

1880.  
NEW ZEALAND.

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# VOLUNTEER FORCE OF NEW ZEALAND.

(REPORT ON.)

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*Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.*

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## No. 1.

The UNDER SECRETARY for DEFENCE to the Hon. the DEFENCE MINSITER.

SIR,—

Defence Office, Wellington, 2nd July, 1880.

I have the honor to forward you the Reports I have received from Major-General Davidson and Colonel Leckie, on their tour of inspection of the Volunteers in the Colony.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Defence Minister,  
Wellington.

H. E. READER, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Under Secretary for Defence.

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## Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

Major-General DAVIDSON to the UNDER SECRETARY for DEFENCE.

SIR,—

Nelson, 25th June, 1880.

In accordance with the request conveyed in your letter No. 45, of 12th February, 1880, I undertook the inspection of the Volunteers in the South Island, and left Nelson for that purpose on 20th February last, and I now have the honor to submit, for the information of the Hon. the Defence Minister, my report upon the inspections made.

As the season had already somewhat advanced it was arranged, in communication with yourself that the best plan would be to proceed at once to the most distant point, viz., to the Lake District, commence the inspections there and work back, taking the inspection at each place on my homeward route, and this plan I carried out. I left Wellington on 27th February, and, staying at each large centre of the Volunteer Force sufficiently long to see and make the acquaintance of the officer commanding the district and to inform him of the plan adopted, I arrived at Queenstown on the 6th March.

As regards the result of each individual inspection, I append a general return which treats each corps or company separately, showing enrolled strength, attendance at inspection, absence and its cause, and my remarks upon inspection and drill as then seen.

The points upon which I propose to remark are as follow:—Officers, men, drill-sheds, time and style of drill, books, equipment, and minimum. I will also offer suggestions for a reorganization and reduction of the Force.

#### OFFICERS.

A very large proportion of the officers are not up to the standard for first commissions and for captaincies required by the Regulations, yet to insure full proficiency in the commissioned ranks your standard is too low, for no captain in command of a company liable at any time to be called upon to take its place as part of a battalion for parade or review, or for the more important work of service in the field, can be efficient when only required to know company drill. The least that should be required from such an officer should be a knowledge of battalion movements, a fair acquaintance with guard, picket and outpost duties, and a thorough knowledge of skirmishing.

The time allowed for junior officers to qualify themselves in their duties, after appointment, should be a fixed period and not indefinite as at present.

Twelve months would be sufficient for an officer to qualify up to the standard required, even if added to it were a knowledge of relieving guard and the posting and relieving of sentries, and this addition I would recommend, as in camp such knowledge is essential.

Rules should be laid down for the examination of junior officers, when their time of probation has expired.

#### MEN.

No finer material for a Volunteer Force, whether as regards physique or intelligence, could be met with than the men I have seen during my inspection, and it is my conviction that all the good men of the Force, who give so much time and labour to qualify themselves to serve the Colony in time of need, would gladly see and aid in a stricter enforcement of discipline—a discipline that under all circumstances, when on duty or in uniform, would exact from them the steadiness and obedience of a trained soldier.

#### DRILL-SHEDS.

With exception of the sheds at Invercargill, Dunedin, Oamaru, Christchurch and Nelson, all are too small for exercising properly the members who frequent them.

From the want of space the men have to be kept wheeling round by files or by fours, hardly any other movements can be attempted, and even in these a new direction has to be given to the leading men, almost before the rear men have begun to move. This makes the drill very monotonous to men and officers, and coupled with the boarded floors, which cause a terrible noise and echo, the simplest drill is carried on under difficulties, no progress in movements is made, nothing new is learned, and to the men of a company already fairly or well up in their drill, this dull routine must be most disheartening. The system, too, of drilling by night, which I was informed generally could not be altered, is a great drawback; mistakes cannot be readily seen and corrected, while the natural intelligence of the men is nullified by their not being able to see what the battalion is doing.

