

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE MILITIA FOR 1873.

APPENDIX No. I

(Continued from Page. 327)

(A)

Submitted with Report on 8th Regiment of Cavalry—Geo Maunsell, Lieut.-Colonel.

CAMP, APOHAQUI, July 15th, 1873.

To Lieut. Col. SAUNDERS, Commanding Officer of 8th Regiment, Y. C.

"I have examined the horses in camp, and finding the majority of them fit for service; only a few are in a state unfit for service, from disease contracted in camps and from injuries from the saddles. There are a great many saddles totally unfit for use, and are the cause of keeping many horses parade.

"A medicine chest is indispensable, and should contain the following quantities of medicines:—

Pu Aloe Bhd.	lbj.
" Gentian or Rad.	lbss.
" Zingib.	lbss.
" Capsici.	lbss.
Tr. Opii P. B.	lbj.
" Aconiti Flemings	lbss.
" Arnica Mont.	lbj.
Spt. Æth Nit.	lbj.
" Ammon Arom.	lbss.
Chloroform.	zvj.
Ol. Terebinth.	lbj.
Lig. Ammon, Fort 800.	℥j.
Lig. Plumbi Subacet P. U. S.	℥iv.
Plumbi Acet.	lbss.
Pu. Digitatis.	lbss.
" Ipecacuhana.	lbss.
" Potass. Nit.	lbj.
" Ferri Sulph.	℥j.
Hydrarg. Chlor.	ziv.
Linseed Oil, cold drawn.	congj.
Oli. Olivæ.	oij.
Tow.	lbss.
Cotton bondages.	Four Sets.
Wollen do.	"
Antimo. Tart.	lbss.
Ac. Nitro. Hydrochlor. P. B.	℥j.
Æth Sulph.	lbss.
Ac. Nitric.	lbss.
Adeps.	lbj.
Sapo Mollia, P. B.	lbss.
Pu Resinae Flava.	lbij.
Spatulos.	2.
Mortar and pestle.	1, No. 7.
Grain scales and weights.	
I ziv. Granulated measure.	

"It is necessary to have the above quantities, as the horses are very liable to accident and disease, from their being exposed to the open air at nights, and congregated in such numbers.

(Signed) "M. P. GREENE,
"Veterinary Surgeon.

Forwarded for the favorable consideration of the Minister of Militia.

J. SAUNDERS Lt. Colonel,
8th Regiment of Cavalry.

(B)

SAINT JOHN, N. B., Nov. 3, 1873.

Sir,—I have the honor to forward to you, for transmission to the Adjutant General my Annual Inspection Report of the New Brunswick Artillery.

The five batteries in Saint John this year performed their drill at days and hours chosen by themselves, on the guns mounted in position at this place. The result has been in every way satisfactory, and the shooting made by each Battery, in its own practice, and at the annual competition on the day of gun inspection, has never been excelled. I append the Practice Reports of the different Batteries, and also those for the days of the Competition, and I should wish particularly, to draw your attention to the shooting made by the winning Battery, (Major Currier's) in the first Competition, when 5 rounds were fired in 6 min. 30 sec. from 32 prs. on sea service carriages, at a range of 1500 yds., with the most excellent effect.

Though the principle of doing without continuous drill, in camp or barracks has done well in St. John, this year, I would not have you infer that I agree with it entirely, and I looked upon its success here simply as a proof of the great interest taken in the Force by the officers and other well wishers of the Brigade, and also of the esprit de corps, and great interest felt by the men, in the annual competition, which, in my opinion, has done more for the good of the Artillery Service in New Brunswick than can be imagined by persons living at a distance.

Though I am willing to admit that during this year the Artillerymen in St. John have in no wise deteriorated, (though there were many recruits among them,) from last year, I have already given reasons why I consider this to be a special case, and that the system of head-quarter drill of each battery, when extended to our station batteries is productive of harm, and will in time, lead to inefficiency. I should therefore propose that all the Garrison Batteries in this Province should perform, during the coming year, 8 days drill, at their own head quarters, and 8 days either in camp or barracks in St. John. With the out station batteries, I think this proposition would be received favorably, and with the St. John Batteries, if timely notice was given that the drill would be performed in this manner, I believe that it would be received in an equally favorable spirit.

