

## Dominion Militia.

The number of Militia trained in 1875 in the several Provinces of the Dominion was:—

Prince Edward Island .....	484
Nova Scotia .....	3,033
New Brunswick .....	2,124
Quebec .....	3,163
Ontario .....	14,836
Manitoba .....	200
British Columbia .....	200

Total . . . . . 28,545

It is stated in the report of the Major General commanding that double the number would willingly have turned out for the drill, had the Parliamentary vote been sufficient to have authorized it, and that those embodied would have gladly prolonged their term, a proof of the popularity of the service. The Major General speaks highly of the attention, efficiency and general aptitude of the men, the zeal, intelligence and capability of the officers, requiring only experience and opportunity to make admirable soldiers. The men were generally fine, robust, well sized, excellent material for soldiers; if well drilled and disciplined, not to be exceeded by any troops in the world. The rifles were not in a good state—not having been examined by an armourer for a long time; skilled armourers to go round and examine and repair the arms are urgently needed. The clothing issued in 1875 was a failure. The shapewas unpopular and the material bad. The resumption of the British Army tunic is recommended. The forage cap is also unserviceable, and some change is necessary.

The Military College has been opened at Kingston under Lieut. Col. Hewett, of the Royal Engineers, Commandant, a Cadet officer and three professors. Twenty-two cadets are allowed for the first year. After that thirty-six, three for each military division.

The Artillery is in a generally satisfactory condition. There are 50 9-pounder rifled guns in the country, and ten more being manufactured. Thirty of these have been issued to batteries. There are also 50 bronze field guns of various calibres; 25 or 30 rifled guns are wanted for the batteries of Quebec and Kingston. Most of the fortifications, works, and military buildings in Quebec are in want of immediate repair. The military stores were in their usual good condition. A considerable supply of arms, ammunition, and ordnance stores for the rifled guns of Western Ontario was added to the store in Ontario, and a reserve of camp equipment also placed there. There were in store in the Dominion at the close of 1875, 158,776 lbs. of gunpowder; 6,906,163 rounds of small arm ammunition; 19,620 Snider Rifles, and camp equipment for about 50,000 men. About 30,000 Snider Rifles are now in the Dominion, and it is a most efficient

weapon for practice or service. The Cavalry turned out well for drill, well mounted, with horses wonderfully steady. Corps of mounted riflemen would be of the greatest advantage—more useful than dragoons.

There are two companies only of Engineers. The good results of the training given in the Schools of Gunnery at Quebec and Kingston were very apparent in the handling and drill of the various batteries in camp. The guns were in general well horsed, and the steadiness of the horses remarkable. As a whole the Major General states the Militia organization of the Dominion is in such a state as to be easily and quickly built upon, compacted and expanded, the material being unexceptionally good and the spirit displayed exhibiting military proclivities of more than ordinary excellence.

During the summer of 1875 the Major General commanding the Militia made a tour of inspection across the continent, and also visited the head quarters of the U. S. General commanding along the frontier, to confer with them regarding the repression of crime and capture of criminals. It was considered desirable by these officers that cattle and horse stealing should be included in the Extradition Treaty, and some arrangements made by which the boundary of either country might be crossed by parties in pursuit of offenders in the only partially settled portions along the western frontier from Lake Superior to Alaska, the prisoner when captured being delivered up to the nearest authority of the country in which the capture was made. The journey of the Major General embraced a distance of 11,000 miles, 2,000 of which were on horseback. For about 1,500 miles he was accompanied by an escort of the N. W. Mounted Police Force and gives them a very high character. The force consisted of 25 officers and 300 men and horses, in 5 divisions of 50 men each, and their presence had produced already a wholesome improvement among the wandering prairie tribes, and a feeling of security throughout the settlements in the North West Territory. The general conduct of the men is very satisfactory. Their arms consist of the Snider Carbine and Dean and Adams revolver. The vicinity of the South Saskatchewan, where the railway will cross, is considered by the Major-General the best position for the headquarters of the force. A small post has been established at *Short Lake*, commanding the trail from Manitoba westward, and preventing the spirit trade, and serving as a check upon the Saulteaux Indians, near Portage. Another has been established at *Sturgeon Creek*, 20 miles north of Edmonton, 50 miles from St. Ann's, the extreme northwest settlement, and 12 from St. Albert, and 60 from Victoria. Since the establishment of this post the liquor trade has ceased, and there has been no