

St. Mary's " Staples 20th Sept.
 Fredericton Junction " Alex. 26th Sept.
 Stanley " Wilkinson 2nd Oct.

I cannot speak too highly of the manner in which the captains and sub-lieutenants appear to have carried out the "Regulations." It evidently required but little "supervision" on the part of Lieut. Colonel to ensure their doing so; and though separated widely, each company seemed eager to excel, while the best spirit prevails, and, on my part, it is hard to say which is the best drilled comp. The 71st Battalion has a very efficient band.

The recommendation for disbanding certain non-effective corps in this Brigade Division, and substituting others, submitted on an I referred to in my last report has not, I regret to say, as yet been acted upon.

2ND BRIGADE DIVISION—Lieut. Colonel Otty, Brigade Major.

8th Regiment of Cavalry—Lieut. Colonel J. Saunders,

Camp, Apohaqui, 16th July, 1873.

This being the only corps in the Military District under my command that assembled in camp for the performance of its annual drill, it deserves especial attention.

The camp occupied the same site as last year: on the grounds of the Lieut. Colonel. No more desirable situation could be selected.

Each year's experience brings fresh enthusiasm, and increased *esprit de corps* to this fine regiment so frequently commended for its efficiency by the highest authorities, and as a result of my inspection on the 16th July, I have only to repeat what I have often said, that the corps is in the "most satisfactory" condition, considering the very limited time annually at its disposal for drill.

The assistance rendered to the Lieut. Colonel by the Brigade Major, Lieut. Colonel Otty, last year, in regulating the system of interior economy of the regiment, had the desired effect at this camp, both officers and men appeared to know their duty, and to do it.

In proof of the popularity of this corps, I may add, that besides the Member of Parliament of the county, J. Downville, Esq., and several officers from St. John, there were large numbers of county ladies and gentle men present to witness the inspection.

With the exception of 50 sets of saddlery lately issued, the equipment is old and nearly unserviceable.

In the Veterinary Surgeon's (M. P. Greene, Esq.) report, he states that "there are a great many saddles totally unfit for use, and they are the cause of keeping many horses off parade, owing to injuries from the saddle." A fresh issue of saddlery is urgently required.

Mr. Greene also states that, "a medicine chest (for horses) is indispensable, as horses are very liable to accident and disease, from their being exposed to the open air, and congregated in such numbers." I beg to support this officer's suggestions, and to submit his report (A.) for favourable consideration, as it contains a list of medicines required.

As regards the health of the men in camp Surgeon Sharp reports that, "we have never had so healthy a camp since the organization of our regiment. This, we think attributable to two causes; first, the cool dry weather it has been our fortune to experience; and secondly, to the men becoming inured to camp life, thus taking better care of themselves."

New Brunswick Brigade of Garrison Artillery.—Lieut. Colonel Foster

Lieut. Colonel Jago and I inspected the four Batteries at St. John, on the 11th September, and that officer reports (Report B., herewith enclosed), "That this year they performed their drill at days and hours chosen by themselves, on the guns mounted in position at this place (St. John). The result has been in every way satisfactory, and the shooting made by each Battery, in its own practice, and at the annual competition on the day of inspection, has never been excelled. I append the Practice Reports of the different Batteries, and also those for the days of the competition, and I should wish particularly to draw attention to the shooting made by the winning Battery, (Major Guillard's) in the first competition, when 5 rounds were fired in 6 min. 30 sec., 32 prs., sea service cartridges, at a range of 1,500 yds., with the most excellent effect."

Lieut. Colonel Jago adduces strong arguments in favor of "all the Garrison Batteries in this Province performing, during the coming year, 8 day's drill at their own head quarters, and 8 days, either in Camp or Barracks, in St. John," in all which arguments I entirely concur.

And he adds "that he considers the Artillery Force in New Brunswick is steadily advancing in excellence and efficiency, and the greatest credit should be given to Lieut. Colonel Foster, Commanding the Brigade, and all the Officers of the Artillery in New Brunswick, whilst thanks and credit must also be given to the N. C. Officers and men, who by their hard work and cheerful sacrifice of their time for small remuneration, make the force in New Brunswick one it is a pleasure to inspect."

