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REPORT OF THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

(Continued from Page 242.)

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 5.

The authorized strength of the Active Militia in this district is 5,384 (officers and men), the actual number who performed the Annual Drill is 3,865 (officers and men), leaving 1,419 (officers and men) wanting to complete; the deficiency in the different arms being as follows:—

Present authorized strength,		Officers.	N.C.O. and Men.
Cavalry.....	12		220
Field Artillery	5		74
Garrison Artillery and Infantry...	371		4,913
Actual strength inspected.			
Cavalry.....	11		172
Field Artillery.....	4		6
Garrison Artillery and Infantry....	283		3,581
Thus leaving a deficiency in			
Cavalry.....	1		48
Field Artillery..	1		10
Garrison Artillery and Infantry..	81		1,336
The force consists of			
2 Squadrons of Cavalry.			
1 Field Battery.			
1 Brigade, and 2 Batteries of Garrison Artillery.			
2 Companies of Engineers.			
10 Battalions, and			
5 Companies of Infantry, and is composed of the following corps:—			
<i>Cavalry.</i>			
Montreal Troop.			
St. Andrew's Troop.			
Cookshire "			
Sherbrooke "			
<i>Field Artillery.</i>			
Montreal Field Battery.			
<i>Garrison Artillery.</i>			
Montreal Brigade of Garrison Artillery.			
St. John's Battery	"		
Sherbrooke "	"		
<i>Engineers.</i>			
1st Company of Montreal Engineers.			
2nd "	"		
<i>Infantry.</i>			
1st Battalion (Rifles).			
3rd "	"		
11th "	"		
50th "	"		
51st "	"		

52nd " and the Aylmer, Eardley, Drummondville, Thurso, and Wakefield, independent companies of Infantry.

Lieut. Colonel Osborne Smith, C. M. G., commands the militia in this district (although at present employed on special service in Manitoba), with regard to the prospect of maintaining the force in this district by trusting to voluntary enrolment alone, that officer states:—"As a large number of the men in the district will complete their service before the conclusion of the present year, I have endeavoured to ascertain by communications with officers commanding corps, whether they consider it probable the recruits or re-enlisted men are likely to fill the ranks of their respective battalions. With very few exceptions the answers are in the negative, and a strong desire is expressed that the ballot may be enforced." Lieutenant Colonel Osborne Smith, in his report, which will be found in the Appendix, states:—

"My personal observation induces me to endorse these opinions. Indeed, I feel satisfied that unless an emergency should arise, the actual strength of the district will, at the ensuing drill season, be found at least one-third less than it is at present, unless that it is perfectly and distinctly understood that drafting will be placed in operation in regimental districts which may not furnish the authorized quota as established by the corps at present gazetted."

With the exception of the Montreal Garrison Artillery, which encamped on St. Helen's Island for the performance of their Annual Drill, and the St. John's Battery of Garrison Artillery, which drilled at its own headquarters, the whole of the corps in this district were assembled at Laprairie for sixteen days' drill, together with nearly the whole of the available corps belonging to Military District No. 6, in a Divisional Camp. The force here assembled was formed into 3 brigades, the whole division being under the command of the senior officer, Lieut. Col Osborne Smith; the details of the strength of corps, &c., &c., is shown in the tabular inspection returns attached to Lieut. Col. Smith's report in the appendix. The troops in this camp, (which was more numerous attended than any of the others formed in the Dominion during the past summer), were under the same regulations relative to pay and supply as those at Goderich, Niagara, Kingston and Prescott. The Divisional staff was formed by the undermentioned officers:

Lieutenant-Colonel Gilmor, (2nd Queen's Own Rifles) acting as Assistant Adjutant General; Lieutenant-Colonel McKay (Montreal Garrison Artillery) as Assistant Quartermaster General; Lieutenant-Colonel Moore (unattached), as Camp Quartermaster; Lieutenant Colonel Bacon, Brigade Major, as Musketry Instructor; Major Dowker, Montreal Garrison Artillery, as Supply Officer; Captain McKay, Montreal Garrison Artillery as Aide de Camp; Lieutenant Colonel Osborne Smith reports that his warmest acknowledgements are due to these officers for the indefatigable zeal and ability with which they performed their several duties. Having personally witnessed the manner in which these officers acted, it affords me great pleasure to bear a similar testimony, and to convey to them my own hearty thanks. A much larger number of men than was at first expected, having joined this camp suddenly, a severe strain was, for two or three days, put upon the limited supply and camp equipment resources of the Militia Department, but the staff were equal to the occasion, and Major Dowker proved himself an energetic and capable supply officer. The routine of drill and duties, as prescribed in the General Orders of 5th May, 1871, was carried out, as far as circumstances and time would admit. I was present for several days in this Camp, and not only inspected but personally mustered every officer, man and horse, for pay and rations.

The Montreal Field Battery, unfortunately, (owing to the difficulty experienced in obtaining horses), was only able to join the camp for four days, and with horses of all sorts and sizes, not accustomed to double harness—it was practised in gun-drill and field manoeuvres, the Inspector of Artillery reported their gun drill as very good, the driving indifferent. With regard to this battery, which is commanded by a zealous and energetic officer, and composed of an intelligent and fine body of men, the ever recurring difficulty it experiences in procuring horses whenever required, either for actual service in defence of the country, or for the performance of the Annual Drill, practically seems to render it non-effective. In alluding to this battery in his report, the Inspector of Artillery says, "In 1870 when the Montreal Field Battery was ordered out to repel a Fenian raid, this battery, it will be remembered, kept a regiment waiting for several hours, and was eventually a day too late for the affair at Trent River;" this was greatly to be regretted, but for the absence of horses it might have been with the troops on that occasion, when wanted, and had an opportunity of throwing a few