Volunteers at home, where the hours of labour are longer, manage to meet during the summer by daylight, and I think the Government might fairly require that all the monthly inspections during the summer months should be held by daylight, morning or evening, as may be most convenient, in the district. Possibly a few of the outlying corps, where the men are very widely scattered, would not comply with the rule, but they would form the exceptions.

#### STYLE OF DRILL.

It would be advantageous if so much of the time of the Volunteers while at drill was not so wholly devoted to battalion movements, and if more attention was given to the style of drill, which would be likely to be required of them on active service. This would not be close battalion formations, squares, &c., but rather movements in extended order. Skirmishing, advanced and rear guard, picket, and outpost duties are of importance, and should be more practised, but this cannot be carried out unless the corps have drill by daylight in the summer, and once a year at least move out into camp for a week, as many companies as possible being collected together.

#### RECRUITS.

In every company, except those at the large centres, men who knew their drill, those who partially knew it, and those who hardly knew anything of it, were all mixed up together. This was the result of the almost invariable custom of putting recruits into the ranks at once to pick up their drill as they could, and hence they are not grounded in the A B C of drill. If the Drill Instructor takes any pains with the recruits he must keep all the others hanging idly about, and this causes dissatisfaction, the result therefore is the recruits are not taught the groundwork, and never or rarely pick it up correctly, and a general slackness is noticeable in this part of the drill.

#### BOOKS.

I made an examination of the Register Roll of each company, and with the rarest exceptions found them kept very irregularly. As a rule they do not certainly bear the appearance of having been written up, as they should be, as soon as possible after the parade has taken place. In several instances I had perfectly new books placed before me, with the whole year's working written up all at one time, and on my asking for the old books various accidents were reported to have befallen them. It is very clear that some stricter supervision is required in this matter.

The books appear at present to be kept by honorary secretaries, many of whom write very badly, and the work being purely honorary is very much neglected and slurred over. It would, I think, be a politic measure to grant a small contingent allowance for this work. It should be the duty of the captain of the company to select a qualified man for it, and he should also be held responsible for its being done correctly.

The check books, also required by the Regulations to be kept by the permanent staff, *i.e.*, the sergeants, and by which the capitation rolls of companies are to be checked, had, I found, been kept up in only two instances. The rule has been a dead letter. In fact the sergeants shirk keeping a check against their officers, and in one case one of them had the candour to tell me so. In one of the two instances where the book had been kept it was perfectly useless as a check, for the sergeant had only once during the twelve months been present at any parade of the company.

#### EQUIPMENT.

I had several representations made to me by officers commanding that they had not a sufficient number of arms for their men; also, as to the difficulties they experienced in getting their rifles repaired, chiefly from the want of some special person for the purpose. This, I think, might be rectified by the appointment in each large centre of a qualified person as arm repairer to the Volunteers, and to whom the men should be bound to take their arms for repair. The rifles that are now in use in many of the cadet corps were reported to me as quite unserviceable, and that it was positively dangerous to allow the lads to use them. Great coats do not appear to form part of a Volunteer's equipment. In a climate like this it is a most important and necessary article of clothing. If the men were ever called out they would not possibly take to camp life without them. The necessary camp equipage for each corps should also be kept complete.

#### MINIMUM.

With regard to the minimum now fixed at fifty, below which if a company falls in numbers it loses all claim to capitation, I consider this limit as a hard and fast line for all corps to be too high, its tendency being to hamper commanding officers and reduce their influence and authority, which should be increased rather than diminished, by compelling them to keep men on the rolls, for the capitation grant, whom they would otherwise rather be quit of. For instance, a corps may muster 60, all nominally efficient, but of these seven or eight may be quite the reverse and better out of the corps than in it, yet an officer would be very loth to strike these off as it would reduce his margin too near to his minimum number to allow for any unforeseen casualties occurring and so risk his capitation. I would suggest 30 as a minimum, and this would give greater latitude to officers to get rid of men whose worth as Volunteers was nil.

#### REDUCTION OF FORCE AND REORGANIZATION.

During my tour I endeavoured to gather as much information as possible on all points connected with the organization, training, and interior economy of the force, and the information thus gained, together with my own observations, has led me to this conclusion, that the Volunteer Force, as at present organized, is not efficient for the purposes for which a military force is maintained.

