

Annual Report on the State of the Militia  
for 1875.

(Continued from page 208.)

APPENDIX No. 1.

3RD BRIGADE DIVISION.—Brigade Major, Lt.  
Col. McCulloy.

"CAMP TEDDERS."

Newcastle Field Battery.—Brevet Major R.  
Call.

The Assistant Inspector of Artillery has sent me the following report respecting this battery:—"It was inspected by him, in my company, on the 29th Jul., 1875. This battery performed its annual drill, in camp, at its own head quarters. The horses looked well, and the harness, stores, &c., were in good order. The shot and shell practice made by the battery was very good. Major Call is a most energetic and useful officer, and evidently has the welfare of his battery thoroughly at heart."

I again inspected this corps on the last day of its annual drill, 5th July, and I need only add that, as regards the situation of the camp, the internal arrangements of the corps and still further progress made in drill, "Camp Tedders" appears to have been a great success.

No. 7 Battery, Brigade Garrison Artillery.—  
Brevet Major Gillespie.

This battery was inspected at Chatham by the Assistant Inspector of Artillery and myself on the 14th September, 1875. That officer reports that "the battery made some good shooting with their 24 pounder smooth bore guns." Lieut. Col. Jago adds that "he has repeatedly pointed out the desirability of having proper platforms laid, and a small earthwork thrown up, and three or four guns mounted in it for the defence of the Miramichi, for at present the flourishing towns of Chatham and Newcastle are at the mercy of any ordinary passenger steamer with one gun mounted in her, which could easily set fire to both towns in a few hours."

This important suggestion was embodied in my Report for 1873, and in the Report of the Board of Survey for this District, 1874, and the officer commanding No. 7 Battery has been requested to estimate for the service.

73rd Battalion.—Major Sheriff.

I inspected this corps at its camp, near Chatham, on the 29th July, 1875.

The many excellent qualities of the men of Northumberland, composing this corps, as well as the desire for improvement in the knowledge and practice of drill, evinced by them have frequently been adverted to by me in my annual reports and elsewhere, and the company from Kent bringing fresh "spirit" into the 73rd Battalion, I have invariably expected to find efficiency in the corps, nor have I yet been disappointed.

The site, however, for the camp this year, was not, I consider, well selected—chosen, it appears, during dry weather, and their being much rain during the period of the drill, the condition of the ground was effected thereby. The Major commanding, and his zealous Quarter master, however, spared no pains or expense in erecting a spacious mess room, canteen and issuing store, and thus securing the comfort of the officers and men. I regret that, owing to an inadvertence on their part, they have failed to recover the money thus expended.

The rations were of excellent quality, the

cost being in excess of the Government allowance (25 cents per man per diem).

Battalion drill, with skirmishing, was well executed. I took occasion, however, to advise those amongst the officers and non-commissioned officers, who had not yet qualified at the Military School, to avail themselves of the first opportunity of doing so.

Bathurst Infantry Company.—Capt. Barbara.

Inspected on the 7th of August last. Owing to the distance of this corps from any desirable point of concentration for drill (prior to the opening of the Intercolonial Railway) and there being no corps of Active Militia now in Gloucester, squad and company drills, without their attractive application to battalion and brigade drill, have been all that this corps could possibly attempt; and I consider that the energetic Captain deserves credit, under the circumstances, in maintaining even a fair degree of efficiency amongst the fine body of men composing the company.

The Captain and his subalterns, however, should not fail to attend the Military School this winter.

*Aid to Civil Power in Gloucester County.*

The loyalty and patriotism, and their value as soldiers, of both officers, and men of Northumberland, have been fairly tested during the past year. Called out in aid of the civil power in mid winter, with no small difficulties to overcome, they responded to the call with no uncertain voice, and the force, was quickly under arms, and en route to the scene of disturbance. Happily, there was no occasion for further service than their presence on the spot, and I cheerfully endorse the statement (B) of the Brigade Major himself, deserving praise for the example of readiness which he set to the "whole force," especially the Newcastle Field Battery, "having behaved well, and deserving thanks." In proof of the good conduct and discipline maintained in the Newcastle Field Battery, under its efficient commander, Major Call, during the lengthened period of six weeks it was stationed at Bathurst, I need but direct attention to the address to the officers of the corps by the Magistrates of the place and others, previous to their departure for their homes, and the reply thereto, enclosed herewith.

