

rious accident occurred during the whole period.

The rations were of good quality, and I heard no complaints as to quantity.

The question of the qualification of officers is a serious one. In some corps, on account of so few holding certificates, promotion is almost at a standstill. During the past year but few have applied for permission to enter a school of military instruction. If a school were opened in the District, no doubt many more would avail themselves of the instruction thus offered.

The large drill shed at Prescott would be a convenient place for both a cavalry and infantry school; and if a competent artillery instructor were kept permanently at Ottawa, many officers belonging to the Artillery branch could qualify for examination without any considerable expense to the Government.

The Town Council of Prescott provided free of expense to the Government, a field for brigade drill, water for the men, sheds for the cavalry and artillery horses, latrines, and repairs of rifle ranges.

It is the general impression throughout the District that municipalities ought not to expend so large a sum for the advantage of having the camp located at a certain point; and I have no doubt the time is fast approaching when the Government will have to provide all necessary accommodation for the requirements of the force during the annual trainings.

The several railway and steamboat companies conveyed the men to and from the camp without accident, and on the day of embarkation. This was not done, however, — owing to a scarcity of cars on some roads — without some difficulty, and in some instances with exposure to the men. The St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway moved the large number of men, camp equipage and ammunition, over this line with their usual promptness.

To the officers who served on the temporary staff, I am indebted for their attention and assistance in carrying on the duties viz: Major D. A. McDonald, 59th Battalion, Acting Brigade Major; Captain Butterfield, 28th Battalion, Supply Officer; Captain Weatherly, Governor General's Foot Guards, Musketry Instructor; Captain and Quartermaster D.B. Jones, 41st Battalion, Camp Quartermaster; and Captain and Paymaster Wells, 18th Battalion, and Lieut W. H. Supple, 42nd Batt. Orderly Officers.

Lieut. Colonel McDougall, District Paymaster, performed his duties in his usual correct manner, and paid the troops at camp in Prescott, as well as the artillery in this district, who performed their drill in Fort Henry, Kingston.

Since writing the foregoing, I have travelled through part of the district, and consulted with several captains as to the possibility of maintaining their respective companies to the authorized strength, and without exception they are of opinion that it will be impossible to maintain even a respectable minority of their authorized establishment under the present system.

Some think that, if a certain number of annual drills were to be performed at the company headquarters, the importance of the organization would be kept more prominently before the people, which would naturally tend to stimulate recruiting; but all are of opinion that the ballot is the only reliable remedy.

Enclosed please find tabular inspection,

and target practice Returns, all of which I trust will be found satisfactory.

I have the honor to be Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
W. H. JACKSON, Lieut. Col
A. D. A. G., M. D. No. 4.
The Adjutant General of Militia,
Ottawa.

CORRECTION.—In Military District No. 4, page 315, centre column, sixth paragraph and eighth line, there is a misprint which we are instructed to correct. Speaking of Lieut. Stewart, Ottawa Field Battery, he is represented as the only "competent" officer of the corps, the word should have been *combatant*.

MILITARY DISTRICT, NO. 5.

The Militia in this District are under the command of Lieut. Colonel Osborne Smith, C. M. G. now absent on duty in Manitoba, in whose absence the temporary command has been entrusted to Lieut. Col. Bacon, and whose reports with those of Lieut. Colonel Fletcher, C. M. G. Lieutenant Colonel King, and the other Brigade Majors on the state of their commands are submitted.

HEAD QUARTERS, MONTREAL,
October 31st, 1872.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you, that the quota of Active Militia required to be furnished from the district under my command is 3,628.

The total actual strength of the force when mustered at the time of the annual drill for 1872-'73 was 3,130. There was 498 officers and men wanting to complete the required quota.

The annual drill was performed in accordance with General Orders of 31st May, 1872, and in the following manner:

A Brigade Camp of Instruction was formed for the 1st Brigade Division near St. Andrew's 25th June, under my command.

