

tors fall short of the power, the ability, or the attainments, necessary for such a wide sphere of instruction; and of the younger Officers, (Sub inspectors) it can hardly be expected that many of them are calculated as yet to teach, they have, as a rule, much to learn themselves, though there are some conspicuous exceptions.

125. The constables and sub constables, I have every reason to believe are now quite contented, and many of them will, I think, re-enrol.

126. I consider they would be further encouraged to do so, if their grants of land were laid out near the posts where they are stationed.

127. The Canadians from rural districts are all able to ride, but there is a material difference between sitting on a horse without falling off, in other words, riding by balance, with a heavy hold of the bridle, and horsemanship proper and equitation is absolutely necessary, considering the immense distances they have to march on horse back.

128. In the first case the rider of a horse carrying 150 or 200 pounds weight swaying about in his saddle with long stirrups and grasping his horse's sides no where will infallibly give him a sore back before many days.

129. In the other case a firm seat, legs, well placed, and a light hand on the rein, cause him far less fatigue and enable him to do more work with less loss of condition.

130. This can only be acquired by equitation.

131. Again, much depends, upon saddling a horse and taking care that every strap and buckle is in the right place, no crease in the blanket, no chafe any where.

132. I noticed that few of the Mounted Police knew how to saddle a horse; as a rule they go to the wrong (the near) side, and throw the saddle with carbine, wallets, girths, and straps, on his back trusting to good luck for them all to be settled in their proper places. I saw for instance, one man who had as usual saddled his horse in this fashion dismounting at the end of a 5 hour's morning march, and finding he had girthed his horse with the off panel of his saddle doubled, and in consequence the horse had a raw on his side that threw him out of work for a month.

ANY SUGGESTIONS I MAY HAVE TO OFFER.

133. I have touched very slightly upon questions of organization, equipment, and discipline of the force, having entered more fully into these in the confidential report. But there are a few other subjects to be referred to before closing this Report which I regret to see has assumed proportions far beyond my attention.

134. A searching enquiry is necessary into the nature of the hoof disease among horses at Edmonton, it has fallen with fearful effects on the police and other horses in that neighbourhood, supposed to be an insect which eats into the hoof in a short time; it is very painful and when not attended properly the horse dies.

135. Applications of Carbolic acid have produced good results, the disease is said to be engendered by swamps which are common there.

136. I suggested that horses should not be sent to Sturgeon Creek, until full information had been gained about this disease.

137. This summer a steamer ascended the North Saskatchewan for the first time as far as Edmonton from Grand Rapids near Lake Winnipeg. Certainly the navigation of both branches of this mighty river abounding with coal and other mineral wealth for many

hundred miles, will open up the country for settlement, reduce the price to transport and provisions, and become one of the many causes tending to produce a new order of things and abolish monopoly.

138. While it may be considered that 300 men are enough to maintain order in the North West, it is evident that this force would be insufficient to put down a serious outbreak, should such a very unlikely misfortune occur. It would be difficult to collect more than 100 effective men of the force at a given point in a reasonable time.

139. Militia are not available in the North West Territory, nor do I consider a mixture of the military and civil element at all desirable. There is sufficient of the military character about the police, and they have the advantage that every man is a limb of the law, whereas military cannot act without a magistrate or constable.

140. Therefore it is suggested that volunteer police or bodies of special constables should be formed at such settlements as Prince Albert, St. Albert, St. Ann's, and St. Laurent, these men to be subject while on duty to the same rules as the regular police.

141. An additional means for providing such a reserve would be gained, if around each post occupied by the police, a suitable quantity of land was set apart for members of the force, thus allowing men to improve land during their service and eventually provide a large reserve of well trained and trust worthy men.

142. I have purposely refrained from alluding to a representation made to me at Kootenay Village that 50 police should be stationed there as a protection against Indians said to be growing insolent and claiming territorial rights of property.

143. The small population of about 100 whites and 150 Chinese might on small pretext or by accident become entangled in a quarrel with the Indians, who could massacre them all.

144. The district embraces 32,000 square miles, and in 1864, during the gold mania, had 1500 people who were strong enough for self protection, now they are not, but I am not prepared to advocate sending a detachment of Mounted Police through the fastnesses of the Rocky Mountains more especially as this force being raised for special service in the North West Territory (Military reasons apart,) should not be called upon for duty in British Columbia.

145. I am of opinion a force is required at Joseph's prairie or Wild Horse Creek, and that its arrival there would be followed by a numerous settlement, the land being spacious and fertile, and the climate bracing and salubrious.

146. A much more practicable pass than the Kootenay is known to exist along the valley of Elk River through which the Eastern prairie can be reached without any sensible ascent; there is no trail through it, but as a means of communication between McLeod and British Columbia, as well as for generally opening up that region, I strongly recommend a complete examination of that line of valleys, and their being opened for traffic, probably by wheeled transport; by this route supplies of grain and other necessities could be more cheaply obtained at Fort McLeod than at present, and a general extension of trade would certainly result.

147. I understand that a bonded line is to be shortly formed in the United States on the Northern Pacific Railway and Missouri River; for the transport of bonded goods to Fort Benton and thence across the line north.

148. It is of great consequence that this avenue of trade should be guarded by a thorough system of Customs Regulations appropriate to the peculiar situation of the country; therefore I consider that the officers commanding all the border outposts of police, Cypress Mills, Wood Mountain, Qu'Appelle, and Shoal Lake, should have full and special instructions if not actually given the functions of collectors of duties.

149. I have ventured to enter very explicitly into the various questions referred to me in your letter. I have preferred running the risk of being considered prolix rather than be supposed to have taken a superficial view of this very important subject.

150. Too much value cannot be attached to the North West Police, too much attention cannot be paid to their efficiency.

151. We read that not long ago these wild Indian tribes of the far West were accustomed to regard murder as honorable war, robbery and pillage as traits most ennobling to mankind; the Blackfeet, Crees, Salteaux, Assiboynes, the Peigans, among the most savage of the wild races of Western America, free from all restraint and any sort of control, waged indiscriminate war with each other and with mankind.

152. Law, order, and security for life and property were little observed; civil and legal institutions almost entirely unknown.

153. To day what a revolution can be wrought—all these have given place to peace and security, prosperity, contentment and good will; it remains only to satisfy the Indian tribes by entering into fair and just treaties, which they much desire; but in carrying this into effect, the utmost caution is necessary to convince them that their spacious hunting grounds are still open to them, for they will follow the buffalo as long as the buffalo continues to exist.

154. The appointment of Magistrates, and encouragement of Missionary labour are questions also becoming prominent in the dawn development of that noble territory, not long ago only known to the wild Indians of the mountain, the forest, and the prairie, to the dissipated, nomadic, half breed, and to the hardy trapper, but now silently and patiently awaiting the approach of the immense wave of human life which must shortly overrun the fair and productive soil of those remote and beautiful solitudes.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

E. SELBY SMYTH,

Major General.

The Honorable
The Minister of Justice,
Ottawa.
(To be Continued.)

Cavalry Tactics.

On Friday afternoon Major Frank T. Russell, of the 14th Hussars, and Instructor in Tactics at the Royal Military College, delivered a lecture on the above subject before a numerous audience at the Royal United Service Institute, Whitehall-yard. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge took the chair.

Major Russell commenced by saying that this subject, however interesting to Cavalry officers, would at first sight appear somewhat dry and uninteresting to the other arm of the profession and to the general public. He thought, however, that when they entered into the matter and analyzed it, they would find it of great importance and of special interest, more especially as up to