

which they correspond directly with the Adjutant-General at headquarters. Their officers and men are moreover employed for certain portions of each day upon duties of education and instruction, pertaining only to the gunnery classes. I found it necessary therefore to issue an order to the respective Deputy Adjutant General of Military Districts, in which they are quartered, to abstain from sending District Orders to these officers, but to communicate when necessary by letter, for courts martial, boards, courts of inquiry, or other such duties, requesting compliance in furnishing the required detail at times and hours of mutual convenience. This arrangement is necessary for the public service, in order to avoid any approach to a conflict of authority which would be detrimental to discipline, as well as to the harmony and good understanding which must not be disturbed, and therefore I require this order to be attended to, and carried out with mutual good feeling.

In view of the long military service and attainments of Lieut.-Col. Strange the Senior Inspector of Artillery for the Dominion, I am of opinion it is only just to him to recognize so much of the cancelled General Orders of 24th November, 1871, as defined his "rank" with that of Deputy Adjutants General of Military Districts, who however by law command, and I have given orders accordingly.

I have more than once suggested the propriety of re-organizing the old Brigade of Garrison Artillery of Quebec, because of all places in Canada, the important fortress commanding the gates of the St. Lawrence should be adequately manned. At present the "B" Battery is the only artillery force in Quebec, and they have not men enough, without making any allowance for casualties, to man one-fourth of the batteries of the Citadel and its outlying lines of important works including the commanding forts of Point Levis. The Gunnery School is on the spot to train and instruct this brigade, and the citizens of the place would make the best Artillery material, being residents acquainted with the locality and the ranges, and if need be, ready to defend their own property. Though I have recommended a numerical reduction in the Militia in general on financial grounds, I nevertheless consider it important to maintain efficient forces at points where their services might be required, and where besides there is ample means for instructing them. Quebec being assailable by privateers or ships of war which might in fog or darkness escape British cruisers in the Gulf, should be strongly manned and capable of resistance.

Though in a lesser degree the above remarks apply partially to Kingston, we have there also a first-class School of Gunnery, but the battery could not man one-fourth of the works of Forts Henry, Frederick, and outlying Martello Towers and advanced batteries. There also a Brigade of Garrison Artillery should certainly be established, if even by converting one of the Infantry battalions into artillery. It is so self evident that Quebec and Kingston, our two fortified cities (the former perhaps the most important fortress on the whole continent of America), should be strongly manned by disciplined and well drilled artillerymen, that I need not