It is composed of a large number of men, only partially trained and drilled, and of officers, very many of whom though zealous in the movement are not fully qualified for the duties they may be called upon to perform, and who have not under the present constitution the necessary means and opportunities to enable them to qualify themselves. The force consists of a number of units acting independently and often at variance with each other. There is the want of an executive head, one fixed system, and a proper chain of responsibility from below upwards.

To attain such an organization as a military body to be efficient requires, would, with the present numerous and scattered force, necessitate a very great increase to the expenditure, and the question naturally arises—Is so large a force necessary for any contingency that, so far as can be foreseen is likely to occur? If this be answered in the negative, the next point to determine is whether it would not be wiser, and in every respect better, to have a smaller force, all ranks of which should be fully instructed in their duties, properly equipped, and only located at places where their services would be likely to be required, and from whence concentration in any direction might easily be effected, and which might be maintained at a considerable reduction on the present charges. I am of opinion that this would be a more satisfactory footing to place the force upon, both in view of eventualities that may arise and for the Volunteers composing it. The points for location are naturally indicated, *viz.*, Invercargill, Dunedin, Oamaru, Timaru, Christchurch, Picton, Blenheim, and Nelson, and the reductions I would propose are those of the outlying and inland corps, and also the cadet corps. These last so far as I have been able to gather do not as a rule answer the purpose for which I conclude they were organized—to act as feeders to the adult corps; I do not mean to imply that no cadets join the adult corps, but that the numbers that do so, are not in a fair proportion, nor in such a state of efficiency as to compensate for the expenditure incurred upon them.

I consider from the general intelligence of the population, that a recruit joining at seventeen or eighteen, would in twelve months or less be as efficient a member as a lad who had been drawing capitation from the age of twelve, and joined a corps at seventeen.

If the suggestions for reduction are approved of and details for revision of organization are required, these could be drawn out by a committee of experienced officers appointed under the orders of the Defence Office.

My recommendations as to cadet corps in no way refer to school corps, but these should not draw capitation, nor be put in uniform.

As it is manifestly to the interest of the Colony to encourage as many of the population as possible to become good marksmen, if the above reductions are carried out, Government aid should I think be given to the fullest extent to encourage the formation of rifle clubs, and member of clubs, aided and recognized by Government, might be allowed to compete for all prizes equally with Volunteers.

I regret that a sharp attack of illness, when in Southland, caused delay in the completion of my tour of inspection, and consequently in the sending in of this report.

I have &c.,

The Under Secretary for Defence,  
Wellington.

