

thirty and seventy miles respectively, to the east and west."

"The Companies of the Provisional Battalion that are at present stationed in Upper Fort Garry are very insufficiently provided with barrack accommodation, the buildings occupied by them, in the Hudson's Bay Company's Post being more shabby, affording inadequate shelter to the men; the fact of so large a number of soldiers, moreover, occupying these storehouses of the Hudson's Bay Company puts that commercial company to considerable inconvenience. If it be intended, therefore, to maintain a portion of the Active Militia on duty for any length of time in the Province, I would recommend that a fort, or defensible Barracks of log huts be constructed in a suitable military position for the proper shelter and accommodation of the troops.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 11.

(British Columbia.)

The *Gazette* of 16th October, 1871, constituted this Province, the most distant of the Dominion, into a Military District (No. 11), but as yet no steps have been taken towards appointing any Staff, or enrolling the militia.

The time, however, has now arrived when it is desirable to do so, and I would therefore recommend the formation of certain corps of Active Militia, composed partly of Infantry, and partly of Artillery, for this District; that suitable arms, clothing and equipment for such be ordered and despatched from England, direct to the Province by sea, that the usual assistance in aid of Drill Sheds and Amories, be allowed, a Military School established, Officers of the Reserve nominated, to take the enrolment of all men liable by the Dominion Militia Act to Military service, and a competent Staff officer, be appointed to command the whole of the Militia, in the District, assisted by two Brigade Majors, one of whom should be with his Commander at Victoria, the other at some place on the mainland.

GRAND TRUNK BRIGADE.

The Grand Trunk Railway Brigade, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Brydges numbers 2,261 officers and men.

On the 1st July I inspected a portion of this Brigade on the *Champ-de-Mars*, in Montreal, when a Review was held, and *feu-de-foie* fired, it being the Anniversary of Dominion Day, and again on the 8th of July I inspected about 800 men of the Brigade, who took part in the field day held at Logan's Farm. On both occasions the soldierlike bearing and efficiency of the corps present was conspicuous.

Lieutenant Colonel Brydges Commanding, has brought this special Brigade to a high state of efficiency, thus rendering great public service to the country. He is well supported by his officers and men, among whom there is much *esprit-de-corps*. There are many men in the ranks who have served in the Regular Army, and in point of general efficiency, this Brigade is superior to any in the Active Militia of the Dominion. The officers and men are employes of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, from all of whom military service is required. Having recently inspected the Armoury of the Corps belonging to this Brigade, who are stationed in Montreal, I found everything in excellent order, admirably arranged, and the Armoury itself, in point of cleanliness, simplicity and convenience, a perfect model.

With a view to increasing the efficiency of this Brigade, I would recommend that the Artillery Corps belonging to it be trained as far as possible to Artillery Exercises, under the instruction and supervision of the Inspector of Artillery, and provided so soon as the Department is in a condition to do so with suitable armament.

Major. T. W. Worsley is the Brigade Major of this Brigade, and this Officer's Report will be found in the Appendix.

CAVALRY.

The present strength of the Cavalry in every District is too weak in proportion to that of other arms, there being but one regiment, five squadrons, and nine independent troops for the whole Dominion. The gradual increase of the Cavalry, and the organization into District Regiments is recommended, also that an additional period for drill should be allowed, so that all Cavalry Corps might be drilled and paid for thirty-two days in the year, sixteen of those days with the respective Brigades, during the summer season, in Camps of Exercise, the other sixteen days during the winter, "Regimentally," at the Head Quarters of Corps, where, if possible, a Drill Shed should be made available as a Riding School. It is further desirable to adopt the following measures:

(1st) that as far as possible, all Cavalry Corps be largely composed of farmers and their sons, who possess horses, are in easy circumstances, and reside in the frontier counties.

(2nd) that the horses in future, in all cases, be enrolled as well as the men in the respective troop, (a retaining fee of \$10 per horse, per annum, being paid to each man, on condition of his providing a proper description of animal at the time of the annual drill, or for service when required.)

