

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE MILITIA FOR 1873.

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APPENDIX No. 1

MILITARY DISTRICT, NO. 2

Deputy Adjutant General's Office,
London, 27th November, 1873.

HEAD QUARTERS.
OLD FORT, TORONTO.
20th Nov., 1873.

Sir, In accordance with your Circular Memorandum, dated Ottawa, 24th October last, I have the honor to report that the quota of active militia required to be furnished from the district under my command is 6,089.

In consequence of all the corps in Military District No. 2, not having as yet performed their annual drill for 1873-74, I am unable to give the full muster of force, or to show the number which may be required to complete the quota of the District.

The strength of the corps of active militia, which have performed their annual drill for this year (up to this date), and which were duly mustered, agreeable to orders, by Major Alger, District Paymaster, at the time, is as undermentioned :

CAVALRY.

Governor-General's Body Guards Officers, N. C Officers and men.	3	35
2nd Regiment of Cavalry—6 Troops Officers, N. C. Officers and men.	17	244
	20	279

No. 7 Troop Welland (not equipped)..... Did not drill.....

ARTILLERY.

Field Batteries,

	Officers	N.C. Officers and men.
Toronto.....	6	54
Hamilton.....	4	71
	10	125

Garrison Batteries.

Toronto.....	2	51
Collingwood.....	3	38
	5	89

INFANTRY.

- 12th Battalion, York Rangers, 8 company's 28 officers, non commissioned officers and men 318.
- 20th Battalion, Halton 7 company's 17 officers, non-commissioned officers and men 288.
- 31st Battalion, Grey 7 company's 27 officers, non-commissioned officers and men 321.
- 35th Battalion, Simcoe Foresters 9 company's 25 officers, non-commissioned officers and men 365.
- 35th. Battalion No 10 Company not equipped did not perform annual drill,
- 37th Battalion, Halgimand 7 companys 20 officers, non-commissioned officers and men 160.
- 38th Battalion, Brant 6 companys 20 officers,

non commissioned officers and men 248.
44th Battalion, Welland 8 companies
4 Companies, Nos. 2, 4, 7, and-8 performed annual drill.

77th Battalion, Wentworth 6 companys 22 officers, non-commissioned officers and men 280.

Independent Company
Sault Ste Mario (rifle) 1 officer, non-commissioned officers and men 22.

171 2.163

The force, as above enumerated, comprises rather more than one half the being: of the District (by corps), there

- 1 Field Battery,
- 1 Garrison Battery,
- 7 Battalions of Infantry,

yet to perform their annual drill.

By comparing the relative strength of the corps which have performed their drill for 1873-74 with that, when mustered for drill, for 1872-73 as now shown, it appears that the force mustered on parade this year :

	Officers	N.C Officers and men.
Cavalry.....	20	279
Artillery.....	15	214
Infantry.....	161	2,163
Total.....	196	2,656

The same corps last year mustered :

Cavalry.....	31	315
Artillery.....	14	248
Infantry.....	174	2,156
Total.....	219	2,719

There is not that deficiency in numbers this year, so far, which I anticipated; as it is admitted on all hands that the general desire of the force is to perform their annual drill under canvas, either in brigade or divisional camps, similar to those which have taken place during the last two years, thereby enabling both officers and men to acquire that knowledge of camp duties and brigade drill, so essential to their efficiency. Added to which, the men in general, and especially those from cities, derive great benefit in their general health by being placed in a healthy dry country like Niagara, under canvas for 16 days. Of course, there are a few who may suffer, being constitutionally weak, or from previous ill health.

The annual drill was performed in accordance with general orders of the 30th May and 23rd June last (the target practice excepted, hereafter referred to), and in the following manner :—

The Governor General's Body Guard performed its annual drill at head-quarters 16 days; mustered very fairly, and drilled very well, both mounted and dismounted well mounted, very soldier-like.

This corps deserves more than ordinary credit, having imported from England the heavy dragoon helmet, at a cost of 10 to the officers \$40 each, to the troopers \$9.54 each. In consideration of the extra services constantly required and performed by this corps at the opening and closing of the Legislature, at Toronto, and others duties, I beg to recommend that the officers commanding this troop may be permitted to recruit the corps up to 75 non-commissioned officers and men, with 15 sets of additional saddle.

2nd Regiment of Cavalry.

Nos. 2 and 3 troops (Oak Ridges and Markham) formed into a squadron, performed annual drill with the 12th Battalion at Aurora, under canvas; horses picketed, men soldier-like, well behaved, fairly mounted and drilled very fair.

The remaining troops, Nos. 1 (St. Catharines), 4 (Grimsby), 5 (Burford), and 6 (Queenstown), performed their drill at their respective troop head quarters, and were inspected by Lt.-Col. Villiers, Brigade Major, who reported favourably of their appearance on parade—arms and accoutrements in good order, and very fairly mounted; (Burford) reference being made to No. 5 (or (Burford) troop (Welland), not equipped, and not performed annual drill.

ARTILLERY.

Toronto Field Battery performed its annual drill—officers and men in barracks, horses in the stables, new fort, where there is ample accommodation. This battery is in good order. Lt.-Col. Denison, Brigade Major, being present at its inspection by Lt.-Col. French, Inspector of Artillery, reports very favourably. Lt.-General O'Grady Daly, C.B., commanding Her Majesty's forces in Canada, being present on this occasion, who expressed himself much pleased at the manner in which the field movements were executed, and the steady and soldier-like appearance of officers and men.

Hamilton Field Battery performed its annual drill at Hamilton. Mustered as usual, very strong. General appearance of this battery very creditable; well horsed; field movements well and smartly performed.

Toronto and Collingwood Garrison Batteries.

These corps performed their annual drill; the former in barracks, at the New Fort, Toronto; the latter under canvas at Collingwood. Lieut.-Col. Denison, Brigade Major, who was present at the inspection of the corps by Lieut.-Col. French, reports favourably of these corps.

Infantry.

The 12th, 31st, 35th, 37th, 38th, and 77th Battalions performed their annual drill, under the general order of the 23rd June, in eight consecutive days under canvas, (less one day moving into and out of camp), at their respective Battalions Head Quarters; excepting the 12th Battalion, which assembled at Aurora, instead of Newmarket, — the former place considered more available and preferable.

It is very creditable to the commanding officers of corps to be able to report that their camps were well situated, dry and healthy, without exception; well supplied with water, tents well pitched, rations good; no complaints. General appearance of the men soldier like; and considering the short period, drill, field movements and skirmishing very fair; arms, accoutrements, and clothing in fair order.

I am sorry to say the 37th Battalion mustered weak.

I regret to observe that the 38th Battalion did not appear to be in as healthy a state of organization as I could wish.

Although, I believe officers commanding Battalions used every exertion to carry out the general order of the 23rd June, with reference to target practice, when it is considered that one day is taken up in moving into and out of camp, &c., seven days is too short a period for a battalion to carry out its regimental duties, drill preparations of ranges for target practice (40 rounds, per man,