A. G. DAVIDSON, Major-General,  
Inspector of Volunteers, South Island.

## INSPECTION RETURNS OF VOLUNTEERS IN THE SOUTH ISLAND.

Name of District and Corps.	Enrolled Strength of Corps.	Present on Parade.	Absent with Leave.	Absent Without Leave.	Sick.	Name of District and Corps.	Enrolled Strength of Corps.	Present on Parade.	Absent with Leave.	Absent Without Leave.	Sick.
<i>Lake District.</i>						High School Cadets ..	46	..	..	..	..
M Battery Artillery, Queenstown ..	..	..	..	..	..	Head Quarters Band ..	30	24	6	..	..
Arrow Rifles ..	71	53	17	..	1	<i>Oamaru.</i>					
Cromwell Rifles ..	71	43	19	7	2	I Battery Artillery ..	85	45	23	16	1
Queenstown Cadets ..	..	..	..	..	..	No. 1 Oamaru Rifles ..	100	57	30	21	2
Arrow Cadets ..	54	52	..	..	..	Hampden Rifles ..	42	29	12	..	1
<i>Southland.</i>						Otepopo Rifles ..	55	33	14	5	3
G Battery Artillery ..	76	45	16	15	..	<i>Cadets—</i>					
Invercargill Rifles ..	70	51	8	11	..	Citizen Cadets ..	46	29	6	11	..
K Battery Artillery ..	77	57	5	15	..	North School Cadets ..	82	55	27	..	..
Garrison Band ..	24	22	2	..	..	High School ..	116	102	11	..	3
Riverton Rifles ..	84	72	12	..	..	<i>Canterbury.</i>					
Invercargill Artillery Cadets ..	81	49	3	29	..	Yeomanry Cavalry ..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Otago.</i>						G Battery Artillery (no parade state received) ..	..	..	..	..	..
L Battery Artillery ..	91	85	6	..	..	Temuka Rifles ..	73	54	2	15	2
B Battery Artillery ..	95	83	7	3	2	Ashburton Rifles ..	61	33	5	23	..
Dunedin Naval ..	122	99	16	7	..	E Battery Artillery ..	..	41	..	..	..
Port Chalmers Naval ..	..	..	..	..	..	Canterbury Engineers ..	..	41	..	..	..
City Guards ..	68	68	..	..	..	Christchurch City Guards ..	..	43	..	..	..
City Band ..	22	20	..	..	..	Engineer Cadets ..	..	29	..	..	..
North Dunedin ..	..	39	..	..	..	Timaru Cadets ..	53	34	14	3	2
South District Rifles ..	..	35	..	..	..	<i>Marlborough.</i>					
No. 1 Wakari ..	36	34	1	1	..	Picton Rifles ..	53	41	6	5	1
No. 2 Wakari ..	22	22	..	..	..	Blenheim Rifles ..	66	56	..	10	..
Portobello Rifles ..	..	..	..	..	..	Picton Cadets ..	46	41	3	..	2
Bruce Rifles ..	63	45	18	..	..	Blenheim Cadets ..	..	..	..	..	..
Clutha Rifles (not inspected) ..	..	..	..	..	..	<i>Nelson.</i>					
East Taieri ..	62	43	5	14	..	H Battery Artillery ..	97	68	29	..	..
Waikouaiti Rifles ..	52	33	8	11	..	City Rifles ..	53	34	2	12	2
<i>Cadets—</i>						Stoke Rifles ..	68	60	..	7	1
City Cadets ..	50	34	16	..	..	Waimea Rifles ..	50	46	4	..	..
Bruce Cadets ..	43	37	6	..	..	Nelson Navals ..	61	50	4	6	1
Waikouaiti Cadets ..	41	24	17	..	..	<i>Cadets—</i>					
Dunedin Naval Cadets ..	48	40	4	3	1	Artillery Cadets ..	40	33	1	6	1
Normal ..	101	100	1	..	..	City Cadets ..	37	27	6	3	1
Middle ..	100	92	8	..	..	College Cadets ..	75	66	7	..	2
South ..	55	41	6	2	..						
North ..	100	100	..	..	..						

## LAKE DISTRICT.

All these corps gave a good inspection of arms and accoutrements. I have mislaid the parade state of the Battery, so am unable to fill its state in, but from my notes I put it down as fair. At Arrow it poured with rain, so I considered this attendance fair, and the Cromwell attendance was interfered with in like manner.

At each place the drill sheds were small, hence the drill could not be very extensive in its range, but what was gone through was done well. The marching of the men I noticed as to time and pace as being very good.

The clothing of all these corps is new, and scarlet is the colour that has been selected.

The Battery have no guns, and I do not see the utility of Artillery being located in so out of the way a place.

## SOUTHLAND.

*G Battery of Artillery and Rifles.*—Attendance of both corps fair. They turned out particularly well for inspection, and their drill and marching was very good. A squad of the Artillery under Lieut. Taylor went through the gun drill very satisfactorily.

*K Battery of Artillery.*—Sudden indisposition just before the time for parade prevented my inspection of this Battery, but they attended as per parade state.

*Garrison Band.*—This band has attained a high state of efficiency.

*Riverton Rifles.*—Attendance very good, and arms and accoutrements in good order; but their drill was very indifferent, and much of their failure was clearly attributable to bad handling by their officers who were not up in their drill. The attendance of the men at drills throughout the year has been markedly good.

*Invercargill Artillery Cadets.*—A well dressed and well set-up set of lads who went through their drill in a very creditable manner.

