

FROM MONTREAL.

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

There is absolutely nothing new to report in Volunteer matters, excepting the annual inspection last week of the "Prince of Wales" Rifle Regiment."

Major Bond has every reason to be gratified at the success of his efforts to bring up his regiment in point of numbers and efficiency. A fair muster was made and what were there looked well. A local says they lack a drill shed. How is this? Have they not the use of the Drill Hall? Additional clothing is much needed by the men and they should get it, but like everything else is a question more of time than anything else. The Deputy Adjutant General, Col. W. Osborne Smith gave them a thorough and most minute inspection, and the result seemed highly gratifying to him as he addressed them as follows:

Major Bond, Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men of the Prince of Wales' Regiment.

I am glad to meet you to-night, and am particularly pleased to see you mustering so well. I am glad that my inspection of this evening has shown me many men still in the regiment whom I remember as having served under me, not only in the Fenian invasion, but even as far back as when the regiment was stationed at Sandwich. You must remember that you are the first infantry regiment in the country, and as such it behoves the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men to stick to the regiment, and, in spite of the many drawbacks and difficulties in the way, to enable it to keep its superior position. I can safely say that the faithful report which I shall forward to the Adjutant General of your muster this evening will be one which will do you credit, and of which you may be proud.

FROM THREE RIVERS.

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

Lt.-Col. Hanson, Brigade Major of our District, has returned from his semi-annual inspection tour, and we are pleased to hear such good accounts regarding the manner in which the men turned out in the several parishes from this to St. Jacques, the average attendance being 40 per company and much interest is taken by the men of the force.

The rifle match held last October at Berthier *en Haut* has had the desired effect, namely, of keeping up not only an *esprit du corps* in each company, but in the whole Division. A great drawback, however, exists in the want of drill sheds, or suitable places where the men can meet for drill during the winter months. We are in hopes of hearing shortly of these corps being formed into Provisional Batts., which would stimulate them in keeping each company up to the mark.

We trust when the spring comes and the men are placed under canvas for their annual drill, our District Staff Officer, Lt.-Col. deLotbiniere Harwood will be fully satisfied with them and will be enabled to make a good report.

NOTES FROM MY CRIMEAN JOURNAL.

THE BASHI-BAZOUKS.

This irregular cavalry, whose appellation in the Turkish language signifies literally "The Mad Horsemen," were first attempted to be organized by General Beatson, an officer of considerable standing in the Indian Army and who had been the leader of Irregular Cavalry in many a well fought battle, where, on all occasions, he distinguished himself.

The Bashi-Bazouk Force, or "Beatson's Horse," as it was then called, was under the Foreign Office, and consequently under the direction of Lord Stratford, our Ambassador at the Court of Constantinople; this arrangement held good until 1856, when General M. Smith, late Her Majesty's 13th Hussars, (and who had superseded General Beatson in September, 1855), obtained permission to have the force named in the Army List as "The Osmanli Irregular Cavalry," by which title it was designated until its final disbandment in August, 1856.

Each regiment was 500 strong, and eight regiments constituted the force, thus giving a total of 4,000 men, or with native officers 5,000.

CONSTITUTIONS OF REGIMENTS.

English Officers.—1 Commandant; 1 second in command; 1 Adjutant.

Native Officers.—1 Binbashee or head of a thousand, from the Turkish word *bin*, a thousand, and *bash*, head; 1 Colassee, or second in command.

IN EACH TROOP.

1 Yuzbashee, or head of a hundred; from *yuz*, hundred. 2 Mulazims, or Lieutenants. 2 Bullock Emins, or writers and accountants. 4 Chouses or Sergeants, *i.e.* one to each subdivision or "Takim." 5 Onbashees or heads of ten; from *on*, ten, answers to the same rank as corporal in the British army. 1 Nalbund, or Farrier. 1 Sarach, or Saddler. 100 Nefer, or Troopers.

The rate of pay including all allowances was as follows:—

Commandant, per day, ster.	£2 8 0
2nd in Command "	" 1 19 0
Adjutant "	" 1 7 0
Binbashee, per month	" 14 0 0
Colassee "	" 10 0 0
Yuzbashee "	" 6 10 0
Mulazim "	" 5 0 0
Bullock Emin "	" 3 10 0
Onbashee "	" 2 5 0
Nalbund "	" 2 5 0
Sarach "	" 2 5 0
Nefer "	" 1 13 4

Besides the above the English officers had rations of meat, bread, candles, wine, &c., for themselves and servants, the native officers and men rations of bread alone.

Forage for horses as follows:—

Commandant, 4 chargers and 2 Baggage ponies or mules. 2nd in Command, 3 chargers and 1 Baggage pony or mule. Adjutant, 3 chargers and 1 Baggage pony or mule. Binbashee, 3 chargers and 1 Baggage pony or mule. Colassee, 2 chargers;

Yuzbashee, 2 chargers; and for the remainder rations for one horse.

In a force composed of many nations and languages the interpreters department was all important; the chief interpreter, Col. Girard, spoke no less than nine languages fluently, he was a man of education and a perfect gentleman in his manners. Second class interpreters were attached also to all officers in command; and as an inducement to the English officers to acquire the Turkish language, in which all commands were given, those who passed an examination were permitted to draw the allowance of a second class interpreter—15 shillings sterling per diem—in addition to their pay.

The uniform of the officers consisted of a dark green tunic with gold embroidery and without a collar, crimson trousers with gold stripes, a dark green felt helmet with red horse hair plume, (seldom or ever worn), crimson forage cap and gold lace band, sword, subretache, pouch and belt with the Crescent ornament. Horse furniture, same as the British Light Cavalry, only more profusely ornamented the Shabruque being crimson and trimmed with deep gold lace. The Arab regiments were splendidly mounted, the uniforms of the men blazing with gold embroidery. The Arnauts, Turks and other nations comprising this force were not so well mounted as the Arabs, though they all rode small, active, and viry steeds, capable of undergoing a great deal of fatigue.

The Bashi-Bazouks were just being made good soldiers of when peace having been declared their disbandment took place. The government acted most liberally in this matter. The English officers received a gratuity of two months full pay and allowances, £30 for each charger, £25 for a passage home, and £16 sterling for each English servant. The £30 allowed for each charger were supposed to cover the loss sustained by their sale. But as a rule so absurdly cheap were horses at the end of the war, that many English officers lost large sums by their stables.

The native officers and men received a gratuity of three months pay, rations and forage till the regiments reached their destinations; this was unnecessary liberality, anyhow the native officers and men were most certainly astonished at its magnitude.

There is but one opinion amongst the officers who commanded them, which is, that if judiciously treated they would have proved a very valuable body of troops, inasmuch as they would be tractable and brave, while their peculiar powers of endurance for hard work, and the small amount of necessaries or baggage they require constitute an excellence for light skirmishing cavalry in which they certainly could not be surpassed.

R. L.

The town and district of Montescho, in the Province of Aidin, near Smyrna, had been laid waste by an earthquake, which also did great damage to Marmaritz and Mula, small villages in the vicinity.