In company with you, I inspected No. 7 (Major Gillespie's) Battery, at Chatham, on August 28th, 1873. Owing to an unfortunate detention arising from a destructive storm, the ammunition for the battery did not arrive till after our inspection so that I had no opportunity this year of seeing them at shot practice. The Battery showed a marked improvement in marching drill and their standing gun drill was fair. I cannot but regret that my recommendation of last year, as to platforms being laid at a point on the river bank, where the guns mounted might really assist at the defence of Miramichi, has not been carried out, as not only would a permanent advantage have been obtained by doing so, but also the Battery would have been able to make much better use of their hours of drill. Major Gillespie is a most efficient and zealous officer, and would, I am convinced, join heartily in the idea of sending a strong detachment annually, to St. John, the effect of which on his Battery could not but be beneficial.

The Newcastle Field Battery, (Capt. Call) was inspected on Aug. 29, 1873. This Battery appears to be still in a transition state, the great difficulty being to provide horses and drivers. Capt. Call is an officer who has spared neither time, money, nor trouble in trying to remedy these defects, but I

regret to say, that he has not hitherto met with success. The shot and shell practice made by this Battery was good, and the ammuniory stores, &c., were in good order. The Battery, however, certainly wants the power of mobility, but as it is only armed with the 9 pr. S. B. gun, I question greatly whether the country would be much the gainer if it had it.

Taking this question into consideration, and also the large amount of money necessarily expended on a Field Battery, and also the peculiarity of the country in this Province where it is hard to find a range of open country of any extent that it is not bordered with thick woods, I would suggest that the Gatling gun should be served out to Field Batteries, in the proportion of two to a Battery.

The size of the Battery might thus be greatly decreased, and with it the expense of maintaining it, whilst my idea is, that as nearly all the fighting done here must be skirmishing work, the possession of one or two of these Mitrailleuses would often be as useful to a Commanding Officer as a Battalion of Infantry.

I am unacquainted with these guns myself, but I think that the question might with propriety be referred to the Dominion Inspector of Artillery.

No. 5 Battery at Woodstock, was inspected on Sept. 9, 1873. The Commanding Officer, Lieut. Donnel, appears to be active and energetic, and he has got a large number of men on his roll, whilst many others are anxious to join. I saw some shot practice made from one of the two 6 pr. guns with which this Battery is armed. The carriage of the other gun is so worn out that it is impossible to fire it, and I should recommend that the gun used at this inspection, for shot practice, should not be used again except in a case of urgent necessity.

I trust that before another year's drill takes place, that this Battery will be turned into a Field Battery. I can only repeat what I stated last year, that the country about Woodstock is more suited to a Field Battery than any other part of the Province, that the facilities for obtaining horses are good, and that the officers and men are willing and anxious to serve. The Battery as at present constituted and armed, is of advantage neither to the country nor itself.

On the 8th March, 1873, I forwarded a letter to you informing you of the formation of the New Brunswick Artillery Association, and applying for a grant of ammunition and money for the same. I also reported the formation to the two Dominion Inspectors of Artillery, who were good enough to accept the position of Vice-Presidents of the Association.

Being President myself, I feel diffident in speaking of it officially, but I cannot help regretting at finding from your letters that the Government cannot aid it either in ammunition or money, and I trust that another year a grant may be given it in both, that will enable it to do good work among the Artillerymen in this Province.

Whilst on this subject I may mention that the loss of the small Annual Prize for the best shot in each Battery this year, has been a great disappointment to both officers and men.

In conclusion, I may state that I consider the Artillery Force in New Brunswick is steadily advancing in excellence and efficiency, and the greatest credit should be given to Lieut. Colonel Foster, Commanding the Brigade, and all the Officers of the Artillery in New Brunswick, whilst thank