

of all arms,—they certainly apply their minds to perform their duties with ability, requiring only time, which cannot be obtained.

The men are generally a very fine, robust, well sized body—in only one battalion in the Camp at Brockville did I observe a few very undersized men. I made a remark at the time and expressed a hope the Medical Officer would reject such men in future. As any number of men can be obtained, why not select the most powerful in physique? Excellent material for soldiers are those hardy men. No finer troops could the world produce, were they drilled and disciplined for a sufficient time to inspire the brotherhood and mutual reliance among bodies of men in danger or in hardship which constant intercourse and acquaintance under difficulties can alone produce. This makes the soldier *par-excellence*. Drill and discipline prepare the man to become developed into the fearless soldier by the bond of confidence in their comrades, and unhesitating obedience to their commanders, whom they have learnt by the respect inspired by superior knowledge, to obey.

My former suggestion for a permanent Adjutant on the staff of each battalion, I do not urge, though fully persuaded of the advantage, yet I find the idea not generally acceptable, besides being a greater expense than the estimates can at present afford. I still adhere, however, to the proposal for a permanent Sergeant Major, capable in the highest degree of instructing in drill, discipline, and the duties of guards and sentries, who could also be the caretaker of the armories and clothing stores.

The care of arms and clothing is full of difficulties in the peculiar constitution of the Canadian Militia organization. I know they should always, with certain unavoidable exceptions, be kept at the head quarters of the battalion. When Rifle Matches occur in rural companies, a case of arms could easily be sent for the purpose and afterwards returned.

The rifles have been in use for so long without examination by an armourer, that I believe I am not exceeding the fact when I say that a large proportion of them are not fit for active service. This is really a very serious state of things—a soldier without his rifle or carbine would be useless. I last year urged the necessity for skilled armourers, who should examine every rifle in use once a year and effect the necessary repairs. I again draw serious attention to this most important defect, and earnestly advise that skilled armourers should be imported from the small arms factory. Whether they should go round the various battalions and rural companies to repair the rifles on the spot, or whether the rifles should be assembled at certain fixed stations, is a matter of detail easily determined by ascertaining the most economical method. But, pray give us armourers to render these delicate weapons fit for use.

The new clothing issued this year is a failure. The shape of the frock is extremely unpopular, and serge material very bad. A shower of rain reduces the scarlet to a neutral tint approaching black. Money is always badly laid out in purchasing cheap materials. Popular feeling must be respected in a purely volunteer force, encouragement must be given to maintain that feeling. One and all, I believe, condemn the serge frock, and for my own part, I think it looks unbecoming and proves unserviceable. All desire the cloth tunic, it is the uniform of the British Army which the Militia with becoming pride desire to emulate.

I recommend the universal resumption of that dress.

The forage cap invented here, is equally unserviceable. Anything with pasteboard in its composition is totally useless for a soldier's wear. The men complained that the former forage cap afforded no shade from the sun nor shelter from rain. Militiamen are accustomed the year round at their ordinary work, to wear broad brimmed hats, and so they dislike the round forage cap; but I believe the Kilmarnock with a back and front peak, as formerly worn by some regiments of the line in India would answer the purpose, affording both shade and shelter, and causing a circulation of air round the back of the neck. A headdress combining grace and utility is a matter of taste still far from decided on. The Glengarry cap is smart, but would be worn probably for general use, and the shako is not required for the short summer drills.

The following statistic table will show the numbers trained in each Province during the past season:

Quebec.....	8,108
Ontario.....	14,836
Nova Scotia.....	3,033
New Brunswick.....	2,124
Manitoba.....	.....
British Columbia.....	200
Prince Edward Island.....	484

The Reports Annexed, from the respective Deputy Adjutants General of the 12 Military Divisions will be found to explain the details of the several corps composing their brigades.

MILITARY COLLEGE.

The building is now ready for the reception of Cadets and will shortly be furnished.

Lieut. Colonel Hewett, an officer of the Royal Engineers, arrived in September and has entered upon the preliminary duties of commandant. The staff has been for the present limited to one cadet officer and 3 professors, two of whom will be selected from the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers; the number of cadets for the first year is not to exceed 22 who will compete for admission. Next year 36 will be added, viz: 3 from each Military District.

