

herd. Present at inspection—146 non commissioned officers and men and 13 officers
Three Rivers Provisional Battalion, under command of Major Lambert. Present at inspection—144 non commissioned officers and men, and 13 officers.

Independent Companies of Rawdon—No. 1, Captain Quinn. Present at inspection—40 non commissioned officers and men, and three officers; No. 2, Captain Sharp. Present at inspection—41 non commissioned officers and men, and three officers.

Nature of movements at the inspection of the camp: General salute marching past, manual and firing, column and line movements, skirmishing. I regret to have to report one serious accident at this camp. One poor young man was lost by drowning. He went to bathe without permission—fell in deep water and was lost. The general conduct of the different corps at this camp was I am happy to say, very good.

In the 6th Brigade Division, the 55th Battalion, Lieut. Col. King, was inspected on the 7th July last.

The battalion drilled in camp, was composed of six companies; but one, the No. 5, Captain Blanchard, did not drill. Present at inspection—non commissioned officers and men; 194, and 16 officers.

Nature of movements: General salute, marching past, manual and firing, column and line movements, skirmishing. General conduct of corps, good.

The four companies of the Provisional Battalion of St. Hyacinthe drilled at their own respective head quarters, and were inspected at different epochs in the month of October last.

Present at inspection in the No. 1 Company, Capt. Doherty—40 non commissioned officers and men, and two officers.

No. 2 Company, Captain Morin—34 non commissioned officers and men, and three officers.

No. 3 Company, Captain Sylvestre—40 non commissioned officers and men, and three officers.

No. 4 Company, Captain Patenaude—37 non commissioned officers and men, and two officers.

Nature of movements: Squad and company movements, manual and firing, skirmishing. The arms and accoutrements are good, but clothing is wanted.

On the 5th of November the Company of Captain Beaubien was inspected. Present inspection—non commissioned officers and men, 40, and two officers.

On the 6th November the Company of Capt. Pratts was inspected at St. Grogioire. Present at inspection—non commissioned officers and men, 35, and three officers.

On the 4th November the Company of Nicolet, Capt. Giroux, was inspected. Present at inspection—non commissioned officers and men, 36, and three officers.

On the 7th November the Company of Beaucour, Captain Landry, was inspected. Present at inspection—non commissioned officers and men, 40, and two officers.

On the 8th November the Company of Gentilly, Captain de Foy, was inspected. Present at inspection—non commissioned officers and men, 39, and two officers. On the same day the company of St. Gertrude, Captain Mousset, was inspected. Present at inspection—non commissioned officers and men, 40, and two officers.

Five other Independent Companies, that is to say, the Companies of Wolfeston, Capt. Baron; of Wotton, Capt. Richard; of Arthabaskaville, Capt. Quessel; of St. Norbert, Captain Roy; and of Bulstrode, Capt. Dauth, have not as yet performed their drill for this year.

It is useless to repeat here all I have said in former reports upon the urgent necessity of enforcing the ballot; still I cannot refrain from remarking here that in case where a volunteer company cannot be kept up to its nominal strength, the captain should be allowed to ballot from the reserve for the men wanting to complete the number.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
 A. C. DELOTSNIERE HARWOOD, Lt. Col.
 Deputy Adjutant General.

Military District No. 6.
 The Deputy Adjt. General at
 Headquarters, Ottawa.

MILITARY DISTRICT NO. 7.
 QUEBEC, 12th Dec., 1874.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward herewith enclosed, in the absence by sickness of the Deputy Adjutant General Commanding Military District No. 7, the tabular report of inspections of Corps for annual drill of 1874-75. These inspections were made by the Deputy Adjutant General and the Brigade Majors, whose reports in writing are herewith annexed. I have refrained from making a detailed report of the brigade camps which took place this summer, as I was not personally concerned in any of them, and that the inspections of these different camps were made by the Deputy Adjutant General in person, who was in position to judge of the beneficial results likely to accrue by their future formation.

