

I was at Brantford on the 26th October, and inspected there and elsewhere, this battalion—the 3rd Battalion (Col. P. J. Stevenson.) The drill and general working of the force is good; the officers take a great interest in their work; and all the force from Brantford to Sarnia is in good working order. The band at Brantford is improved, and the file and drum at Sarnia is a credit to them at that point. Inspected the companies of the 1st Battalion (Lieut.-Colonel Bailey). They are in good order.

Boards of Examination having assembled according to my suggestion, at Montreal, Toronto, and Brantford, last winter, nearly all of the officers of the Grand Trunk Railway Brigade availed themselves of them, and now almost all the officers in the force have certificates. I should suggest the same annually, as it has worked well.

An excellent order of the commandant has helped very much to keep up an interest, and at the same time it helps the Government officer in his work. The adjutants of each battalion receive a stipend of \$50 per annum. It encourages them, and makes the post to be sought after, and is of assistance to the commanding officer.

The whole force is now sworn in for a further term of three years. The service rolls are in my possession.

The annual target practice has been regularly done throughout the brigade—a great improvement on last year. The best shots have received their prizes, and this method has given much satisfaction.

I enclose full details of the shooting strength and distribution of the brigade.

And, in conclusion, I must add that my duties are made light in consequence of the assistance I received from the commandant, Lieut.-Col. C. J. Brydges.

The Grand Trunk Railway Brigade, under the command of Lieut.-Col. C. J. Brydges, numbers 2,326 officers and men.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. W. WORSLEY, Major,

Brigade Major, G. T. R. Brigade.

The Adjutant General of Militia,
Canada.

CONCLUDING REMARKS ON STATE OF ACTIVE MILITIA FOR 1872.

In concluding the Report on the state of the active militia for 1872, and on the manner in which the annual drill has been performed, I feel that I should fail to do justice to the officers and men under my command if I omitted to bear testimony to the admirable manner in which they conducted themselves during the time of the Annual Drill last year;—it is very satisfactory to state that only one fatal accident is reported to have occurred, notwithstanding the large number of men who attended the various camps. This fatal accident occurred at Niagara camp, one man having been drowned whilst bathing at a dangerous place in the Niagara River, in disobedience to orders.

The medical officers who were present at the various camps discharged their duty with zeal and ability, and these gentlemen have submitted many valuable suggestions.

It is also very satisfactory to report that the ease and rapidity with which the force was concentrated into the various camps of instruction was remarkable; and there are no miscarriages of any importance to record.

They state that the badly-shaped boots, with high heels, which the men bring to camp with them, are the cause of many blistered feet; and that the cap worn by the men—which is without a peak, or other protection from the sun—is the cause of inflamed eyes, and in some cases of sun-stroke.

To remedy these evils, I would suggest the propriety of adding one pair of military boots to the periodical issue of clothing—these boots, like the clothing, to be worn only when on duty or at annual drill; and to add a peak, with a white cotton cap-cover, to the present forage cap. By this means, the comfort, health, and efficiency of the men would be greatly increased.

The medical officers observed a great improvement in the health of the force last year, at the different camps of exercise, as compared with the previous year, and they report the rations to have been good in quality and sufficient in quantity.

The regulations and instructions contained in the General Orders of 31st May, 1872, for the transport, supply, and military instruction of the active militia assembled in camps of exercise last year, are reported to have been found complete, and to leave little room for addition or amendment.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

P. ROBERTSON ROSS, Colonel,

Commanding the Militia of Canada,
and Adjutant General of Militia.

The Honorable.

The Minister of Militia and
Defence, &c., &c.,

A series of gun-cotton experiments was carried out on June 16, at Chatham and Upnor, England. Twenty distinct experiments were performed with Abel's gun-cotton and nitrated gun cotton, in a wet as well as the ordinary dry state, the effects produced not being materially altered where the moisture did not exceed thirty per cent. Experiments with various charges in blast holes in masonry gave results in accordance with theory and previous knowledge.

A German paper states that, on the requisition of Prussian headquarters staff, eight Saxon officers have been sent to the departments which are still occupied by the French German troops, to finish the survey of these departments as speedily as possible, so that when they are evacuated in September on the payment of the milliard, the topographical studies of these districts may be perfectly ready and completed to the last inch.

The artillery school in France are, in accordance with a ministerial decision, to be supplied with one fourteen pounder battery (cannons do 7 kg.) with six pieces, and two light batteries, for practice. All these guns are bronze-breech loaders, of the pattern of Lieutenant-Colonel Reffye, and are each supplied with five hundred rounds of shot.

The artillery of Switzerland for 1872, consisted of 18,417 men. The instruction in this branch is said to make splendid progress.

RIFLE MATCHES.

SIXTH PRIZE MEETING OF THE STAMACON RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The Sixth Annual prize meeting of the above Association was held at the Lewis camp ranges on the 5th and 6th inst.

All the marksmen of the city and district were present and also three of the Wembleton Team who arrived on the 3rd; Sgt. Baxter, 8th Sgt. Shaw, 54th, and Sgt. Kiddy, 68th, also our well-known friend, of last year's team, Paymaster Thomas, 64th Battalion.

The weather was magnificent the first day, but a strong and variable wind blew across the range which made fine shooting very difficult.

The first match fired was the Association, 7 shots at 200 yards. Government pattern rifles.

No. 1 ASSOCIATION MATCH.

	TL.	Prize.
Ens. Thorborn, 54th Batt.....	23	\$10
T. Beckett, Esq.....	22	15
Sgt. Wynne, M. G. A.....	22	12
Sgt. Baxter, 8th Batt.....	22	10
Sgt. Shaw, 54th Batt.....	22	8
Gnr. Alexander, B. Batt.....	22	5
Lt. Col. Lamontagne M. Staff.....	22	5
Pte. Brocklesby, 8th Batt.....	21	5
Sgt. Kiddy, 68th Batt.....	21	5
Sgt. Hawkins, 8th Batt.....	21	5
Capt. Thompson, 55th.....	21	5
E. B. Scott, Esq.....	21	5

\$100

No. 2 The Lieut. Governor's Match, ranges 500 and 600 yards. five shots at each. Government pattern rifles.

No. 2.—LIEUT. GOVERNOR'S MATCH.

	500.	600	Yds.	Yds.	TL.	Prize.
Sgt. Wilson, M. G. A.....	18	15	13			\$20
Capt. Scott, 8th Batt.....	19	14	33			15
Pte. Brazau.....	16	16	32			12
Bugler Norris, 8th Batt.....	16	15	31			10
Capt. McKenzie, 54th Batt.....	16	13	29			8
Sgt. Kiddy, 68th Batt.....	15	14	29			5
Lieut. Balfour, 8th Batt.....	17	12	29			5
Gnr. Alexander, B. Batt.....	14	14	28			5
Gnr. Pritchard, B. Batt.....	14	14	28			5
Sgt. H. Shaw, 54th Batt.....	15	13	28			5
Private Prew, 8th Batt.....	16	12	28			5
Col. Sgt. Holloway.....	15	12	27			5

\$100

No. 3.—SWEEPSTAKES. Seven shots at 500 yards, with Government pattern rifles.

No. 3.—SWEEPSTAKES.

1st prize—Half the sum subscribed.	
2nd do Three fifths of the remainder.	
3rd do Remaining two fifths—minus 15 per cent for the Association.	
	TL. Prize:
Capt. Short, B. Batt.....	26 77 50
Cpl. Riddell, M. G. A.....	25 10 50
Sgt. G. A. Shaw, 54th Batt.....	25 7 00

\$35.00

This match closed the first day's per-