

of the assistance of one of the ablest and most tactful general officers by whom the Canadian militia has ever been commanded. Under the united guidance of the SOLDIER and the SURGEON, I look forward with confidence to the future.

Having thus sketched the historical and evolutionary side of my subject, let me ask your attention to the practical work of the medical service in so far as organized relief and transport of the wounded are concerned. In order to understand the way in which a wounded soldier is brought from the fighting line to the base hospital, it is necessary to refer to the composition of a British army corps in the field. Such an army corps would consist of about 40,000 men, about the strength of our militia, under the command of Lieutenant-General. It would be composed of 3 divisions of infantry, and each infantry division would contain about 10,000 men in 2 brigades. The medical detail for each division would be, besides the regimental bearers, 2 bearer companies, 3 field hospitals of 100 beds each, and one divisional field hospital in reserve. The corps troops have also one field hospital. The cavalry division would number about 6,500 men, and would have attached to it 2 bearer companies and 3 field hospitals of 100 beds each. The whole medical detail for the division, exclusive of regimental bearers, would be 8 bearer companies, 10 field hospitals, 2 station hospitals and 2 general hospitals, the latter being on the line of communication at any distance up to 100 miles from the front. The supreme command of the medical arrangements is vested in a surgeon-general, who is the P. M. O. of the force. In many instances he is assisted by Deputy P. M. O., who is a colonel. The duties of the P. M. O. are to advise the G. O. C. on all matters concerning the health of the troops. This would include such important matters as food and clothing, and any special precautions rendered necessary by the climate, also the oversight of his department. The importance of his functions can hardly be overestimated, for his business is to direct the measures for *keeping the men in health*, which is the main business of the army surgeon, so that at the critical time they be available.*

* MORTUARY STATISTICS OF THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

"According to the official report of the Adjutant-General of the army, the entire number of deaths in the service since the 1st May last is divided as follows:

Killed	329
Died of wounds	125
Died of disease	5,277

In other words, for every one man who died as the result of battle, twelve perished as the result of bad food, carelessness or mismanagement of the War Department."—*Evening Bulletin*, Philadelphia, March 11th, 1899.

The losses on the Union side during the Civil War were:

Killed in action	44,238
Died of wounds	43,731
	<hr/>
	93,969
Died of disease	186,216
Cases of disease reported during five years of war.....	5,424,547