

8. If circumstances render it beyond our reach at present to institute the Cavalry and Infantry Schools, which are so indispensable, then as a temporary substitute, I suggest that an addition of 50 men and two officers, as cavalry and infantry instructors, be added to the two Gunnery Schools, rendering them thereby schools for the three arms until more comprehensive measures are adopted.

9. Additional assistance is necessary for the repair of rifles; there are only two qualified armourers at Quebec and Montreal respectively, but in this wide spread command, at least two more are required to keep the 43,000 rifles in proper repair. A large supply of screws, springs and small articles of every description should be added to our present scanty stock for this purpose. The arms requiring repair could then be sent in at a trifling expense to the different Military Stores along the whole line of country.

10. That a brigade of Garrison Artillery be raised at Quebec and another at Kingston, composed of four batteries in each, to man the important fortresses at those stations.

Correspondingly a reduction to take place in certain corps hereafter to be considered, especially independent companies of Infantry; at present, five of the seven batteries of the Ottawa Brigade may be spared, leaving two only to fire salutes and perform necessary duties on State and other ceremonial occasions.

Many other improvements suggest themselves, but I shall not refer to them at present. If those I have ventured to submit could be adopted we should make a great stride in advance, and the Militia would take a pride in feeling that an interest was being manifested in their improvement and permanent value as an armed force of great power for national defence.

During the month of August I visited Prince Edward Island, proceeding by the Gulf ports and thence by Pictou to Halifax; crossing the Bay of Fundy from Annapolis and Digby I reached St. John, New Brunswick, and thence to Fredericton; returning by the Intercolonial Railway from St. John to Rivière du Loup, I proceeded along the North Shore of the St. Lawrence to examine the strategic points, and so to Quebec, where I spent four days in the Engineer camp at Levis, inspecting the drill and progress of "B" Battery; returning at the end of the month to Ottawa by Montreal.

Early in October I went to meet His Excellency the Governor General at Kingston, on his return from Manitoba, at the same time attending His Excellency's inspection of the Military College; and later on I went through Ontario, reviewing troops at various points, and shortly afterwards twice to Montreal on similar duty.

In the whole of that tour, which together with the Maritime Provinces, includes the entire length of Canada proper, I had the opportunity of making myself fairly acquainted with the condition and progress of the Militia in this year's training. The