

## THE CAMP AT SUSSEX, N.B.

In accordance with general orders, the following New Brunswick corps went under canvas at Sussex, on 28th June, for the usual twelve days annual training.

## CAVALRY.

8th Regiment "Princess Louise Hussars," under Lieut.-Col. Domville.

## ENGINEERS.

Brighton Company, Major Vince.

## INFANTRY.

No. 4 Co'y., R.C.I., Capt. Hemming.

73rd Battalion, Lieut.-Col. McCulley.

74th Battalion, Lieut.-Col. Beer.

Total strength, 812 officers and men.

The following officers constituted the staff:—

Commandan—Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, D.A.G.

Brigade-Major—Capt. Hemming, R.C.I.

Supply Officer—Major Sturdee, 62nd Battalion.

Camp Qr.-Master—Capt. Howe, 71st Battalion.

Musketry Instructor—Capt. Perkins, 67th Battalion.

Medical Officer—Surgeon Brown, R.C.I.

Steady drill was commenced on the day following the arrival of the troops, and was continued throughout the duration of the camp. On the afternoon of Dominion Day, brigade drill was held in honour of the day, and was witnessed by a large number of visitors from St. John and the neighbouring district. In the evening, despite the heavy rain, a well-attended temperance meeting was held in the Y.M.C.A. tent, and stirring addresses given by several officers; over forty of the soldiers present signed the pledge at the conclusion of the meeting.

On the 2nd, an excellent day's work was put in by all three arms; Capt. Van Straubenzie, Inspector of Engineers, arrived and the Brighton company were practiced in throwing up earthworks behind the dpper parade. Cadet Maunsell, R.M.C., was attached to this corps during the camp.

The usual church parade was held on Sunday morning, and the afternoon and evening were devoted to rest—the heavy rain spoiling much anticipated recreation. Monday morning saw the resumption of drill and musketry instruction, and by the end of the week a vast improvement in the general work of the various corps was apparent. Major-General Herbert arrived on Wednesday, and on the following morning began a rigid inspection of the arms, accoutrements and personnel of the brigade. Friday was a day of fear and trembling to the recruit and glory to the veteran; from early morning until late the General occupied himself in a minute and careful inspection of the drill of the various corps. The cavalry were in the saddle from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m., being first exercised in the riding school and then put through field movements on the parade. With some features of the work he found fault, but on the whole his examination was eminently satisfactory, and he subsequently stated to Lieut.-Col. Domville that after having inspected every cavalry regiment in the Dominion, he considered that the Eighth ranked first for general efficiency.

The Brighton Engineers, who had done much practical work in erecting earthworks, making gabions, fascines, &c., ended their duties by throwing a bridge across the river and blowing it up with gun cotton; they left camp for home on Friday morning. The infantry were inspected in the afternoon. In the evening a large camp fire illuminated the faces of a great many officers and men who gathered around it to celebrate the last night in camp; songs were sung by General Herbert, Capt. Streatfield, Dr. Brown and others. On Saturday morning the camp broke up, the cavalry marching home, the infantry going by train.

The last drills of the infantry showed the effect of the excellent instruction they had received. The 73rd is a corps of fine physique, and with a very able C. O., Lieut.-Colonel McCully, but is short of officers. The 74th is a good all-round battalion, the Moncton company, commanded by Capt. Hanington, being pronounced the best in camp.

## THE LONDON CAMP.

The camp of the rural corps of No. 1 District—the composition of which has been given in a recent issue—closed on 2nd inst. It was one of the largest that has been held this season, and it is much to be regretted that the Major-General was unable to be present; but when so many of these annual trainings are held at the same time in different parts of the country, it is impossible for him to attend all. Possibly his absence from the London camp may be taken as the best possible compliment to the corps of that district, and the officers in charge.

The work done during the closing days was a little out of the ordinary routine, and of special interest. On the 29th, the cavalry was sent out on a tour of reconnaissance through the adjacent country, each troop by a widely-diverging road, with instructions to concentrate at St. John's at a given time. This was successfully carried out, a very few minutes elapsing between the arrival of the different troops.

Dominion Day was observed in London this year with unusual and brilliant *eclat*, the demonstration being probably the largest and most imposing ever witnessed in that city. The camp contributed largely to the general effect, the whole force turning out and taking part in the procession.

Lieut.-Col. Smith, D.A.G., Lieut.-Col. Aylmer, Brigade Major and staff were leading, with the cavalry following under Colonel Gartshore. The Cavalry band made its first appearance in public, mounted, and were heartily cheered by the throng of spectators. They made a novel sight and were eighteen strong. The four troops of cavalry, numbering one hundred and fifty men on horseback, looked well and attracted much attention. Thence came the London Field Battery, under Col. Peters and Capt. Williams, with four guns. Then followed the several battalions in camp in order; the men all made a splendid showing and marched well. The 21st Battalion were their big busbies, enhancing their appearance thereby. The Oxford Rifles was the strongest battalion on parade. Each battalion was headed by its brass band and there was no dearth of martial music.

On Saturday morning the various corps left for their local head-quarters; the tents were struck by the men of the Royal Canadian Infantry, and by the evening there was nothing to remind a casual visitor that the ground, a few hours before, had been the scene of busy military life. The London Field Battery were the last to leave, and by one o'clock their guns and stores were safely housed in the shed.

## ST. JOHN'S INFANTRY SCHOOL.

If the statements, ascribed by the *St. Johns News*, to General Herbert be true, and may be regarded as official, the movement of the Military School to Montreal cannot be looked for, at least for the present. But we are told the General said "why should not Montreal have another school?" One thing is certain that a school Montreal should have and with little delay. It is in our opinion unlikely that the Government will assume the cost of establishing two schools so close to each other as Montreal and St. Johns but something tentative ought to be insisted on. Pending the permanency of the school here a detachment of it, sufficient for purposes of instruction, should be quartered in Montreal for a more or less extended period during the year.

## THE FENIAN RAID OF '66.

A recent issue of the *Welland Telegraph* contained an interesting account of the disastrous fight at Fort Erie on 2nd June, 1866, when a detachment of our volunteers, badly handled and without provisions, had, after exhausting their ammunition, to surrender to a large Fenian force. The whole story of that campaign is replete with instances of mismanagement and lack of preparation, and its details are worth careful study by our officers as a practical lesson—although an unpleasant one—in common-sense soldiering.