence in independent captains unused to submit to discipline. The necessary chain of mutual responsibility would be untested, the lieutenant-colonels themselves would be unpractised, and the whole organization would produce but little confidence in the mind of a general.

18. We consider, moreover, that esprit de corps is as essential to success in the organization of a militia force as discipline.

19. For these reasons we recommend that the whole force of volunteer and regular militia infantry of the province be formed in complete battalions, and that the people of each locality be encouraged by the nature of the organization to feel an interest and a pride in their own trained battalions.

*Regular Militia.*

20. We recommend that the province be divided into such "military districts" as the commander-in-chief may from time to time direct.

21. That each military district be divided into "regimental divisions."

22. That in order to facilitate the enrolment, relief, and reinforcement of an active force, each regimental division be divided into "sedentary battalion divisions," and be subdivided into "sedentary company divisions."

23. That each regimental division shall furnish one active and one reserve battalion, to be taken as nearly as practicable in equal proportions from the male population of such division, between the ages of 18 and 45.

24. That each company of an active battalion, together with its corresponding reserve company, be taken from within the limits of a defined territorial division, the boundary of which shall be identical with that of a sedentary battalion division, or of a distinct portion of such division.

25. That in order to accommodate the sedentary battalion divisions to the organization of the active battalions, the limits of the former be, where necessary, re-arranged.

*Volunteer Militia.*

26. We recommend that each of the principal cities of the province, namely, Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton, and London, with such portions of the surrounding country as may from time to time be added to them by the commander-in-chief, shall constitute a military district to be divided into regimental and sedentary battalion divisions, as herein-before detailed; that they be allowed to furnish volunteer militia of the three-arms in the proportions herein-after detailed in lieu of active battalions of regular militia. In the event of these cities failing to furnish their full complement of volunteers, they shall in part, or altogether, fall under the general regulations of the regular militia, in such manner as the commander-in-chief shall direct.

27. That all the regiments of volunteer and regular militia shall be numbered from one upwards, the numbers to be drawn by lot.

Retired

Military districts.

Regimental divisions.

Sedentary battalion divisions.

Active battalions.

Active company division.

Sedentary battalion divisions to be made to correspond with active company divisions.

Cities to be military districts, and furnish volunteer or regular militia.

Number of regiments.