

horses of the Staff and of Officers attending the schools, and by so doing, have succeeded in horsing a couple of guns and in creating a riding establishment. If one may not point to success, it is at least permissible to tell one's mistakes. Mine was hopeful credulity in believing in the reasonable expansion of the Gunnery Schools to efficiency; and consequent rashness in undertaking the direction and command of a garrison, a Gunnery School, and what is practically a staff college for all arms, with the inadequate details laid down in the General Order. The last annual report of the Gunnery Schools may show some part of the result of seven years' labour; and the report of Colonel Hewitt, R.E., the indefatigable Commandant of the Military College at Kingston, will show the success of his struggle to carry out military instruction with a hitherto inadequate Staff.

The commercial depression of the past few years has been no doubt in a great measure the cause of delayed development of military educational establishments in Canada.

Part IV.—ARMAMENT AND SUPPLY.

Small Arms and Ammunition.

The infantry are armed with the Snider rifle, an excellent and serviceable weapon, better suited to our Canadian Militia than the Martini-Henry, of which it is to be regretted that the purchase has been commenced by Canada, as the General Commanding is of opinion "that we cannot afford to purchase the quantity in bulk, and to have "volunteers armed with two sorts of rifles and two descriptions of "cartridges on a line from the Atlantic to the Pacific, would be to "court disaster if they were called upon to take the field."

There are only 70,000 Snider rifles in Canada, which when we deduct 40,000 in the hands of the Active Militia, leaves only 30,000 for our Reserve Militia which numbers 600,000 men, a portion of whom at least would have to be called out and trained in emergency. The amount of ammunition in the country is only 150 rounds per rifle, an amount which I fear the Canadian Militia might possibly fire away in one or two general actions.

The General Commanding points out the necessity for a further provision—

"I cannot with a prudent outlook to the possibility of cartridges "being suddenly required for service, recommend the diminution of "our supply, which, on the contrary, should never be less than 300 "rounds per rifle. Cartridges have to be imported from England, as "I regret to say we have no manufactories in this country to produce "them, and as Snider cartridges will by and by not be forthcoming in "the Royal Arsenal, it may be necessary for us to bespeak them some "time before we can demand our annual supply."

Indeed the manufacture of small arm ammunition appears to me a manifest necessity, as also that for artillery. To depend on a base 4,000 miles across the Atlantic in the event of emergency would be most