

ever taken a lively interest in its welfare, addressed the officers and men in flattering terms as did also the Commandant of the camp, Colonel Cook, formerly a Captain in the troop. Capt. Winder may well be proud of his command and the full muster at every annual drill.

Capt. and Adj. Pope of the 58th Batt. has been most active and zealous in his position as camp Adjutant and has won golden opinions from the Volunteers for his courtesy and attention to their wants, as has also Quarter Master Hobson and Surgeon Hawkins. The splendid band of the 58th under the direction of Band Master Hawley and Instructor Herr Schiller, performed every day during the encampment, their choice music attracted many visitors amongst whom the fair sex were predominant.

Every afternoon after the drills had terminated the men in camp amused themselves with various games, base ball, foot races, jumping in sacks &c., &c. It is a great pity that the encampment could not have been kept up for another week, as the Volunteers were just beginning to settle down to camp life: on the whole all passed off most satisfactorily.

Lt.-Col. Lovelace, the officer Drill Instructor of the Cookshire Hussars for the past eleven years, was the recipient of a very handsome testimonial presented to him by the non-commissioned officers and troopers as a slight tribute to his long connection with the corps.

R. L.

REVIEW OF THE CAMPS—1869.

[BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

During the past summer your correspondent has had ample opportunity of judging the success of the Volunteer Camp life, and taking all things into consideration feels called upon to congratulate the country and Force on the result. At the same time I cannot bestow *unqualified* praise as to the carrying out of the movement, and this fact has induced me to write a few lines in review, hoping that my remarks will be taken as they are meant, for the good of the Volunteers of this Dominion, of which body I am proud to be an active member.

First of all, to the credit of both officers and men be it said, good discipline, perfect harmony, and implicit obedience to orders has characterized the formation and working of camps throughout the country, and, as a natural consequence, practical results have followed. The Volunteers of 1869 know more of their duty as *soldiers* than they could ever have accomplished had the *slip-slop* drill of past years continued. Camp life has not only taught them the routine work of barrack life but also, thanks to the expressed wish of our new Adjutant-General, the men have been instructed in Light Infantry drill and field movements, such as would prove eminently useful in case of active service, and enable them to take the

field with credit should they ever be called upon to do so.

And now, with all humility, I would offer the following suggestions, and trust they may reach the eyes of the powers that be, and moreover that they will be acted upon in future times.

1. The camps have been *too isolated*; too circumscribed, so to speak, and many of them formed at a season of the year *most inconvenient* to both officers and men.

2. The period of drill has been of much too short duration, and the result is simply this, the men, many of them, will by next year forget a great part of what they have been taught at much pains and trouble during this year.

3. The *pay* has been too small and the stores served out insufficient for the comfort of men who, be it remembered, are not *soldiers inured to hardship*.

4. And lastly, the *encouragement* offered has been so slight that unless a change occurs in 1870 the numbers who will be ready to turn out then will be found *most decidedly decreased*.

Such are a few *hints* thrown out at random though I might and may perhaps enlarge upon them at some future time, provided your columns are open to further contribution on this head.

Lest I may be accused of detailing grievances without prescribing the remedy, I would respectfully offer the following remarks as likely to cure sores which *I know from experience* have been opened, but which may be healed if taken in time:

1. If camps are to fit men for service by all means give them an opportunity of *acting in concert*, let there be not merely the men of one battalion, but at the very least of one brigade assembled together at the same time and the whole under the command of an officer of *known* experience and the period of drill ought to take place between *seed time* and *harvest*. Volunteers especially in country parts can ill afford the time else.

2. Give the men *twelve* days, that is to say twenty-four drills instead of *six* days (as was the case this year) and you will find their knowledge of drill, &c., *fixed* instead of *vacillating*.

3. Increase the pay, double it if you like, and the country will be repaid with *interest* by the possession of a well drilled, well disciplined and willing body of men, ready at a moment's warning to take the field.

Give them *two* blankets instead of one each and some small comfort in the shape of a mattress or bedding.

Diarrhea has been the result of many men sleeping on wet and swampy ground where they could not avoid it. This is another argument for a large camp when a suitable site could easily be obtained.

4. By all means *encourage* the men who are to do our fighting—feed them, give them bread and beef—and never fear the result.

It will cost the country a little more but not much after all. It is not the *expenditure* of funds which has been cried down, but the *useless waste* of money. Give *value* for the money and not a single voice will be raised. It was the payment of eight dollars per man for useless drill which started the cry for reduction. An attempt, after all only an *attempt*, at nicety of drill! Volunteers were never *regulars*, and what is more never will! I don't mean this in an *Irish* sense! You have started the desire to improve in the hearts of the men but you need never expect it to grow by niggardly dealing.

Many a Volunteer has to sacrifice three or four dollars a day, not to speak of the inconvenience of turning out in order that he may receive *forsooth* 50 cents a day, out of which he is to pay his board! But enough!

Lastly my experience has taught me that all camp equipage ought to be *numbered*; tents, bags, blankets and even the tent pins. This would save the Government much loss and inconvenience, and when the stores are delivering up to the officer appointed to receive them, half the time of former years would do. I *urge* this as in many cases where deficiencies occurred, a man who found himself short of a blanket or other article had only to *crib* one from another tent and the saddle was put on the wrong horse.

"A stitch in time saves nine."

[We will be glad to hear from this correspondent at all times convenient.]

FROM MONTREAL.

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

The Prince has come and gone and a hard time he has had of it all through. The preparations for and the manner in which the Prince was received testified that the good city of Montreal was not behind her sister towns throughout the Dominion in proving her loyalty to the old flag, the flag of freedom and justice, the dear old flag the honored Union Jack. The Prince was loudly cheered along the route to his private residence and received a splendid ovation, but, I regret to say, at times was fairly mobbed by curious individuals who pressed close by and followed the royal carriage staring at the Prince in the coarse vulgar manner that no well bred person would be guilty of.

As usual, on such occasions, when the Volunteers participate, some bungling and mismanagement is sure to take place. The day previous to the Prince's arrival officers of Volunteer corps were ordered to parade their men by nine o'clock next day, in order to receive the Prince. After much trouble and time the men were notified to assemble at their respective armouries at half-past seven. At that hour a large number had in course assembled when a further notification was given that instead of arriving at nine as advertised the Prince would not be here till twelve. Loud were the grumbings at such bungling in not notifying them