

24th Battalion of No. 1 Military District, are without certificates—similar instances are to be met with in all the other Military Districts.

Two Gunnery Schools exist since several years, they are reported as very beneficial to the artillery, but the number of militia men allowed to attend is very limited and relatively few officers have availed themselves of this opportunity of learning their duties.

With no proper means of instruction, the Force has steadily deteriorated and after ten years of the present *régime* and many millions spent, it is now certainly inferior to what it was the first years of its formation.

Abandoning the system of camps, was very detrimental, camps have always had the best results for discipline and the development of military spirit; men camping are more under control; no mere parade drills need be practiced there, but fighting tactics instead, for which all facilities are usually at hand. Interior economy is practically taught and Regimental staffs grounded in their work. Senior officers learn to command large tactical bodies. The administrative branches of the service, are put to a practical test and their short comings brought to light. Those are acknowledged advantages of Instructional camps.

For the sake of an ill-conceived economy and again, to suit personal convenience, the Volunteers are allowed to perform their annual drills at their respective Head quarters, instead of going into camp. They muster usually at night, in drill sheds, and from want of space, they practice only a few parade movements. City corps have been rather conspicuous in avoiding camps, though some of them have made praiseworthy efforts to continue the system, incurring even heavy personal expense for that purpose. Militia camps were formed all over the country in 1872; they have since gradually been discontinued.

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Legislature had important objects in dividing the country, for military purposes, into Districts, Brigade, Regimental, and Company Divisions—Firstly: to equalize the burden of defence, by giving each section a share proportional to its population liable to military service.—Secondly: that each military district should form a large tactical and administrative body, possessing at all times resources in men, armament, equipment, &c., sufficient to form a force equivalent to a strong division, which should necessarily have comprised all arms in