

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE MILITIA FOR 1873.

(Continued from Page, 240)

FORCE ON SERVICE AT FORT GARRY.

The establishment, as reported on the 31st December 1873, consisted of the following:--

Distribution.	Field Officers.	Staff.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Staff Sergeants.	Color & Drummers.	Corporals.	Buglers.	Privates.	Horses.
Artillery.....	1	1	1	2	1	3	4	4	3	60	1
Infantry.....	1	1	4	4	4	0	10	10	3	18	3
	1	4	5	6	4	12	20	20	8	201	3

For further information relating to this force, I respectfully refer you to the report of Lieut. Colonel W. O. Smith, C. M. G., Deputy Adjutant General, Military District No. 10, which will be found in the appendix.

During the year hut barracks have been erected at Fort Garry, and the same are now occupied by the Dominion force at that station. This measure has added much to the comfort of the men, and will prove economical as compared with previous arrangements.

RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS.

The aid given to Dominion, Provincial and other rifle associations amounts to about \$15,000 per annum; that granted to the Dominion Association is expended in prizes, and for the expenses of a team of Canadian marksmen to Wimbledon each year. The success which has attended the efforts of the Association in respect of this team, renders the object worthy of continued support and commendation. Apart from the good results to the men, and the emulation it creates amongst Canadian marksmen to be selected for the team, it has attended in a remarkable manner to make the Dominion better known throughout the whole world; and as an advertisement for emigrants is of great value.

The aid granted to provincial associations is entirely expended for prizes and expenses attending the matches.

Under the present system the local associations obtain aid direct from government, without being compelled to affiliate with any central organization; but it appears to me that these organizations for competition in rifle shooting have attained such a position as to render the adoption of some plan on one uniform basis necessary.

Such a plan might perhaps be arranged as follows:-- 1st. Provide the necessary means for expenses of the Wimbledon team and contribution in aid of the Dominion Rifle Association; 2nd. Divide one half of the remainder of the appropriation amongst the several Provincial Associations according to population, and the other half amongst the several county associations in the Dominion, on the understanding that only those affiliated with the Provincial association of their respective Provinces, and who make proper returns of matches or prize meetings, be recognized as entitled to aid, 3rd. The grant to county associations to be based on the number of competitors at matches, and upon the amount of local contributions in money, in aid of the funds of the respective

associations for prizes; 4th. Returns of prize meetings from all associations receiving government aid to be sent to the Department of Militia and defence.

AID TO EFFICIENT BANDS.

The total sum available for this service during the past year was \$7,000, and it has been divided amongst the battalions of militia who maintain bands of music, the amount paid to each, ranges from \$50 to \$100 per annum, according to extent and efficiency of the bands. This aid, trifling as it is, has proved a great boon to the officers, and reduces to some extent the personal expenses of each, in respect of payments to the band fund of their respective corps.

ORDNANCE AND EQUIPMENT OF FIELD BATTERIES OF ARTILLERY.

The expenditure authorized under this head has been devoted during the past three years to the purchase of the new 9 pounders muzzle-loading rifled field guns, and harness, such as are being issued to the Royal Artillery. The guns are issued as received to the older field batteries of artillery, in exchange for the smooth bore guns now in possession; and the latter are thus made available for newly organized batteries not yet equipped.

HORSES FOR FIELD BATTERIES.

Some difficulty is experienced by commanding officers providing horses, for the allowance, and under the regulations now in force. This difficulty is not confined to any one district, but is more apparent in some districts than in others. I have therefore taken steps to communicate with these officers through the staff in the different districts, in order to ascertain the difficulties, and the suggestion each has to make in respect of his own corps.

SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION.

The two Schools of Gunnery at Kingston and Quebec continue to afford a satisfactory means of instructing officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the artillery. These schools have been most successful since their organization, and there seems to be no difficulty in keeping the strength up to the full establishment. Seven officers, and 136 non-commissioned officers and men have joined the school at Kingston, and seven officers and 150 non-commissioned officers and men have joined the school at Quebec during the year ending 31st December, 1873. Special reports made by the respective commandants on the state and conditions of the schools are attached hereto, to which your attention is invited.

In addition to the Schools of Gunnery at Kingston and Quebec, there are six schools of military instruction in operation under the District Staff, viz.: Toronto, Kingston, Montreal, Quebec, Fredericton and Halifax. The numbers in attendance at these latter schools are fully up to former averages, but as the schools are only maintained during the winter months I am unable to submit the exact returns until after the 1st June next. These schools have been most useful in imparting primary instruction to the officers of corps and candidates for commissions in the Militia. It is, however, evident that they are not sufficient to supply the higher class of instruction which has become indispensable to the maintenance of the present force in a satisfactory condition; nor do they supply instruction such as is necessary for the education of those who may be required for the future military necessities of the Dominion.

The ordinary duties of an officer may be performed without special training, but the higher class of duties and the capacity for superior command, can only be reached through a long course of study and preparation. It is therefore certain that some provision beyond that now existing is needed. This want might be met in two ways. 1st. By sending a number of young men to England, where suitable facilities are available. 2nd. By the establishment of a high class military school in Canada.

As distance would likely prove an impediment to the first course being adopted, the second will no doubt, commend itself as worthy of consideration. An institution at which young men could secure a superior military and scientific education would produce results alike beneficial to the Dominion and to those who join for instruction. To the Dominion it would prove a ready and economical means of providing officers whose military services could be utilized hereafter in the different districts, and to the cadet an education which would fit him for both civil and military duties, would give undoubted facilities for remunerative employment at all times.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

WALKER POWELL, Lieut. Col.
Acting Adj. General of Militia.
Canada.

HEAD QUARTERS,

OTTAWA, JANUARY, 1874.

APPENDIX No. I

MILITARY DISTRICT, NO. 1

Deputy Adjutant-General's Office,
London, 27th November, 1873.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward the enclosed Inspection Report, for this District of the corps that have performed their annual drill for the current year, up to the present date, being about one-half the strength of the district; the remainder, purpose to drill during the month of June, next year.

In the 1st Brigade Division, under command of Lieut-Colonel Moffat, Brigade Major, the following corps performed their annual drill in accordance with general orders, viz:--

The "Mooretown" and "Kingsville" Troop of Cavalry 6 Officers 77 non-commission officers and men.

The Sarnia Battery Garrison Artillery, 3 officers 28 non commission officers and men.

The 22nd "Oxford" Rifles; the 24th "Kent" Infantry; the 26th "Middlesex" the 27th "Lambton"

And the Windsor and Lemington Companies of Infantry. Total strength, 109 officers, and 1,238 non commission officers and men.

The total strength of the Brigade being 1,471, and an average of 46 per company, or corps

This Brigade has turned out very well, their drill and general efficiency been very satisfactory. Lieut. Colonel Moffat reports, the 22nd Oxford Rifles being in a highly creditable state, their strength averaging 49 per company, on parade.

In the 2nd Brigade Division, under command of Lieut. Colonel Service, Brigade Major, the following corps drilled, viz. --

The "Wellington" Field Battery of Artillery, 4 officers, 66 non-commission officers and men; 51 horses, 4 guns.