

Militia. In only one instance could I note any reference, and to the effect, that as economy was necessary during commercial depression, the Militia vote was that most easily reduced. Happy are we in our contented security from commotion; I trust it may long last, and that no rude hand may ever give a warning knock at our door.

It may not be amiss here to remark, that during the past year portions of the Militia have been used with the best effect in keeping the peace in aid of the civil power. The "Queen's Own" and parties of other corps did good and efficient service in the case of the Grand Trunk strike in January, also upon two occasions in July the preservation of life and public property from a turbulent mob was due to the moral effect of the presence of the Montreal Brigade. In other parts of the Dominion, notably in British Columbia and Cape Breton, at the opposite extremes of our Military line of 3,000 miles extent, parties of Militia have been called out in aid of the civil power during the past year, and always with good effect in restoring the public peace without resort to force. I regret to notice the discouragement with which some of these good services were met, in the hesitation if not actual refusal for a time, by the Municipal Authorities to pay the forces employed in these important services. I believe it was not till after prosecution was threatened or commenced by commanding officers that tardy justice was done to these troops who so promptly responded to the call of duty, and so cheerfully accomplished it with forbearance under considerable provocation.

Our Active Militia, the advance guard of the Dominion forces, is at present constituted as follows:—

Cavalry.....	1,803	
Field Artillery.....	1,326	
Garrison Artillery.....	3,048	
Engineers.....	232	
Infantry }	27,990	} 37,320
Rifles }	9,330	
Total.....		43,729

The Field Batteries, 17 in number, are composed and armed as follows:—

- 13 with 9-pounder muzzle-loading rifles of latest pattern.
- 1 with 6-pounder Armstrong breach-loading, at Halifax.
- 2 with 9-pounder bronze smooth-bore, and a 24-pounder howitzer.
- 1 at Melbourne armed entirely with bronze 24-pounder howitzers.