*Enlistment for Corps on Service in Manitoba.*

In compliance with General Orders (18) of the 2nd July last, I duly enlisted fifteen men for service in Manitoba, and on the 4th of August they proceeded to their destination in charge of a staff officer from Nova Scotia.

These men were drawn from the 1st Brigade Division, although each Division was requested to furnish its quota.

*Military School*

With my usual efficient staff, Lieut. Col. Otty, (since deceased) Adjutant; Captain McKenzie, 1st Instructor; Sergeant Daniels, 2nd Instructor, the Military School, under the six months ended 30th May last, with the following results:—

2 cadets obtained 1st class certificates;  
64 do do 2nd class certificates;  
12 cadets retired, failed to obtain certificates.

On the 25th of January, the Major General commanding inspected the School.

In addition to the prescribed rule (as to qualification of candidates for admission) the Board of Examiners required certificates from officers in command, showing that candidates are members of the force (and likely to be useful members.) By means of this

additional check, those who would probably have attended more for the "gratuity" than for the benefit that might be derived from the "knowledge" acquired, were as far as possible excluded, and I am glad to say that at my inspections during the summer months, "past cadets" were to be seen in almost every corps, giving practical proofs of the utility of their course of instruction in the Military School at Fredericton.

*Rifle Association.*

Canadians generally, and it may be added Active Militiamen, may justly feel proud of the fresh honors won by their representatives at Wimbledon this year. Another proof, if proof were needed, that the force of the country is not deteriorating.

Lieut. Col. Beer, who served for three years continuously as President of the New Brunswick Provincial Rifle Association, with credit to himself and advantage to the Association, declining re-election, Captain Perley, New Brunswick Engineer Corps, an officer of zeal and activity in whatever he takes in hand, has succeeded to that office.

In addition to the usual County Rifle Associations, Rifle Clubs appear to be doing good work. A new club has been formed at my own head quarters, with Capt. Cropley, 71st Battalion, as its energetic President.

In fact the desire appears to be that, from the local Rifle Club to the test match for Wimbledon (wherever it may be held), the succession of steps should be complete, their aim and object the same, their interest identical. I must add that by reducing the cost of ammunition the Government has materially facilitated the progress of Rifle Associations of whatever kind.

The following Associations held competitions this year, the returns which will be transmitted at an early day.

1. New Brunswick Provincial Rifle Association.
2. Charlotte County Rifle Association.
3. St. John County Rifle Association.
4. Carleton County Rifle Association.
5. York County Rifle Association.
6. Northumberland County Rifle Association.
7. King's County Rifle Association.
8. 62nd Battalion Rifle Club.
9. New Brunswick Engineer Corps Rifle Club.
10. Head quarters Company Rifle Club.

*Drill in Public Schools.*

In my Report for 1873, I reverted to the question of extending the knowledge of drill to the common schools of the country, it being a question frequently brought forward as "deserving the most serious consideration, more particularly at a time when much thought is given to the intellectual and physical training of the young, when the thing to be desired is to preserve the sound mind in the sound body, and not to develop the intellect at the expense of the body."

The question has happily been considered by Parliament at its last Session.

I have now to add that both Lieut. Col. Jago and myself have recently brought the subject under the notice of the school authorities at St. John and Fredericton respectively, pointing out, as stated in Lieut. Col. Jago's letter to the Board of Trustees at St. John, April 21st, 1875, "that it appears to him that the loss of an hour or an hour and a half a week from the studies of boys over eight years of age in the public schools of the city, being instructed in the rudiments of drill and military exercises, would be more than compensated by the improvement in their physical condition."