

Imperial authorities are fully aware of, and duly appreciate, the value of this institution, and the high standard in military training of its graduates. Our other Royal Schools of Military Instruction, in the respective arms of the service have continued to give satisfaction, and have become popular with the Force. They all appear to have done good work, and are reported on in complimentary terms by the general officer commanding. The influence maintained by the sound training of so many of our officers in these excellent schools cannot but be perceptibly felt in raising the standard of the whole Force in point of military education.

The following synopsis of the certificates reported to have been granted at these schools during the year shows briefly the extent of the work which they are accomplishing:

Royal School of Cavalry, Quebec.....	19
“A” Battery, Royal School of Artillery, Kingston, Ont....	29
“B” “ “ “ “ Quebec.....	47
“C” “ “ “ “ Victoria, B. C.....	...
Royal School of Mounted Infantry, Winnipeg, Man.....	13
“A” Company, Royal School of Infantry, Frederickton, N.B	57
“B” “ “ “ “ St. John’s, Que... ..	38
“C” “ “ “ “ Toronto, Ont.....	86
“D” “ “ “ “ London, Ont.....	45
Total.....	334

Four 9-pr. rifled guns, with carriages, etc., complete, purchased from the Imperial authorities, were issued to No. 2 Battery of the 1st Brigade of Field Artillery, at Guelph, in exchange for obsolete smooth-bore guns. The whole of our field artillery is now armed with rifled guns, except the Sydney battery, which, I hope, will be supplied at an early day with this improved armament.

AINING THE CIVIL POWER.

The militia force of Canada has been called upon in aid of the civil power during the year 1888, upon the three occasions under-mentioned:

Trouble with Indians on the Skeena River (Province of British Columbia), from 16th July to 25th August; “C” Battery, Regiment of Canadian Artillery.

Anticipated riot, Canadian Pacific Railway and Red River Valley Railway (Province of Manitoba), from 26th September to 3rd October; Mounted Infantry School Corps.

Strike on the Hereford Railway (Province of Quebec), from 31st October to 7th November; No. 1 Troop of the 5th Regiment of Cavalry, and part of the 58th “Compton” Battalion of Infantry.

A special report upon the first named and most important of these services is published. Upon this occasion, and upon the second named, our permanent troops were employed, and in every instance the conduct of the Canadian militia has been up to its, uniformly excellent standard. The report of the Deputy Adjutant General of Military District No. 10 to the general officer commanding, upon the calling out of the mounted infantry in anticipation of rioting at Winnipeg, not being of sufficient importance to require printing in *extenso*, I beg to quote two brief paragraphs therefrom:—

“ From the 20th to the 31st all were confined to barracks. On the evening of the 31st, at 7.30 o’clock, the magistrates demanded the presence of the mounted infantry at the scene of the anticipated riot; and ten minutes after my handing Col. Taylor the order, the men rode out of barracks. I may here remark that the night was pitch black and the state of the roads fearful. Notwithstanding this, officers and men were delighted to turn out

“ During the time the men were confined to barracks (eleven days) their conduct was very good; and I have great pleasure in bringing this before your notice.”

The presence of the active militia for a few days having proved sufficient to prevent any riotous proceedings on the part of the Italian laborers on the line of the Hereford Railway, the detailed reports of our officers on the occasion do not require printing in full; but the following brief extract from the report of the Deputy Adjutant General of Military District No. 5, I beg leave to append as a matter of general interest: “ I have much pleasure in reporting that during the whole affair the troops conducted themselves in a soldierly and temperate manner, such as to reflect credit on themselves and their officers.” The general officer commanding, in forwarding the above mentioned report, says that credit is due particularly to Lt.-Colonel Pope, 58th Battalion.

It is gratifying indeed to note that on every occasion where the Canadian militia are called upon for service, such is invariably the praise which their conduct, while on duty, evokes from their superior officers, and from the country at large.

FROM THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING.

General Middleton submits with his report those of the different responsible staff officers under his command viz: The commandant Royal Military College, the Inspector of Artillery, the Inspecting Officer of Engineer Militia, the commandants of the Royal Schools of Instruction, and the Deputy Adjutants-General of the several military districts.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE.

I inspected the Royal Military College on the 10th and 11th of May, and found everything progressing most satisfactorily. Major General Olivier, the commandant, reported favourably of the professors and instructors and the non-commissioned staff.

The cadets are still crowded as to their dormitories, but I trust the ensuing year will see a great improvement in this respect. An hospital is required, and is absolutely necessary. The unsightly building now used as a gymnasium ought to be pulled down and a new gymnasium erected on another site. This I also consider very necessary, the course of gymnastics being most important for the health and the development of the physique of the cadets.

I was also able to be present at the distribution of prizes on the 27th June. On this occasion the premier, Sir John A. Macdonald, was good enough to be present, and to distribute the prizes to the satisfaction and pleasure of the whole college. The cadets marched past and went through the manual, firing and bayonet exercise and Sir John was pleased to express his gratification at his visit and his conviction that the institution was of great value to the country in general.

This year an unusual number of commissions were offered in the Imperial army to the cadets of this college, besides the four annually offered, so that five received commissions in the Royal Engineers, three in the Royal Artillery, one in the Cavalry and one in the Infantry. This alone proves that the Imperial government is fully satisfied with those graduates who have already obtained commissions in the Imperial service. Most gratifying articles have appeared in the English press on the supply of officers to the British army from the Royal Military College, Kingston, showing that the value of the education given them is fully appreciated in England, as I believe it is now in Canada.

I would here beg to draw attention to the rules promulgated by the Imperial authorities, governing the obtaining of commissions through the Canadian militia with reference to cadets who have put in two years at the Royal Military College and then left. The regulations provide for the granting of six commissions in the Imperial army to officers of the Canadian militia who have served two trainings and are between 19 and 22 years of age and pass certain qualifying examinations. It very often happens that cadets for personal and private reasons leave the college after two years, and provided they satisfy certain requirements they are given a certificate of military qualification entitling them to commissions in the militia. I would recommend that these certificates be accepted in lieu of the trainings, as were these cadets required to perform these trainings, it would in many instances, render them intelligible by reason of ages; and further, I consider the possession of such certificate guarantees a more extensive knowledge of drill and military duties than could possibly be obtained by two military trainings. These gentlemen would, of course, have to undergo the competitive qualifying examinations required by the regulations and satisfy the other required conditions, and no injustice would consequently be done to other militia officers by this concession, and commissions in the Imperial service would thus be open to a class of men possessing high qualifications and eminently eligible.

SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION.

I visited the different schools of instruction during the past year and found no falling off in their general efficiency, and am satisfied they continue to fully justify their *raison d’être*.

CAVALRY.—I inspected the Cavalry School Corps under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Turnbull on the 20th July, and was perfectly satisfied with the result. The horses were in first rate order, and the men smart and soldierlike and well set up. The manoeuvres, including skirmishing and dismounted practice were well executed. The new barracks and stables are excellent, requiring only a few slight additions, mere matters of detail. The Riding School built out of the materials of the old drill shed is also now completed and will prove of immense utility. The interior economy seems to be everything I could wish, and Lieut.-Colonel Turnbull seems to have been able to imbue his small command with an *esprit de corps* which is equal to his and their credit. I only wish that the troop could be augmented in numbers and I must again urge that it be at least increased to 50 men and horses. It is also absolutely necessary in my opinion that an addition of one subaltern, a riding master and a quartermaster sergeant should be made at once, and that the senior duty officer should hold the rank of Captain, as is the case in all the other school corps. This would enable me to depute Lieut.-Colonel Turnbull to inspect at some of the camps, which will be