

its organization and been provided with reserves to keep it up to strength and increase it if necessary.

Thus: Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4 should on an emergency have easily mustered eight Brigades from a contingent of over 100,000 men of the 1st class - Districts 5, 6 and 7, six Brigades from a contingent of 60 or 70,000 - Districts 8 and 9, five Brigades from a contingent of 50,000. Forming Divisions each of two Brigades of 3 Battalions each and an extra Battalion of Rifles, 1 Regiment of Cavalry, 3 Batteries of Field Artillery and 1 company of Engineers. (This, of course, is an abstract organization which could be altered to suit the nature of the country, the service to be performed, &c., but to be adhered to as closely as possible.) Leaving in reserve, to fill up casualties, &c., a general contingent of 100,000 men of the 1st class, 37,000 of the 2nd, 304,000 of the 3rd and 159,000 of the 4th. *

In conjunction and well linked with this force - for recruiting purposes, at least - the Reserve Militia, organized by officers appointed in Company and Regimental Divisions would have been the depot from which recruits could have been drafted into the linked Service Corps, and if instead of virtually exempting from further service, men who had belonged to the regular militia, their term of duty of two or three years had been extended to 4 or 6 years, two or more of which in the active force and the remainder in the Reserve, still liable to be called out if necessary for service in the corps they had previously joined, the so-called Reserve militia would have become a real and trained reserve.

This is what should have been, not what is.

We observe for instance that the proportion of Active militiamen to be furnished by No 1 military District is 7100 of a total of 43,000 for the Dominion. From the militia list corrected to August 1878, there appears to be of organized corps, in the District: 4 troops of Cavalry (232), 2 Batteries of Field Artillery (156), 79 companies of Infantry (4982), total of all arms with, say, 70 Regimental Staff Officers, 5440; leaving a deficiency of nearly *one fourth*.

This District, properly organized, should have 5 Field Batteries instead of 2, about 1100 Cavalry instead of 232, Infantry, 5300 instead of 4900 and 1 Engineer Company. The quota (7100), if it were only

* Those numbers are taken from the latest Reserve Militia enrolment returns (1873), the actual numbers, with the steady increase of our population, must now be larger.