

[B.]

THE CAMP "POINT REUBEN,"

July 2, 1875.

Sir,—I have the honor to report that the health of the men comprising the 48th Regiment in camp this year was indeed excellent. The beautiful location of the camp on the shore of Lake Ontario, with its cool bracing breeze, and the absence of spirituous liquors, was in my opinion the sole cause of the healthfulness of the troops. The wise selection of the site for the camp by Lieutenant Colonel Jarvis, C.M.G., D.A.G., Commandant, is highly commendable.

The rations on the whole were very good, with one exception, viz: the meat, which was far too lean to be tender and nutritious. I would recommend that in future camps, stall fed beef be served instead of grass fed, especially at this season of the year, in fact it would be *perferable* at any time. The cooks of the different Companies made no complaints, they all expressed themselves satisfied with the quality and quantity of the food.

Of the few cases treated, dysentery and constipation (biliousness) were the most prevalent forms of disease. There were, however, three cases of severe nature viz, one of congestion of the lungs, one of cholera morbus, and one of intermittent fever, all of which speedily recovered under treatment.

I would suggest that the following medicines be added to the list already furnished viz: "Chloral Hydrate," "Glycerine," "Linimentum Ammoniac," and "Pulv. Ipecac."

I have the honor to remain,  
Very respectfully yours,

THOS. KEITH ROSS, M.D.  
Surgeon 48th Batt.

Lieut. Col. Fairfield,  
Commandant 48th Battalion

## APPENDIX No. 1.

## MILITARY DISTRICT, NO. 4.

Deputy Adjutant General's Office.  
Brockville, 1st December, 1875.

Sir,—I have the honor to submit this my annual report on the operations of the Active Militia in this District for 1875-76, together with "Abstract Inspection Report," "District Target Practice Return," and Report (A) of the Musketry Instructor.

The number of Militia who have performed the prescribed drill, or lusive of the "Governor General's Foot Guards," are as follows:—Officers, 139, non commissioned officers and men, 1,953; horses, 234; total officers and men, 2,093; being 624 in excess of the numbers who performed drill last year.

A Brigade Camp was formed at Brockville on the 22nd June, which was composed of the following corps and strength, viz:—

Staff, officers 7, non commissioned officers and men 9, horses 4.

## Cavalry.

Prescott Troop, Lieut. (now Capt.) Raney, officers 3, non commissioned officers and men 39, horses 43.

Ottawa Troop, Capt. Sparks, officers 2, non commissioned officers and men 40, horses 41.

## Artillery.

Ottawa Field Battery, Capt. Stewart, officers 4, non commissioned officers and men 72, horses 60.

Gannanque Field Battery, Capt. McKenzie, officers 5, non commissioned officers and men 70, horses 61.

Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery, Lieut. Col. Egleson, 7 Batteries, officers 16, non commissioned officers and men 232 horses 4.

## Infantry and Rifles.

41st Battalion, Lieut. Col. Cole, 5 Companies, officers 15, non commissioned officers and men, 210, horses 4.

42nd Battalion, Lieut. Col. Buell, 7 Companies, officers 18, non commissioned officers and men 234, horses 4.

43rd Battalion, Nos. 3, 6, and 9 Companies, officers 6, non commissioned officer and men 106, horses 2.

56th Battalion, Lieut. Col. Jessup, 7 Companies, officers 17, non commissioned officers and men 229, horses 4.

59th Battalion, Lieut. Col. Bergin, 7 Companies, officers 22, non commissioned officers and men 294, horses 4.

## From Military District, No. 3.

Wakefield Infantry Company, Capt. Cates, officers 2, non commissioned officers and men 35.

Aylwin Infantry Company, Capt. Chamberlain, officers 2, non commissioned officers and men 38.

Total in Brigade Camp, officers 119, non commissioned officers and men 1,718, horses 233.

Drilled in Battalion Camp at Caledonia Springs, commencing 7th September.

18th Battalion, Lieut. Col. Urquhart, 6 Companies, officers 20, non commissioned officers and men 236, horses 5.

