

With exceptions so few as not to be of any consequence, the active force is very efficiently officered, and the provisional officers are qualifying.

On this point, I have the honor to refer to the notes of the Majors of Brigade, sent in with their respective recommendations of officers.

Having previously delivered my report of my Inspection of the greater part of No. 2 Division and the remarks in it being applicable to the other Divisions, I have little to add.

Lunenburg will be prepared for my Inspection in a short time.

Colonel Laurie has held his first inspection in Halifax, where the men are completing their training, under their officers who devote so much attention and time to their commands, that the Metropolitan force cannot fail to be very effective and good.

The arms are reported in good order.

The Military School has been much better attended of late. Five and twenty or thirty more officers and cadets are expected to join after the New Year commences.

It is much to be regretted that the two principal towns in the District next in size and importance to Halifax, Yarmouth and Pictou have given no contingent.

If needful, however, men can be thrown into these posts from other places, to defend them.

I enclose the report of Captain Guy, storekeeper and acting paymaster, respecting arms.

I conclude by drawing attention to the non-existence of any reserve in support of the active force, I mean any intermediate support ready to act.

I am not prepared to recommend any considerable issue of arms beyond those in the hands of the active force, but were these fully utilized for the further encouragement of musketry, an intermediate force could I think be raised at no further expense than the privilege of using the rifles and contending for prizes, such a force being merely trained in platoons; *i. e.* to move only in fours and act as light infantry, and in platoon exercise without the manual.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. B. SINCLAIR, Lt.-Colonel,

Depy. Adjt. Gen., Military District No. 9.

Colonel Robertson-Ross, A. G. M., &c., &c., &c.

Ottawa.

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### GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY BRIGADE.

MONTREAL, February 23rd, 1870.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit the following report of my inspection of the Grand Trunk Railway Brigade for half year ending December 31st, 1869.

The Brigade coming under the head of "Town Battalions" did not go under canvas to perform their annual drill.