Another for the 2nd Brigade Division at Laprarie, under Lieut. Colonel Fletcher, C. M. G. 21st June.

And one for the 3rd Brigade Division, near Sherbrooke, under the command of Lt. Col. King, 21st June.

The Reports of Lieut. Cols. Fletcher and King are forwarded herewith, and with my own will give a record of the annual training of the Active Militia in Military District No. 5 for the current year.

The ground chosen for the St. Andrew's Camp was on a plateau on the north side of the valley of the River Rouge, about two miles from the village of St. Andrew's admirably adapted for the purpose, beautifully situated, being bounded on both sides by woods and commanding a magnificent view towards the south and east. The land kindly given free of charge was the property of Mr. Emery Simpson and Mr. Peter McMartin, besides which the inhabitants of St. Andrew's subscribed most liberally and defrayed the expense of sinking water puncheons, and provided the camp with a never failing supply of pure spring water during the whole time of encampment; to this cause and the airy situation, I attribute the almost entire absence of sickness in the camp.

(To be Continued)

GENERAL LEE AT APPOMATTOX.

(From the Southern Review, Baltimore.)

The morning of the 9th of April, 1865, found the Confederate army in a position in which its inevitable fate was apparent to every man in it. The skirmishing which had begun in its front as its advance guard

reached Appomattox Court House the night before, had developed into a sharp fight, in which the continuous firing of the artillery, and the steady increase of the musketry told to all that a heavy force had been thrown across our line of march, and that reinforcements to it were steadily arriving. The long trains of wagons and artillery were at first halted in the road, and then parked in an adjoining field, allowing the rear of the column to close up, and additional troops to pass to the front to reinforce the advanced guard and to form a reserve line of battle in their rear under cover of which they might retire when necessary. While these dispositions were taking place, General Lee, who had dismounted and was standing near a fire on a hill about two miles from the Court House, called the writer to him, and inviting him to a seat on a log near by, referred to the situation, and asked.

"What shall we do this morning?"

Although this opportunity of expressing my views was unexpected, the situation itself was not; for two days before while near Farnville in consultation with General Lee over his map, the fact of the enemy having the shortest road to Appomattox Court House had been noted and the probability of serious difficulty there anticipated, and in the meantime there had been ample opportunity for reflection on all the emergencies that might arise. Without replying directly to the question, however, I answered that it was due to my command (of artillery) that I should tell him that they were in as good spirits, though short of ammunition and with poor teams, as they had ever been, and had begged, if it came to a surrender, to be allowed to expend first every round of ammunition on the enemy, and surrender only the empty ammunition chests. To this General Lee replied that there were only remaining two divisions of infantry sufficiently well organized and strong to be fully relied upon (Field's and Mahone's), and that they did not number 8,000 muskets together; and that that force was not sufficient to warrant him in undertaking a pitched battle. "Then" I answered "General, there are but two alternatives; to surrender, or to order the army to abandon its trains and disperse in the woods and bushes every man for himself, and each to make his best way with his arms either to the army of General Johnston in North Carolina, or home to the Governor of his state. We have a foreseen the probability of such an alternative for two days and I am sure I speak the sentiments of many others besides my own in urging that rather than surrender the army, you should allow us to disperse in the woods and go every man for himself."

"What would you hope" he asked "to accomplish by this?"

I answered, "If there is any hope at all for the Confederacy, or for the separate States to make terms with the United States or for any foreign assistance, this course stands the chances, whatever they may be; while if this army surrenders this morning the Confederacy is dead from that moment, Grant will turn 150,000 fresh men against Johnston, and with the moral effect of our surrender he will go, and Dick Taylor and Kirby Smith will have to follow like a row of bricks; while if we all take to dispersing in the woods we inaugurate a new place of the war, which may be indefinitely prolonged, and it will at least have great moral effect in showing that in our pledges to fight it out to the last we meant what we said. And even, General, if there is no hope at all in