

PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION

In submitting "The Guide" to the kind consideration of the Canadian Militia, I am led to hope that it may, to a certain extent, fill the place of that excellent Manual of Interior Economy, by Major F. E. Dixon, now out of print.

I have endeavoured to put in a concise and handy form such information as will, I think, be generally useful in the administration of a Battalion, not only in Barracks or Camp, but also during the ordinary drills at local Head-Quarters. For the latter purpose it may be said that very little knowledge or method is needed, but I hold the contrary opinion, and consider that the same discipline, regularity and order are required at home as on service; and moreover, that the best time to acquire and practice soldierly habits is when quietly parading for weekly drills. I do not, of course, suppose that opportunities will offer on these occasions for the practice of every detail here provided for, but a vast deal can be done towards increasing the efficiency of the Militia by a rigid adherence to the system and principles now set forth.

"The Guide" has been compiled from the following authorities, viz., King's Regulations, Army Act, Militia Regulations and Orders, Lord Wolseley's Soldiers' Pocket Book, Colonel Anderson's Manual of Military Usages, the Standing Orders of Her Majesty's 16th, 17th, 60th, 97th Regiments of Foot and the Rifle Brigade, to which I have added my own experience in the Active Militia of Canada, as a Company Officer, an Adjutant and a Commanding Officer.

Toronto, September, 1880.

W. D. O.