

CANADA.

forwarded to the Adjutant-General of Militia at head quarters, for the performance of which duties, the Commissioners recommend that an annual sum of thirty pounds be granted. The Assistant Quartermaster-Generals of Militia in the several Districts, should be required to make themselves acquainted with the several roads, &c., in their respective Districts, so as to be able to perform the duties of the Quartermaster-General's Department in an efficient manner in case the Militia should be called into service; but under ordinary circumstances they will have no active duties to perform, and the Commissioners therefore do not think it necessary to recommend any allowance to these officers unless they are called into service.

(7.) When the Service Men are embodied and formed in Companies or Battalions, the proper number of Staff and Company Officers selected for their qualification and fitness shall be appointed.

(8.) It is of great consequence that a correct enrolment of the several classes of the Sedentary Militia be enforced, and it appears to the Commissioners that if the Commanding Officers of Battalions are instructed to direct the Company Officers and Serjeants of each company within the limits of their respective Battalions, to divide the labour of enrolment amongst them, the business would be better performed and much more correctly done, than by requiring each Militiaman to appear before his Captain and enrol himself.

(9.) Several representations have been made to the Commissioners with regard to the inconvenience resulting from the assembly of Militia Courts-martial, for the purpose of inflicting fines for breaches of the Militia Law, and they submit to Your Excellency their opinion that it is desirable to abolish such a course, and in lieu thereof, to make all fines liable to infliction and recovery before one Justice of the Peace, if the amount be under one pound, and before two Justices of the Peace if over that amount, unless in case the militia are embodied for service, when recourse must be had to Courts-martial.

(10.) There are certain portions of the Province more liable to invasion than others, and in case there should be a probability of war or invasion, it may not be desirable to retain the Armament of the Sedentary Militia in Armouries in those sections of the Province which are so situated as to be liable to sudden attack; but instead of allowing the Armaments to remain in such Armouries, it may be expedient to require the Sedentary Militia in such localities to be armed and equipped at once, in readiness to act against an enemy, without having in the first instance to repair to an Armoury and receive their equipment. The Commissioners therefore, beg to submit to Your Excellency, that it appears to them very desirable to have a clause introduced into the Militia Law requiring the Sedentary Militia, whenever called upon to do so, by due authority, to attend and receive Arms, Accoutrements, Ammunition, &c., and to give a bond for the safe custody of the same, similar to section 31, cap. 29, in the Militia Law of Nova Scotia.

(11.) They recommend that every Officer, in command of a Battalion, and every Officer, in command of a Company of Militia, who shall neglect to furnish such returns as may be required of the Battalions or Companies under their respective commands, be made liable to fine.

(12.) It has been suggested to the Commissioners that advantage should be taken to form a Corps of Provincial Engineers from the number of Civil Engineers, and their Assistants, Chainbearers, and others, now employed throughout the Province.

They concur in the suggestion, and recommend that a Company of Engineers be formed in every Military District, to consist of 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Second Lieutenant, and such number of men as can be conveniently enrolled, and be attached to the Sedentary Militia.

#### *Armament of Sedentary Militia.*

(13.) With respect to this important measure, the Commissioners recommend that application be made, in the first instance, to the Imperial Government, to supply the amount of Arms, Accoutrements, Ammunition, &c., which appear to them to be absolutely necessary to arm the Sedentary Militia so as to meet an invasion of the Province.

(14.) They are of opinion that not less than 50,000 stand of Percussion Arms, with a like number of Accoutrements and Ammunition in the proportion of 100 Rounds for each Musquet, should be deposited in the Armouries set