Grand Total, officers 139, non commissioned officers and men 1,953, horses 238.

The "Governor General's Foot Guards" appear to form a part of the quota for this district, but as they are a special organization otherwise, and communicate direct with head quarters, I have no means of knowing what number performed the annual drill. This, of course, makes the strength of the district appear smaller than it really is.

## Cavalry.

By special permission, I again secured the services of Lieut. Col. Loyelace, who took charge of this arm of the service, and by whose exertions, ably assisted by the several officers, the squadron was brought to a fair state of efficiency.

The Prescott Troop marched to and from the camp, 13 miles. The Ottawa Troop marched to the camp, 76 miles, and returned by rail. I found that it cost less to send this troop by rail than the marching allowance would have amounted to, with the additional advantage of securing two days more drill.

## Artillery.

The Ottawa Field Battery marched to camp, 76 miles, and returned by rail, the same as the Cavalry, and with equal advantage.

The Gannanque Field Battery mustered, harnessed, and marched 36 miles to camp in one day, the return journey occupying the same time.

When the journey is too great to be marched in one day, and when the period of drill is so short, I am of opinion that it is better to move mounted corps by rail, and the peculiarity of the district is such that corps must necessarily move long distances in order to concentrate.

The Assistant Inspector of Artillery inspected these batteries, and expressed himself pleased with the drill and general effi-

ciency. Both batteries carried out shot and shell practice.

The Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery, seven batteries strong, performed the annual drill for the first time in Brigade Camp and although there were no big guns with which to carry out artillery practice or drill, the time was advantageously spent in battalion and brigade drill and target practice. The efficiency attained was such as could not have been acquired in any other way. The Assistant Inspector of Artillery likewise inspected this corps.

## Infantry and Rifles.

With the exception of the 43rd Battalion, most of the corps mustered full strength, and, as a rule, the *physique* showed much improvement over the past few years. As usual, each corps had many recruits, and as there were but nine clear days for drill and target practice, the wonder is that so great a state of efficiency should have been attained. There had been but three days' drill when the camp was inspected by the Major General commanding, and as those days had been spent principally in squad and company drill, but few brigade movements could be performed on that occasion; but by the time the camp broke up, as much efficiency had been acquired as could have been expected in so short a period, and which could not have been reached by performing the drill in any other way than in Brigade Camp. The "Abstract Inspection Returns" will show the movements performed and state of efficiency of the respective corps.

As many men of the 18th Battalion are engaged during the summer season in lumbering, the officer commanding the corps thought it better to perform the drill in battalion camp, which was formed at Caledonia Springs on the 7th September. I am not in favour of such small camps. The expense is greater in proportion, and the same amount of efficiency cannot be acquired; and at that late season of the year the days are short and the weather is liable to bowet, which prevented the target practice from being carried out in camp. At my inspection the corps showed satisfactory progress under the circumstances, and so long as the officers and men are similarly situated, I presume the annual drill will have to be performed in this way; but I am of opinion it will work its own cure, and eventually the officers will see the advantage, and make the necessary arrangements to join the Brigade Camps.

The duties in Brigade Camp were carried out as directed in General Orders of 23rd April, and everything worked more smoothly than on any former occasion.

There were no serious breaches of discipline, nor any complaints reported. Gunner John Lyons, O. B. G. Artillery, died on the last night of the encampment, of congestion of the lungs. Previous to this, however, he had been removed to an hotel in the town. And one horse of the Gannanque Field Battery was accidentally killed while at drill. Proceedings of the Boards appointed to enquire into these cases were forwarded at the time. On the whole, the health of the camp was exceptionally good, as the following report of the Surgeon of the Day for the 23th June will show:—

CAMP, BROCKVILLE,  
June 29th, 1875.

Sir.—Having been appointed Medical Officer of the day for Monday, the 28th June inst., I have the honor to report that in the discharge of my duties I noticed a most satisfactory sanitary condition of affairs in camp. The absence of canteens, and the