

Tactics and Strategy.

Military Administration and Law.

French.

Freehand Drawing.

I trust that before long several officers will avail themselves of this privilege, and I believe there are several who, while unable to leave their occupations for a long period are extremely desirous to increase their qualifications for the highest rank in their regiments, and would make an effort to undergo a course of say six months.

It need hardly be said that only an elementary course is possible in so short a time, but regimental officers could not be expected to attempt more even if it were requisite for them to do so.

The extension of military instruction to officers of militia as well as cadets has always been a recognized feature of the college. Circumstances have necessarily prevented the carrying out of this object up to the present time, but it may be expected to develop itself.

Insufficiency of accommodation is the great hindrance to the college showing its full power in this as in other matters.

*Necessity for a Country to Possess Trained Officers.*

(32) Two facts are not only avowedly realized by all qualified persons of thinking and practical minds, and of patriotic feeling, but are also acted upon invariably by all nations, great and small, and when this sentiment is wanting or where it is failed to be carried into deeds, a nation can neither be built up or preserved.

1st. That at no period of history so much as at the present epoch, has it been so necessary for a country to possess a certain number of highly and specially trained and disciplined officers.

2nd. That this necessity is greater according as the defensive forces of a nation are deficient in completeness and thoroughness of organization, and where circumstances may require, with brief notice for preparation, a rapid expansion of military forces from a small nucleus.

*Training of Active Militia in Connection with the College.*

(33) The Royal Military College desires to become, and ought to be, the training school, the centre and head of the militia force, and it is difficult to conceive any person whether in or out of the force being indifferent to, much less jealous of, its work and success.

It is with peculiar pleasure, therefore, that I have welcomed what I trust is only the first step towards an extended movement, viz., the arrival in camp at the college for purposes of instruction, of representatives of the active militia of the 2nd and 5th Military Districts, viz., the Montreal and Toronto Engineer Corps.

The senior officer of these two corps reported to me his deficiency in officers, and to meet this emergency two cadets were detailed to do duty as officers while these corps were in camp, and I received assurance that this duty was performed in a satisfactory manner.

*Detachment of Embodied Engineers at Royal Military College.*

(34) I wish again to draw attention to the great advantage (indeed almost necessity) to the college and also to the militia generally, for a detachment of engineers (if only a couple of dozen men) to be attached to it.

Kingston is admirably adapted for engineering work, and as both military and civil engineering is taught at the college, it is peculiarly suited to be the station for the school of the engineer branch of the militia in a manner at once effective and uncostly.