

"MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

"HEAD-QUARTERS.

"Ottawa, 3rd June, 1874.

"GENERAL ORDERS (14).

"ACTIVE MILITIA.

"REGULATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL DRILL OF 1874-5, DOMINION OF CANADA.

* * * * *

"The annual drill for 1874-5 will be carried out, so far as the same may be practicable, in Brigade Camps of exercise, at which the Cavalry, Field Artillery and Infantry corps within the Brigade Division, who may be authorized to attend such camps, will be concentrated for twelve days drill and training.

* * * * *

"CITY CORPS.

"In cases where local circumstances prevent city corps from going into Brigade camp with other corps in the same Brigade Division, such corps may be permitted to perform twelve days' drill at their local Headquarters on different days, as may be most convenient, subject to the approval of the Deputy Adjutant General of the District

* * * * *

ISOLATED CORPS.

"In any Brigade Division where there is not more than one Battalion of Infantry, or where any Battalion is remote from the place appointed for the brigade camp, the drill of such corps is to be in camp at battalion headquarters. * * * * *

"In any military district where there are rural companies not in battalion, such companies may be attached, where practicable, to a battalion in camp, for purposes of drill; but where such cannot be conveniently arranged on account of distance, or any other proper cause, the corps may be permitted to drill at company headquarters."

* * * * *

As a matter of fact the training sanctioned by our authorities, and with which they are satisfied, is the acquisition, in a more or less imperfect manner, of the manual exercise, and a few absurdly useless movements on the planked floor of a dimly lighted drill shed, or, at most, on a levelled parade ground.

As to the profit gained by training such as this,—even by H. M. regular troops, who execute the field exercise movements with all the precision humanly possible,—we will use the words of Canada's old friend, Sir Garnet J. Wolseley, C.B., K.C.M.G., whose opinions may be held as the best possible to be obtained. In his essay written for the Wellington prize, in 1872, this hater of red-tape, and head-quarters humbug, remarks :—