## OTAGO.

I was very much pleased with what I saw of the companies at Dunedin and Port Chalmers. The two Batteries of Artillery, both the Naval Brigades and the City Guards stand at the head of the list for their appearance and drill performances, and reflect the greatest credit upon the officers commanding them. Each of the above and all the corps in the command were inspected separately, their own officers putting them through their drill, consisting generally of the manual exercise, company drill and battalion movements. I was well satisfied with all the town corps. I would here note that the L Battery have not yet been armed.

Of the country corps, the Portobello Rifles did not make a good show, their attendance was poor, but this may probably have been caused by their parading in the day time. There was a want of steadiness and compactness in their movements, and too much jostling in their formations, nor did the commanding officer acquit himself satisfactorily.

The inclement state of the weather prevented the inspection of the Clutha Rifles who had been directed to parade at Stirling. A party of the men under Lieutenant Brown came from Clutha by train, and a few of the Stirling men assembled, but the impassable state of the road to the drill-shed prevented inspection, and from the same cause the officer commanding was unable to attend.

The state of the weather also prevented many of the Bruce and East Taieri Rifles from attending. At these places, (Milton and Mosgiel) the drill-sheds were so small that nothing but the simplest drill could be attempted. Both companies gave a satisfactory inspection of arms and accoutrements, and as to drill I should say they were much on a par, the majority of the men marched well and knew their drill, but recruits and indifferent men spoiled much of what was done. The Bruce Cadets have no uniform and the majority are very young boys, certainly too young I should say to draw capitulation.

The attendance of the Waikouaiti Rifles was not good. Arms and accoutrements were in good order, but the drill indifferent from want of inspection, as this company is rarely visited by a Drill Instructor. Frequent changes amongst the men appear to take place, the result being that the company is not in a satisfactory condition.

The Naval, High School and City Guards Cadets went very creditably through their drill. The High School Cadets were originally ordered to parade by day in the school grounds, and they then, as per parade state, were eighty-eight strong, but rain prevented the inspection. In the evening they again paraded in Garrison Hall, forty-six in number.

The School Cadets who paraded under Captain Chapman, comprised boys of all ages and sizes indiscriminately mixed, hence they could not be expected to work uniformly together. They are in good hands under Captain Chapman.

## OAMARU.

The attendance in this command was not good, with the exception of the High School Cadets. Captain Sumpter also explained to me that a larger number of men of No. 1 Company had attended, but having no uniform or arms they were not allowed to join the ranks. In the other companies the absentees had leave, but the proportion of leave granted was too liberal at an annual general inspection.

The regular Drill Hall was temporarily occupied, so the Artillery assembled in a shed quite unfit as to size for drill purposes, what the men could do in so confined a space they did satisfactorily. The Oamaru Rifles worked well under Lieutenant Headland, they were drilled in the open in battalion movements as well as in company drill, the men locked well up and were steady. The bayonet exercise was very well done. Of the Cadets, the Citizen and North School gave a very creditable drill for the size of the boys. The drill of the High School was but a poor exhibition even for boys, the fault however did not lay with them, for on examining the register I found that no less than sixty of them had been enrolled so late as the 6th February last, and during that short period of instruction they have had rifles put into their hands and had been pushed into battalion movements. The groundwork of drill had been quite neglected. I directed their arms to be taken away, the company to be broken up into squads, taught their facings and squad drill, and be gradually brought on.

## CANTERBURY.

The first inspections made in this district, was of the Battery and Cadet Corps at Timaru. I cannot give the enrolled strength attendance, &c., of the Battery, not having its parade state which, though called for several times has not been sent, but I should put attendance down as fair. The drill was good as was that of the Cadets. The gun drill of the Battery was smartly performed. This is the only corps I have seen who have their camp equipage complete and ready to move at once. Captain Hammersley informed me that the funds of the corps had provided the equipage.

*Temuka Rifles.*—The men moved well and were up in their drill, but were often thrown into confusion by wrong words of command.