(3rd) that the present horse allowance of 75 cents daily for each effective horse, at the time of the annual drill, or when on duty, be increased to \$1.

(4th) the forage allowance of hay, to be increased from 14 to 18 lbs. per horse, on the same occasions.

(5th) that in future issues of uniform clothing to the Cavalry, pantaloons, buttoning at the ankle, be substituted in lieu of trousers, (which are better adapted for riding purposes, and conveniently be worn along with the ordinary long boots used in Canada.

(6th) that hunting spurs be adopted. A number of Cavalry Snider Carbines are being received from the Imperial Arsenal in England, and the Department will shortly be in a position to re-arm the whole of the Cavalry, with the same carbine used by the Regular Army, which is a far superior weapon to the Spencer Carbine.

During the past summer the Canadian Cavalry corps made some very creditable marches to and from the District Camps of Exercise at the time of Annual Drill, and I would particularly call attention to the long march of the New Brunswick Regiment of Cavalry to and from the Camp at Fredericton, and to the march of a Squadron of Cavalry from Sherbrooke, in the Easter Townships, to the Camp at La Prairie, proving the efficiency of these Corps; as this arm of the service fulfills most important purposes by its power of mobility, the desirability of maintaining efficiency in this respect, by practice, is apparent, and I would recom-

mend whenever circumstances admit that as a general rule, cavalry corps in every district should march to and from the respective Camps of Exercise, at the time of Annual Drill, instead of moving by rail or steamboat on such occasions.

With care and good management, Cavalry are capable of astonishing marches, and not the least extraordinary march of recent occurrence was effected by the Cavalry of the Guard, in England (probably the heaviest Cavalry in the world), who, on the conclusion of the autumn manoeuvres last September, marched back to London in seven and a quarter hours, a distance of thirty-four miles, having previously practised field operations for ten days.

ARTILLERY.

It is with great pleasure I have to state that during the past year, not only has the inspection of the Artillery been better attended to, but means have been adopted by the establishment of Schools of Gunnery at Kingston and Quebec, under the command of professional officers of the Royal Artillery, (who are lent by the Imperial Government) to carry out the practical and scientific instruction required, more thoroughly.

On the departure of the Regular Troops, the Fortifications and armament at Quebec were handed over to the Dominion Government. The new Forts at Point Lévis, opposite Quebec, (which are of a most formidable description) are not yet armed, but the Imperial Government have notified that guns of a powerful description, suited to the requirements of modern warfare, will be mounted on these works.

At Quebec itself, 187 guns are mounted, at Kingston 85, at Toronto 9, and there are guns of position mounted at other places. Although some of these guns are obsolete pattern, yet many of them are powerful and of considerable calibre, and would be useful for purposes of war.

The amount of Artillery ammunition at present in store, although adequate for ordinary purposes and sufficient to provide the necessary annual practice allowance for all Artillery Corps for several years, or to meet the probable demand, resulting from possible Fenian invasion, is however, altogether quite insufficient in the event of war.

The organization of the two Schools of Artillery (A and B Batteries) formed at Kingston and Quebec, as authorized in General Orders of 20th October last, has been effected, great eagerness having been displayed by both officers and men of the militia to join them. These Schools not only provide for the scientific and practical instruction in Artillery exercises of such officers and men as are attached to them, but they furnish guards for the forts, magazines, stores and armament at those places.

The School of Gunnery at Kingston, consists of 1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants, 1 Assistant Surgeon, seven Sergeants, six Corporals, four Bombardiers, three Trumpeters, 130 Gunners, (among whom there are eighty nine English-speaking, and fifty-four French speaking Canadians) and is quartered in the Citadel.

Both these Batteries are complete in numbers, except as regards skilled Artificers and specially trained Sergeant Instructors, but application has been made to the Imperial