

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF
THE MILITIA FOR 1873.

APPENDIX No. 2

(Continued from Page 388.)

ON THE SUBJECT OF ISSUES OF LIGHT AND FUEL
FOR "A" AND "B" BATTERIES, SCHOOLS OF
GUNNERY.

KINGSTON, Dec. 19th, 1873.

Sir,—I have the honor to enclose here with the proceedings of two Boards of Officers, of which I was the President, assembled at Kingston, Toronto, Quebec, and Montreal, to report upon the issues of fuel and light and other supplies required for "A" and "B" Batteries, Schools of Gunnery, at those stations, under instructions contained in your letter dated Ottawa, October 27th, 1873.

In the present Reports of Proceedings, the Boards have confined their attention entirely to the supplies connected with heating and lighting barracks and quarters.

The Regulations and Orders for the Active Militia regulate satisfactorily the scale of rations of food (201) and forage (290), and as there have been as yet no complaints or difficulty with respect to these issues, when properly contracted for, the Boards have abstained from suggesting any change in the working of the present system, except so far as to recommend the employment of an officer in the capacity of supply or control officer, at Kingston and Quebec, to protect the interests of the department, as well as of the troops in their dealings with contractors.

The sweeping of chimnies, cleaning of stoves and pipes, washing of bedding, straw for bedding, and shoeing of horses, are all subjects of supply in the every day life of these Schools of Gunnery, or indeed of any body of troops permanently established; but as the present system of supply appears to be working well, the Boards await further instructions from head-quarters, if they are required to make special reports upon these services.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

S. P. JARVIS Lt. Col.

President of Boards on Fuel, Light, &c.

The Acting Adjt. Gen. of Militia,
Ottawa.

REPORT OF BOARD ON "A" BATTERY, SCHOOL
OF GUNNERY, KINGSTON.

Proceedings of a Board of Officers, assembled by order of the Acting Adjutant General of Militia, dated Ottawa, October 27th 1873, for the purpose of examining and reporting upon the provision actually necessary to be made for the issue of fuel and light and other supplies at the Artillery Schools of Gunnery at Kingston and Quebec, and the detachments from the same at Toronto and St. Helen's Island, for officers and men of "A" and "B" Batteries.

A Board, consisting of the following officers, having assembled pursuant to order at Kingston, on the 30th October, 1873, proceeded to examine the buildings occupied by the head quarters of "A" Battery, School of Gunnery, at that station:

PRESIDENT,

Lieut.-Colonel S. P. Jarvis, C. M. G.,
D.A.G. Mil. Dist. No. 2.

MEMBERS.

Lieut.-Colonel Jackson, Acting D. A. G.,
Mil. Dist. No. 4.

Lt.-Col. Taylor, D. A. G., Mil. Dist. No. 1.

The Board found occupied in the Tête-du-pont Barracks at Kingston, the following rooms, viz.:

- 1 Commandant's quarters.
- 1 Field Officer's.
- 6 other Officers' quarters—one of whom is a married officer, occupying a detached residence, in the Dock Yard.
- 1 Officer's mess-room.
- 1 Officer's ante-room.
- 1 Officer's kitchen.
- 1 Sergeant's mess room.
- 8 Staff Sergeants' quarters.
- 8 passages.
- 6 barrack rooms—one of which is occupied by the Band, and also used for practice.
- 1 soldier's cook house.
- 2 hospital wards.
- 1 surgery.
- 1 ablution house.
- 6 detached forts and towers.
- 1 cell (sufficient for a large garrison).
- 1 Quartermaster's store.
- 3 offices (one Commandant's office, one Master Gunner's office, one orderly room).
- 1 lecture room.
- 2 drill rooms (being four barrack rooms with the partitions removed).
- 2 work shops.
- 1 reading room or library.
- 1 guard room.
- 1 "lock-up," or defaulter's room (off guard room).
- 1 harness room.
- 2 stables (one for officers' horses).
- 2 exterior lamps (one of which lights the Barrack gate, guard room, and entrance to the Barrack cells, and one at the officers' mess.

