

ON THE PROPORTIONS OF ARTILLERY (FIELD SIEGE AND GARRISON,) REQUIRED FOR THE PRESENT FORCE OF ACTIVE MILITIA OF THE DOMINION, WITH SUGGESTIONS AS TO THEIR ORGANIZATION, EQUIPMENT AND LOCALIZATION.

*"Carpe diem, quam minimum credula postero."*

"HORACE," Book 1.

Canada, owing to the vast and important nature of its public works, such as canals, railways, etc., in which it has been, and is engaged, has been unable to devote very much of its revenue to defensive purposes, and depending, as it did, upon the Imperial Government, whose troops, up to 1871, were quartered in the country, and who occupied and kept in repair, all the permanent fortifications, as well as supplying their armaments, little was done in the Artillery branch of the Militia Service. A few Field Batteries were organized in different parts of the country, in such places as chance led to their formation, without reference to any particular scheme of defence.

Garrison Brigades and outlying Batteries of Artillery were formed, and accepted just as they offered; irrespective of their actual use in case of sudden hostilities, in fact, just as the whim of their commanding officers might lead them, whether to be Artillery, Cavalry, or Infantry—the colour and cut of their uniform, having more to do with their nature of service, than any consideration of usefulness. This led to our having, in the case of Garrison Artillery, especially, a number of corps organized and equipped as Artillery, but except in the matter of uniform, different in no particular from Infantry. To rectify this, and to have Artillery corps organized, equipped, and drilled, in places where they would be most useful, and where they could learn, in the short time allowed them by the present system of annual training, the duties they would be required to perform in actual warfare, is now the aim of those who have the welfare of the artillery in their especial charge, viz: the Inspectors of Artillery, and who are, it is believed, fully supported by the Lieut. General Commanding the Militia of Canada.