*Ashburton Rifles.*—These were not in a fit state for inspection. I understood they had been only lately formed. The officers had no uniform, being recently appointed, and had not received commissions. Absentees were very numerous. Only a squad of seven or eight files of privates assembled, the rest being made up of band, &c., and for the short time they had been at work they did creditably.

At Christchurch the three corps assembled together and were put through battalion movements, from line into column, deployments, &c. One officer moved them very fairly, another seemed to get confused, while a third could do nothing. The men would have done very well had they been better drilled. Captain Craig put his men through gun drill, which they performed in a very satisfactory manner. The Cadets were drilled, and acquitted themselves well.

*Yomanry Cavalry.*—Not inspected as the men being very widely scattered could not be collected.

## MARLBOROUGH.

Of Volunteer matters in the district, I regret that my report must be unfavourable. The Picton Corps are as regards drill at a very low standard, and from the condition I found them in, and which seems

to have been the normal state of things for some time past, I certainly should have recommended their disbandment, were it not that upon enquiry I found they had been much neglected, and that under their new Commanding Officer, Captain Kenny, they were likely to recover themselves. The Drill Instructor had only attended once in twelve months, and on my speaking to him, he told me the pay he received did not allow of his attending at Picton. He had no uniform, and for this also gave me the same reason. I heard afterwards that he is much disliked by officers and men, and that they will have nothing to do with him, as he is quite incompetent as an instructor. I saw enough to convince me that whatever amount of pay he receives, the money, as far as his services as Drill Instructor are concerned is thrown away. While this state of things continues, little improvement can be looked for.

The Blenheim Company goes through a certain amount of simple drill fairly enough, but to push them on, a more competent instructor is required.

The Renwicktown and Spring Creek Corps did not assemble, and the sergeant informed me it would take four or five horsemen riding about for a week to collect a sufficient number together.

*Cadets at Blenheim.*—No parade state was given in. I understood their enrolled strength to be above 100, but the attendance was very poor. They were drilled by the sergeant and by their officers, but their performances were more than indifferent. Although this corps has been in existence for several years and drawing capitation, the cadets had no uniform.

#### NELSON.

The H Battery, City, Stoke, and Waimea Rifles, and Naval Brigade assembled on the evening of the 16th June in the drill-shed, and were inspected in column. Arms and accoutrements clean and in good order. After inspection they left the drill-shed and were drawn up outside as battalion in line. Captain Webb, the Adjutant, put them through the manual exercise, which was very fairly done. I then desired the Commanding Officer to put them through battalion movements, but these were not a success, partly owing to the moon having become clouded, as men cannot work well in the dark. This Officer's words of command also, were not sufficiently audible, nor, in many instances were the correct commands given, hence confusion and mistakes occurred. The attendance of the Stoke and Waimea Rifles and the Navals was very good. The Battery and City Rifles not showing up so well. At noon on the 17th the College Cadets were inspected, they had no uniform, but I was informed that these were being made. The Cadets drilled well, but the Lieutenant who partly drilled them, was far too rapid in his commands, as before one movement could be completed, another was directed.

The Artillery and City Cadets were inspected at night in the drill-shed. The drill of both was decidedly bad, but the Artillery Cadets went through their gun drill in a very smart and satisfactory manner.

### Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

Colonel LECKIE to the UNDER SECRETARY for DEFENCE.

SIR,—

Wellington, 11th May, 1880.

In compliance with your letter dated 13th February, 1880, No. 51, relative to the inspection of the Volunteer Force of the North Island, I have the honor to acquaint you, for the information of the Hon. the Defence Minister, that I left Wellington on the 19th February, 1880, and proceeded to Auckland, commencing my inspection of that district, finishing with the Wellington district on the 10th of May.

Annexed, in detail, is my Report of corps, with my remarks thereon.

In conclusion, I would add that the Volunteers were zealous and willing to learn, and I was very much pleased with their physique and soldierlike appearance.

The Under Secretary for Defence,  
Wellington.

I have, &c.,  
WILLIAM LECKIE,  
Colonel.