The detached forts and towers in charge of "A" Battery consist of Fort Henry, Fort Frederick, and four Martello Towers, for the care of which small detachments or caretakers are detailed. The two forts are on the mainland, and access to them is gained by good roads. Of the four Martello Towers, one called the Murney Tower, is at the Western limit of the city, on the main shore, commanding the entrance to the harbor from the Lake. A second called the Shoal Tower, is erected within a few yards of the Market Battery, in the centre of the city, and opposite the Town Hall and Market Place. Access to this tower is gained by means of a boat, provided by the Militia Department. A third in Fort Frederick, opposite the city, and is called Point Frederick Tower. The fourth is called Cedar Island Tower, and is erected on Cedar Island, beneath the guns of Fort Henry. Access to this tower is likewise gained by means of a boat, also provided by the Militia Department.

This tower, in conjunction with the others, commands the approach to the two forts by water, and also the channel of the St. Lawrence, on the Canadian side of Wolfe Island.

For the purpose of regulating the issues of fuel and light, the Board recommended that the year be divided in the following manner, both days inclusive in each period, as laid down in the Imperial Regulations for the issues of fuel and light, for Canada West, viz.:

Summer period.—From 7th May to 15th October, 162 days.

Winter period.—From 16th October to 30th November—16th March to 6th May. 98 days.
Mid winter period.—From 1st December to 15th March, 105 days.

The ration of fuel wood recommended is one inch running measure of an English cord, being eight feet long, four feet high, and four feet wide.

The ration of coal-oil recommended is one inch running measure of an English cord, being eight feet long, four feet high, and four feet wide.

The ration of coal-oil recommended is one fifth of a Canadian pint, to correspond with the one ounce of mould candles to a single ration, as laid down by Imperial Regulations and Scale of Issues.

One such ration of coal-oil is computed to burn for three hours in a single lamp with a burner of ordinary size.

The general scale of issue herein proposed is the same as established by Imperial Regulations in Canada, as far as the same apply to the occupation of the Barracks and other military buildings by the Schools of Gunnery.

As coal oil is dangerous in stables and other places containing combustible material the Board recommend that an equivalent in mould candles for stable lanterns be issued for such places, in lieu of the rations of coal oil allowed.

The scale of fuel and light for the Tête-du-pont Barracks and the detached forts and towers at Kingston, occupied by "A" Battery, is shewn on the tabulated form attached to this Report.

The Board are of opinion that of the four Martello Towers, two might be closed and not occupied at all by caretakers, viz.: the Murney Tower and the Shoal Tower. But as the Murney Tower contains a large quantity of Artillery stores, including powder for the guns, it would be necessary to remove them, if caretakers are not stationed permanently in them.

A recent By-law of the City Council of Kingston has desired all powder to be removed to the old Magazine at Point Frederick. Consequently the powder in the two Martello Towers mentioned above (Murney and Shoal Towers) will be subject to that By-law. And if the powder is removed, the other Artillery stores can also be removed from them.

There are two ditch towers at Fort Henry, for which allowances have occasionally been drawn, but the Board do not think it requisite to have them occupied, if properly secured. They being in charge of the commandant of the School of Gunnery, should be visited periodically by an officer under his command.

The Military Hospital outside of Fort Henry, is properly in charge of the Store Department, as one of the public buildings handed over to the Dominion by the Imperial Government. A caretaker from "A" Battery is now in occupation, and fuel and light are drawn by the School of Gunnery for this purpose. The Board do not recommend allowances for this building to be charged against "A" Battery School of Gunnery.

The officers' mess established in the Tête-du-pont Barracks having been provided with gas fixtures at considerable cost, and the Commandant of the School of Gunnery having represented to the Board that his mess has not drawn coal oil, as allowed by the regulations, for several months, but has consumed and is now consuming gas at the expense of the officers themselves, the Board think that so long as gas is burnt in this establishment, and coal oil is not drawn, an allowance of money equal to the value of their allowance in coal oil should be paid by the Militia Department to the mess, on condition that the officers continue to pay the Gas Company's bills.