

discipline that bind men together in disaster as in success and secure decisive and permanent military advantages. Nor have Volunteer Officers the instruction and professional acquirements obligatory to their responsible positions, civil avocations have interfered with their joining such Military Schools as existed and as it was felt that enforced attendance would perhaps bring on their resignation, and the consequent disorganization of corps, which it was thought desirable to bolster up, the requisite professional knowledge and qualifications were not exacted and things allowed to slide.

§

Notwithstanding this sacrificing the interests of State to personal convenience for the sake of at least securing efficiency in point of numbers, still is the Volunteer force shortcoming both in officers and men, and the gradual falling off since 1872-73, in the number of those who volunteer, has obliged Government to reduce the establishments of Infantry and Cavalry corps by over *one fifth*.

Instead of this reduction taking place, corps unable to maintain their strength with volunteers should have been recruited by ballot, or disbanded and Regular Militia formed to replace them and keep up the total to at least 43,000 men, as provided by Statute.

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To study the organization of the Force, brings strongly to mind, how slightly the judicious exercise of authority, has guided the good will of those who, since 1868, have voluntarily assumed the duties of military service. It is difficult to understand what could have induced, to allow such hap-hazard organization as the present, to proceed unhindered. Was it through ignorance of the resources of the several sections of the country, in men, &c., of their topography, military features, and probable mode of defence, or was it through a steady purpose to not oppose the will or even the caprice of the people? Whatever may have been the cause, the effect is that corps have been organized not in obedience to sound military principles, but to the impulse of the moment apparently, to suit personal fancy, or from even less plausible motives.

The usual proportions of the different arms to one another have been disregarded. Cavalry that constitutes generally 1-6 of an army, stands in Ontario as 1-14, in Quebec as 1-20, in New-Brunswick as 1-7, whilst Nova-Scotia has *one* troop of cavalry!