#### INSPECTION OF VOLUNTEERS IN NORTH ISLAND.

*A Battery of Artillery, Engineers, Naval Brigade, Victoria Rifles, Hobson Rifles, No. 3 City Rifles, Scottish Rifles, Engineer Cadets.*—I inspected these companies at 8 o'clock p.m. on 23rd February, 1880; night wet, attendance bad. The men well turned out; arms and accoutrements clean and in good order; the companies were drilled separately by their own officers, and acquitted themselves fairly. The Artillery gun drill was good. Naval Brigade sword exercise good. More attention should be paid to position drill in firing exercises.

*Otahuhu Company, Artillery Cadets.*—I inspected these companies on 27th February. Otahuhu company well turned out; arms and accoutrements clean and in good order; drilled pretty well. Artillery Cadets, attendance good. Unclothed and unarmed; they have an excellent Instructor.

*Wangarei Rifles, Coromandel Rifles.*—I was unable to inspect these companies, as the arrangements that had been made for me at the Waikato interfered with the inspection.

*Wairoa Rifles.*—I inspected the Wairoa Rifles on 28th February. Arms and accoutrements clean and in good order; drilled pretty well at manual and firing exercises.

*Waiuku Cavalry*.—I inspected Waiuku Cavalry on 2nd March. Attendance good; arms and accoutrements clean and in good order. The men and horses are very good and serviceable. The corps was drilled by their own officers at the sword exercise, &c. They have no Drill Instructor; it would greatly add to the efficiency of this Troop if the Drill Instructor from the Waikato paid them a monthly visit.

*Forest Rifles, Pukekohe Rifles, Tuakau Rifles, Wairoa Rifles*.—I inspected these companies on 2nd and 3rd March. The district is a very scattered one. The attendance was good considering the distances the men had to come. Arms and accoutrements clean and in good order. Drilled pretty well at firing and manual exercises.

*Te Awamutu Cavalry, Hamilton Contingent, Cambridge, &c.*—I inspected the Waikato Cavalry on the 5th, 8th, and 9th March. The men were well turned out; arms and accoutrements clean and in good order. The men and horses are very good and serviceable, and very well drilled. The corps went through a very pretty and useful exercise, two troopers at a time riding at full speed quarter of a mile, taking two jumps and tethering their horses together, and firing at a target; it showed that the men could both ride and shoot. They have an excellent Instructor.

*Hamilton Rifles*.—I inspected the Hamilton Rifles on 9th March. Arms and accoutrements clean, and in good order. A good company, well drilled; not clothed.

*Hauraki Engineers, Thames Scottish No. 1, 2, and 3, Thames Rifle Rangers, Thames Native, Naval Brigade, Thames Scottish Cadets, St. George's Naval, &c.*—I inspected the Thames Volunteers on the 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th of March. The attendance was good; arms and accoutrements clean and in good order. The companies were exercised respectively by their own officers, and went through the manual and firing exercise very creditably. The Volunteers of this district are the best in the North Island, both in physique and soldierlike bearing; they take great pride in themselves, their red clothing suits them well. The appearance and drill of the Naval Brigade is very creditable. Where all are good it is invidious to draw a distinction. The Volunteers of this district have neither drill-shed or parade ground, and each company has to pay rent for a small and inadequate hall. Major Murray deserves great credit for the interest he takes in the Volunteer movement, and the efficiency of the district is mainly due to him.

*Bay of Plenty Cavalry*.—I inspected the Troop on 18th March. Men well turned out; arms and accoutrements clean. Troop consists of 29 men, including officers. Total, 24 on parade. The Officer Commanding this Troop has a very indistinct word of command; the men could not understand him, consequently the drill was a farce.

*Poverty Bay J Battery Artillery, Artillery Cadets*.—I inspected the Artillery on 26th March. Men well turned out; arms and accoutrements clean. Both corps were out for a week's drill, two and a-half miles out of Gisborne, where they were encamped, and were drilled at manual and firing exercises, which they did very fairly; they also drilled in skirmishing order. No guns; they have a 24-pounder, but I did not see it.

