

In order that these instructors might not lose their soldierly appearance, habits and efficiency, it is proposed that they be assembled annually, and attached to "A" and "B" Batteries for one month, to go through a course of drill and instruction.

An increase of pay to the rank and file, would, in the opinion of a great majority of the officers, facilitate recruiting, as also tend to secure a better class of men. In fact, it appears to many that if the force is to be maintained wholly by volunteering that this is actually necessary.

W. H. JACKSON, Lt., Col.,
Deputy Adj. General,
Military District No. 1.
(To be Continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MONTREAL, 16th April 1875

The city is beginning to emerge from its proverbial dirt and filth at the commencement of spring. The Street Railway have placed their cars on those streets where the rails are free from snow and ice. The crows sing on the river have become dangerous, and a team nearly came, to grief a few days since. No. 1 Hussar Troop muster in force every Monday evening for Sword, Carbines and other exercises, their active instructor Lieut. Colonel Lovelace is (as usual) always at his post; the troop is composed of a really fine body of young men, and Captain Lees and Lieut. McArthur are said to be very popular and efficient officers—Sergeant Porter who was nominated for a Sub-Lieutenancy and was put to a great expense in procuring the full dress uniform and accoutrements of a Cavalry Officer, was not appointed as he expected, in consequence of the recent regulations limiting the number of officers to a troop to two instead of three as heretofore. The Garrison Artillery gave a Concert at the Mechanics Hall the other evening for the benefit of the Montreal Hospital—it was well attended, the officers of other corps donned their uniform for the occasion, and made a goodly show. No tidings yet of the pay due the Montreal Volunteers for turning out at an election three years ago, although Mr. Devlin M. P., brought the matter before the House some time since. It is said that Volunteer Officers who are *bona fide* appointed to Commissions, will in future have to provide themselves within a given period with the necessary outfit—this is as it should be—and the absurd sight of a mounted officer appearing at an inspection, with a Mexican Saddle, Wooden Stirrups, a huge pair of Mexican Spurs with rowels the size of a silver dollar and an old regulation Infantry Sword, will, it is hoped in future, be a thing of the past.

The gallant Prince of Wales' Rifles, the Victorias and the Hochelagas are all progressing well under their respective Commanding Officers. The Victorias have provided themselves with the regulation Rifle

Busby, and the mounted officers wear the Sabrotasche. The Prince of Wales' head dress is the Scotch Bonnet, which is decidedly the best for service, though not so dressy as the Busby of the Victorias. Lieut. Colonel the Count D'Orsonneus, Brigade Major, the Hon. Major Aylmer, Brigade Major, have been absent on a Military Court of Enquiry in Quebec. Lieut. Colonel Harwood, D. A. General, has recommended the formation of a Cavalry troop in the flourishing village of Lapraire; it is a very favorite service in country quarters, all the young farmers keeping good active little horses, and if this is sanctioned (which however is very doubtful) and the men trained as mounted rifles they could be made very useful as scouts and patrols on that side of the river should circumstances ever require such services—There is not a single troop of mounted rifles in the province. No Drill Shed, and at present none in view. X.

HALIFAX, 6th April, 1875.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—As one who likes all things to be done decently and in order, will you permit me through the medium of your valued paper to call the attention of Major Patterson, the officers, non commissioned officers and men of No. 4 Com. 48th Bat., to Section 6, Paragraphs 42, 43, Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Army, 1873.

And oblige yours,
TRUNNION.

Uniform:

HALIFAX, N. S., April 12, 1875.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—I see by an item in a Canadian paper that at a meeting recently held at General Symth's office at Ottawa, on motion of a certain staff officer, it was decided to adopt, as a head dress for our active militia, the felt hat worn by the Southern Cavalry in the late American war. Now, Sir, the "Regulations and orders for the active militia" order that in all cases, when possible, we are to follow "Lucas Regulations," and in "Queen's Regulations" on dress, there are several paragraphs, which order above all things, neatness; etc., in uniform. May I ask if it is at all probable that either this undefinable "blouse," or this American "wide awake" hat (proposed as our uniform) will be at all neat or soldier-like?

General Symth says in his report that "the heavy (?) cloth tunic has been found too warm, etc." In Nova Scotia this is not the case. On the contrary, our uniform has always been very popular, except as regards the head-dress allowed us by the Dominion Government which has only been a "forage cap."

As you know Sir, Halifax is the only city of the Dominion garrisoned by Imperial troops, and as our uniform has heretofore been decidedly British, it has always been

the aim of our volunteers to copy as far as possible the example for neatness and soldierly appearance invariably shown us by Her Majesty's troops, and we would consider it very unjust were we forced to adopt a uniform that would make us "laughing-stocks" for our friends, the "Regulars."

Why cannot an allowance be made the Commanders of battalions to provide clothing for their own commands? It is very certain nothing would be worn that was not *regulation*. Again, Sir, if we chanced to be on actual service with Her Majesty's soldiers dressed in this very odd uniform of "Blouse" and "American" hat—is it not probable that the enemy presuming that the militia would not probably present so formidable a front as the long disciplined and well trained Imperial soldiers might consider the militia the most vulnerable point to attack, and by this perhaps reap a great advantage, which were the uniforms more alike, would not be obtained. In Nova Scotia we possess too much of the spirit of the British Soldier (and I hope there is too much of the same feeling in the breast of every Canadian Volunteer) to acquiesce in the adoption of anything "Yankee," and especially of this discarded Yankee hat. It will be a source of regret should General Symth's popularity be lessened, as it must evidently be, should he be induced to adopt such a very objectionable, if not a decidedly ridiculous head-dress for us, and it is to be hoped that these matters will be very carefully considered before such a sweeping revolution is made in our uniform. Thanking you for your valuable space.

Yours truly,
"LIGHT INFANTRY."

HALIFAX, April, 1875.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—Ixion makes a pretty fair attempt at answering Fixed Bayonet's questions, although not quite clear in some of his explanations; viz: in describing the Sergeant-Major's post in column. What does he mean by forming double companies from right half-battalion? Rather a difficult performance unless each half-battalion has an even number of companies. Ixion does not at all answer Fixed Bayonet's sixth question. The answer to which is to be found in Sec. 3, paragraph 4, Queen's Regulations, 1873. In his postscript Ixion says that in Presentation of Colours, it is not the two Senior Ensigns who receive the new colours. I quite agree with him there, for on page 342, part VI, F. E., 1874, he will find that the two Senior Lieutenants are the officers to receive the new colours. Ixion also makes the same mistake as Fixed Bayonets, as to distance between ranks with trailed arms. Surely it is not a very difficult problem to solve. In taking two short paces, the rear rank only increases its distance eighteen inches from the front rank. On the word Halt, if the rear rank took a *very*