

HISTORICAL RECORD

OF THE

Governor General's Body-Guard.

CHAPTER I.

THE WAR OF 1812 TO THE REBELLION OF 1837.

SOME time before the War of 1812 a Militia Law had been passed and a military organization of the population had been effected upon the basis of compulsory service of all the inhabitants of Upper Canada capable of bearing arms. The country was divided into regimental districts, and officers were appointed to command the militia in the different divisions. This organization of itself would have been of little avail, unless followed up by a certain amount of drill and instruction to both officers and men. To provide this to a certain extent, and to ensure a nucleus of drilled men in the least burdensome way to the people, a system was adopted of drilling two companies in each battalion, called the flank companies, and of filling these by volunteers where practicable, and completing the quota by the ballot where such a measure was