The benefits to be derived from this College are as yet to remote, to calculate upon for the immediate improvement of the Dominion Militia.

A highly educated and scientific class of gentlemen will after the first five years annually pass out of the Institution and the result in the future cannot but be highly favourable and advantageous to the Military establishment of the Country.

ARTILLERY.

Theseveral batteries of Garrison and Field Artillery have been inspected. The reports are annexed and by reference to them it will be seen the Artillery in general is in a satisfactory condition.

There are now 50 9 pounder rifled guns in the Country 30 only of which are as yet issued to batteries; 10 more are in course of manufacture and will be distributed at an early date.

There are also fifty bronze field guns of various calibres, in every way serviceable, but the old smooth bore gun is not considered of much value for modern artillery. I do not recommend that any further addition should be made to the Field Artillery at present, but I propose the usual vote for ordnance should be applied to the purchase of converted Palliser 61-32 pr. rifled guns for the batteries of Quebec and Kingston. Pro

per armament is of much greater importance than fortifications, the latter can speedily be supplied for temporary purposes, the former cannot. I request attention to the condition of the armaments of these two citadels; except a few breech loaders, there is not a rifled gun of any description. The breech loader will I believe be found useless in winter in Canada, as the screws freeze, and it has been found necessary to light a fire for an hour inside the gun before bringing it into action. The 61 32 pr. is not intended as a battering gun, nor would it go through the side of an ironclad *à fleur d'eau* by direct fire, but if a shell goes through the deck of an iron clad at an angle of 8° or 9° as it must do fired from the citadel of Quebec, it would also go through her bottom, which is unarmoured, or burst between decks.

In the present armed condition of the continent of Europe it is not possible to foresee when peace may be broken, nor what nations may become involved in war. Should such an event unhappily occur and Great Britain be a party concerned, enemies' cruisers would no doubt cover the seas as in former wars, and should a ship of war escape the British cruisers on the coast, it is quite within reasonable calculation that she might run up the St. Lawrence, place Quebec under contribution and proceed further to Montreal for the same purpose. We have not at this moment a gun at Quebec to forbid the passage of the River to any ironclad, and therefore I propose, if approved, to apply the Ordnance Vote this year for the purchase of converted 64 32 prs. guns of 56 cwt. which would fit our old 32 pr. cost iron carriages, without alternation. The cost per gun will be £136 12s. 5d. and each gun should in the first instance be supplied with 80 common shell and 20 sharpnel, costing approximately about £55 each gun. The 32 pr. case shot already in store would suit on emergency, if case shot were required.

Suggested that the vote for ordnance be applied for the purchase of 25 or 30 such guns with shell. A few, perhaps 5 or 8, to be mounted on Fort Henry, Kingston, the remainder upon the Citadel of Quebec, Lt. Colonels Strange and Irwin, Royal Artillery and commanding the Gunnery schools will respectively superintend.

It might be thought questionable to arm old pattern works with new pattern guns, but the fortifications of Quebec and Kingston are not really old. Possibly from the vicinity of the former to the Plains of Abraham people might conjecture so and also because they have been fortified in various ways, since white men first landed on these shores and round them have surged those contests which have decided the fate of Canada.

The modern fortress of Quebec Citadel, though chronicled in history is not yet 50 years old, the Point Levis forts on the opposite side of the river are about 5 years old. And what difference is there between the trace of their profiles and those of Quebec? A few sand bags, gabions, empty flour barrels,—a few days with plenty of willing hands and a professional head would give all the additions required.

The old cast iron carriages, platforms, side arms, stores, shot, shell and ammunition could be used with those guns which retain their 32 pr. calibre and exterior form. Such an armament, simple, serviceable, incapable of injury by rough handling or climate, requiring no complicated drill, would fulfil all requirements and command the approaches to Quebec or Fort Henry.

The Volunteer and Militia coast Artillery of Great Britain are almost entirely armed with these 64-32 pr. Pallisers and the gov-