62nd St. John Battalion.—Lt.-Col. McShane.

I inspected this corps in the Barrack Field at Saint John, on the 16th October, and not only was the attendance large (per Company), the men clean and soldierlike in their appearance, the arms and accoutrements in excellent condition, but the drill was creditable alike to the Lieut. Colonel, his officers and men, even a marked improvement since last inspection. Among the many spectators present, several of the old officers of the Battalion, including Lt. Col. Ray, who expressed themselves much pleased at the satisfactory state of efficiency of the corps.

The absence of the regimental Band was accounted for—it has recently been reorganized—I have already adverted to the Competitive Drill successfully carried out in this corps.

When recently supporting Col. Evans' suggestion as to allowing "a limited number of bona fide volunteers of both arms married, and of unexceptional character, to occupy the Infantry and Artillery Barracks at St. John—now vacant—rent free, under such rules and restrictions as may be considered necessary," I had much pleasure in stating that I consider that at no previous time was the volunteer force of St. John in as efficient a state as at the present moment."

(To be continued.)

The King of Dahomey recently gave an order to a West Coast merchant for a coffin, and the latter has commissioned a Birmingham merchant to execute His Majesty's wishes. The coffin is to be a most elaborate metal one, and will cost about £1,000.

BAZAINE IN CAPTIVITY

An occasional correspondent of the London *Daily Telegraph* supplies to that journal, under date May 9, the following account of a visit to Marshal Bazaine.

A few days ago I started off early in the morning from Menton on a journey of three hours by rail to Cannes, for the purpose of paying a visit to my old friend Bazaine. The French Government had given me permission nearly three months ago, but sad circumstances intervened to prevent me availing myself of their consideration. The railway curves gracefully round the beautiful shores of the Mediterranean, and passes through the series of towns whose pleasant sights and healthful climate have made them their favourite winter resorts ever since the days of the Romans. At Cannes we took a boat modelled after those used 2,000 years ago, and very soon we had reached Isle St. Marguerite, which is about three miles from the mainland. On arrival it is necessary to ascend steps some 200 feet to the fortress, which is built upon the rock, and overhangs the ocean. The garrison consists of one company, 125 men. I was escorted to the presence of Monsieur Marchez, a Corsican, Director of the service for the Interior Department, who is the controller of the fort and the guardian of the prisoner. Desiring that my companions might be permitted to look at the inside of the fortress, I made the application but a message had to be sent to them outside of the walls; "No one enters here without permission from the Government." Politely enough the Director received me, and instructed a subordinate to escort me to the Marshal's apartment. We passed through the guard room and ascended a staircase to reach an open space, paved with bricks, in front of Bazaine's window. On entering the room the Marshal met me at the door, and cordially pressed my hand. Let me here say that I found nothing in his appearance changed. His manner was as easy, unaffected, and composed as in the days of his freedom and power. Before entering I observed to the Director, "I do not know your regulations, but I have half a dozen morning papers, which I have brought for Bazaine, if it is permitted." "Not at all. He cannot receive anything." So I laid them on the mantel piece, knowing that I could easily tell the Marshal all the news. But it seemed to me a restriction entirely superfluous, and not in keeping with civilized ideas, thus to deny a prisoner of state the privilege of reading what was passing in the world. Bazaine's sitting room is a small but comfortable one, neatly and plainly furnished. Hanging upon the walls was a fine likeness of the Pope, with a Latin autograph. A bright boy of eight, a handsome girl of five, and a chubby youngster of three were racing and romping, chattering and laughing, heedless of the Marshal's repeated injunctions, in parent tones, to keep quiet. They at least know no unhappiness; the bright colour of youth and health and all their movements proved that their hours flew fast away upon joyous wings. We chatted for some time, occupied by me mainly in giving him information of contemporary incidents. Then we sallied out upon the paved promenade, bounded by the parapet, where a small space was reserved for his use, and there we paced up and down, discussing various topics in connection with current events. The parapet in front of his door extends about eighty feet, the width of the pavement is about thirty feet. The height of the wall is about eighty-three feet, and