I have also included the reports made from time to time by the Brigade Majors since the 1st of January, 1874. I beg to state that during the divisional camps of 1872, an inspection of the whole of the arms of the division was made by the Armourer Sergeant attached to "B" Battery School of Gunnery, who noted all the deficiencies and repairs necessary to be made to those arms. Since then no orders have been received to have them returned into stores for repairs.

Deficiencies.

A good many articles issued to volunteer corps have been lost or injured, and this may be attributed greatly to the carelessness and inexperience of raw recruits. Most deficiencies have been caused during the several camps of exercises, and in going and returning from these camps; and no means have been found available for the recovery of the same, in consequence of the men being paid before leaving camp. The captains of companies have been unable to recover missing articles, and therefore are held responsible for deficiencies. The only means, if I may be allowed to suggest to prevent further losses of Government property, would be to build, at each battalion headquarters, suitable armouries where all the arms and other stores belonging to the battalion would be kept and safely guarded by proper care takers appointed and paid by the Government.

Musketry Instruction.

The period for musketry training is extremely short, and very little time can be consecrated to the preliminary drill. I would recommend that in future militia corps should be made to undergo the recruit training at musketry instruction, and not be allowed to fire at any but the following distances, viz: 50, 100, 150 and 200 yards; five rounds at each distance. Any man proving himself a good shot, and making 36 points, to be allowed to pass in the second class and to fire at greater distances. The general average heretofore made by corps will convince the most sceptical of the necessity of

improving the training of our militiamen at target practice. Up to this period no marked advantage has been derived from target practice in camp or at head quarters, and crack shots who have been able to give themselves the luxury of extra ammunition, have solely and reaped benefits. This individual firing I do not consider advantageous, and likely to create emulation among the militia force in general. Some means must be obtained to put within reach of every militiaman the many advantages hitherto in the hands of their more fortunate comrades. Good shots in remote rural parts who could compete at the different rifle meetings are prevented from doing so on account of heavy expenditure to be incurred in travelling there and back.

Gaspé Battery of Garrison Artillery.

Before concluding my report I beg to remark that the battery of Garrison Artillery at Gaspé Basin, although formed for more than a year, has not yet received guns, stores and ammunition necessary to carry on their artillery exercises. One officer and three non commissioned officers have been through the Gunnery School and obtained first class certificates. I can fairly say that with regard to intelligence, physique and efficiency in squad and company drill, this battery is second to none in the Dominion. I would recommend that it should be equipped as soon as convenient, as it is now the only available battery of artillery in the 7th Brigade Division.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
 Your most obedient servant.

T. J. DUCHESNEAU, Lt. Col.
 Acting for Deputy Adjutant General.
 Military District No. 7.

The Deputy Adjt. General of Militia,
 Headquarters, Ottawa.

(To be Continued.)

Rifle Association.

The annual meeting of the 6th Brigade Division Rifle Association was held at the Brigade office here, on Monday last. Colonel Boulton, the President, occupied the Chair.

The Report of the Secretary Treasurer, Major Boulton, was very satisfactory, contained several valuable suggestions, and showed a balance on hand of \$70.

Col. Boulton was re-elected President, the Lt. Colonels commanding Battalions and Lt. Col. Smart were elected Vice-Presidents, and Major Boulton Secretary Treasurer.

It was decided to hold the Annual Match at Cobourg in the first week in June. A large number of liberal prizes will then be offered for competition.

A notice of motion to make Cobourg the permanent place for holding the matches was given, and will come up for discussion at the next business meeting of the association—*Cobourg Star*, April 21.

The Militia Authorities have decided that there shall be Brigade Camps held during the coming summer, and the regulations relating to the same we will publish in our next. The Major General intends, we understand, after the drill in these camps has been completed, to proceed to Manitoba; and from thence across the Continent to British Columbia.

Work is being energetically prosecuted at Kingston on the building in the dock-yard of that city, which is to be converted into a military college. The fortifications at Fort Henry, which were falling into decay through neglect, are also being repaired.