

ENROLLING HORSES.

I have studied this subject attentively during the past year, and having taken the opinions of a great number of persons in various parts of the Dominion on the matter, have come to the conclusion, that the object can be attained without increasing the estimates, by giving enrolment gratuities, viz., by the insertion of a clause in the Militia Act, exempting from all statute labor, tolls on roads, water taxes, etc., teams of horses duly certified as having been enrolled in a local Battery, and marked, with the initial letter of the Battery. There are certain details connected with this proposal, which need not be gone into in a report of this nature. They are mainly intended to guard against imposition, and to induce owners of enrolled horses to drive them together in pairs viz : by non exemption from tolls on roads if driven singly, etc., etc.

I can see no difficulty in carrying out this measure, and if it is approved of, I believe that the difficulty of horsing Field Batteries will be ended, that the Batteries will have the pick of all the horses in their vicinity, and that the horses having been constantly driven in pairs will work kindly together, in the gun and wagon teams. The riding horses of the Battery can be provided by those using them as in Cavalry corps."

The opinions of several Commanding Officers of Field Batteries in various Military Districts, are given in Appendix 4, page 80, Militia Report, 1873, they are too lengthy to be given in this paper.

INSTRUCTION OF FIELD BATTERIES.

The present system of instruction is one that might be very well improved upon, and is a subject that requires very careful consideration. Under present regulations, each officer commanding a Field Battery, receives \$200 per annum for the purpose of providing a competent Instructor for his battery, as well as keeping in good order, the guns, carriages, harness, stores, etc., in his charge. In many cases no competent instructor is attached to the Batteries, and the equipment of the Batteries is not kept in that good condition that it ought to be. Would it not be better that an Instructor be detailed