

The forage cap with double peak, as issued, to the 68th Battalion, is far more serviceable than the peakless Kilmarnock, but it is heavy, and requires to be a good fit, or the soldier cannot keep it on his head. It is, I think, too shallow in the crown.

#### Training.

I would again urge the necessity for preliminary training annually for officers and non-commissioned officers.

J. WINBERN LAURIE, Colonel,  
Deputy Adjutant General,  
Commanding Military District No. 9.

[B]

SAINT JOHN, N. B., Nov. 22, 1875.

SIR.—I have the honor to forward to you my annual report on the state of the Artillery in your District:—

FIELD ARTILLERY.

#### Halifax Field Battery.

I was present at the annual competition of the Halifax Field Battery, on August 5th, 1875, and had great pleasure in witnessing some very good practice. Captain Graham appears perfectly at home with his handy little guns, as they are light and small, it appears to me that they are well suited for these Provinces, as they could not only be taken anywhere; but are effective for as long a range as you can generally depend upon getting. The harness was in good order, as well as the stores, and I was struck with the intelligence and knowledge of fuzee, ammunition, &c., displayed by the non-commissioned officers, a fact which spoke well for the instruction they have received.

#### Garrison Artillery.

I regret that the unfortunate failure of the Imperial Authorities to arm the battery, which they kindly offered to place at the disposal of the Volunteer Artillery, early in the year, prevented my having any opportunity of seeing the two brigades of Garrison Artillery at their duties as artillerymen. With the fine drill shed they have at their disposal, and the services of their Adjutant, Captain Bland, as Drill Instructor, I trust the loss of a season's outdoor drill will not be so detrimental.

#### Outlying Batteries, Digby.

The Digby Battery was inspected, September 28th 1875. The men worked their guns well, and made very good shot practice. I purposely held over the shell till next year, as the battery is comparatively new, and neither officers nor men appear to know much about their duties as artillerymen. Captain Daley, who seems to be active and energetic, would, I think, make a good officer, if he underwent a course of gunnery. It is in fact necessary that from all outlying batteries, some officer, or non-commissioned officer should attend a course of gunnery, or that a trained instructor should be furnished to them during their annual drill.

#### General Principles.

In my report to the Instructor of Artillery, I took occasion to refer to the want of system with which it appeared to me that batteries of Artillery were occasionally dotted about without much reference to their actual utility, and to express a hope that the place where a battery of artillery should be raised in future, should be determined by a board of officers; that a small earthwork

should be thrown up, proper platforms laid down, and three or at the most four guns mounted, and the whole placed under the care of a paid caretaker belonging to the battery. By this means I consider that the number of batteries in each District would be less, but that for purposes of defence, they would be vastly more efficient.

I have also referred in my report to the Inspector of Artillery, to the absurdity of arming a gunner with the Snider Rifle, and expressed a hope that at some time or other, the revolver may be adopted as the personal weapon of an artilleryman, and though a few stand of rifles might be left with a battery, in order that the members may compete in rifle competitions, yet I trust the time is not far distant when it will be the desire of the artillerymen to perfect himself in the handling of ordnance, leaving the rifle to its rightful owner, his infantry comrade.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
DARRELL R. JAGO, Lieut. Colonel,  
Assistant Inspector Artillery.

To Col. J. WINBERN LAURIE,  
Deputy Adjutant General,  
Military District No. 9.

[C]

SYDNEY, 20th July, 1875.

SIR.—I have the honor to submit for your information, the following report on the Militia Camp held at Baddeck, on the 5th July, 1875, and following days, according to general orders. I beg leave to report that the Victoria Provisional Battalion, attended in good strength, and made good progress in drill, and also the general appearance of the men, on this occasion, over last year's drill; and no crimes or irregularities were reported. Major Bingham, commanding the battalion, and the officers of this corps, I have much pleasure in reporting as zealous and efficient.

The general orders respecting drill and discipline were strictly carried out. I remained in camp during the whole period, and personally superintended each parade.

I beg leave to enclose a parade state and target practice returns.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
C. CREVE READ, Lt. Col.  
Brigade Major, 3rd Division.

Deputy Adjutant General, &c., &c., &c.,  
Com'g. Military District No. 9, Halifax.

MILITARY DISTRICT NO. 10.

WINNIPEG, December 14, 1875.

SIR.—In forwarding to you my report for the current year of the Military District under my command, I have the honor to state:—

#### Local Militia.

That as regards the authorized strength of the Local Active Militia no change has taken place since the date of my last report; the gazetted corps being:

The Winnipeg Field Battery.  
"South St. Andrews" or "Isagar" Rifle Company.  
"Mapleton" Rifle Company.  
"Poplar Point" Rifle Company.  
making altogether a nominal quota of two hundred and fifty five officers and men.

#### Winnipeg Field Battery.

Of these, the Winnipeg Field Battery, of whose promise of efficiency I have already reported, assiduously drilled during a considerable proportion of the year; but in consequence of the non arrival of their uniform, until subsequent to the order postponing annual drill for the current year, the corps was unable as proposed to go into camp for the annual drill and practice, previously to the setting in of the winter season.

The drill, if permitted, will be completed in the spring of the ensuing year.

#### South St. Andrew's Rifle Corps.

This corps occupies a well built drill shed and armory, erected without any pecuniary assistance from the Militia Department, and is, I respectfully represent, deserving of all consideration.

The "South St. Andrews" Company gave seven consecutive days of drill at their headquarters, drilling six hours each day, and one day for rifle practice.

I have rarely held a more satisfactory inspection of any corps than that which this company afforded; the skirmishing practice was far better than in many much older corps which I have inspected in various parts of Canada.

#### "Mapleton" and "Poplar Point" Companies.

I regret that the remaining corps, in consequence chiefly of their officers commanding having left the limits, have again this year failed to perform their annual drill, and that, therefore, and in view of a reorganization in their Company Districts, I have had to recommend that the "Mapleton" and "Poplar Point" Companies be removed from the Militia List, having become disorganized.

I have earnestly to trust that the recommendation as to organization of the Militia in this province which from time to time I have had the honor to submit, and especially the memorandum on the subject, which I had the opportunity of presenting to the Major General Commanding on the occasion of his visit to this province in July last, may receive early consideration.

#### Original organization of Militia in the Province.

The hasty, and therefore ill considered organization, which was effected at a moment of excitement in this province in 1871, has, as was evident to me it must, when I assumed command of this district, proved unsuccessful in many instances; but I have every confidence, that with the more settled character of the population which now prevails; a Volunteer Militia force can be established here on a basis which will compare most favorably with the older provinces.

#### Original term of enlistment expired.

The term of enlistment in the "South St. Andrews" Rifle Company has now expired and a fresh enrolment will be requisite. In effecting this, and in the case of all other Infantry Companies in the province, I most strongly recommend that they be enrolled as Infantry with Infantry (red) uniform, and not as Rifle corps.

No expenditure is involved in the change, and I respectfully submit that the uniform is better adapted to the province, and contingencies which may possibly arise hereafter, than the present clothing which is now worn out.

#### Dominion Force on Service in Manitoba.

The gradual reduction of strength of the