*Napier F Battery Artillery, Engineers Company, Artillery Cadets*.—I inspected the Artillery on 3rd and 5th April. Men well turned out; arms and accoutrements clean; guns in good order; gun drill good. Engineers at manual and firing exercises, skirmishing drill and bayonet exercises; drilled fairly. \* Artillery Cadets unclothed and unarmed.

*Wanganui Rifles, City Rifles, Rifle Cadets*.—I inspected these companies on 12th April. The men were well turned out; arms and accoutrements clean. The parade was formed on the racecourse; they marched past. Manual, firing, and bayonet exercises. The companies were exercised by their own officers, and acquitted themselves fairly. Captain Watt's Company went through the bayonet exercise, judging their own time very well. The companies were afterwards thrown out in skirmishing order.

*Palmerston Rifles*.—I inspected this company on 13th April. Arms and accoutrements clean and in good order. Exercised at manual, firing, and bayonet exercises; drilled fairly.

*Manchester Rifles*.—I inspected this company on 14th April. Exercised at manual, firing, and bayonet exercises; drilled fairly.

*Royal Rifles*.—I inspected this company on 15th April. Exercised at manual, firing, and bayonet exercises; thrown out in skirmishing order; drilled fairly.

*Alexandra Cavalry*.—I saw six men of this Troop on the racecourse on 12th April; not supposed to have received sufficient warning. The officer in command of Troop asked me to fix another day, but I was unable to comply as I had not the time. On reference to the Report of last year, I see that only four troopers were present on parade for annual inspection.

*Wairoa Light Horse*.—I inspected this Troop on 17th April. The men well turned out; men and horses good; troop fairly exercised by Officer Commanding Troop.

*Patea Light Horse*.—I inspected this Troop on 19th April. Attendance not good; arms and accoutrements clean and in good order; drill indifferent, did not go out of a walk.

*Hawera Light Horse*.—I inspected this Troop on 21st April. Men and horses good; arms and accoutrements clean. The Troop were fairly exercised by Officer Commanding Troop. There is no Drill Instructor in this district, one should be appointed.

*Carlyle Rifles Nos. 1 and 2, Carlyle Cadets*.—I inspected these companies on 19th April. Arms and accoutrements clean and in good order. The companies were fairly drilled by their own officers at manual and firing exercises.

*Kakaramaea Rifles*. \*—I inspected this company on 20th April. Arms and accoutrements clean; badly drilled.

*Normanby Rifles*.—I inspected this company on 22nd April. Arms and accoutrements clean and in good order. Company exercised by its own officers in manual and firing exercises.

*Hawera Rifles Nos. 1 and 2*. †—Companies did not parade, supposed to be broken up. The Infantry Drill Instructor in the Patea District is inefficient; I would suggest that an efficient Instructor should be appointed.

\* These corps have been disbanded.

† Since amalgamated.

*D Battery Artillery, City Rifles, Wellington Guards, Naval Brigade, Torpedo Corps, City Rifle Cadets, Artillery Cadets, Naval Cadets.*—I returned from the West Coast on Sunday, 25th April, and as the monthly inspection of these corps had been ordered for 26th April, I availed myself of the opportunity of making my inspection on that date. The parade was formed in the Constabulary drill-shed, in quarter columns, at 8 o'clock p.m. The drill-shed was quite full, I was agreeably surprised at the appearance of these corps, three of them, the Wellington Guards, Naval Brigade, and Torpedo Corps, making a total of 380 men, had been raised within the year, and will be a most efficient addition to the Volunteer Force of the Colony. As there was no room for exercising the companies, I arranged to see them separately during the week on their respective drill nights.

*D Battery Artillery.*—I inspected this Battery on 27th April, men well turned out; guns, arms, and accoutrements in good order and clean. Gun drill was good; exercised by own officers.

*Naval Brigade.*—I inspected this corps on 28th April. Arms and accoutrements clean; the men well turned out. Exercised by their own officers at manual and firing exercise, fairly done, and exercised in skirmishing order.

*Wellington Guards.*—I inspected this corps on 29th April. Arms and accoutrements clean; the men well turned out. Exercised by their own officers at manual and firing exercise; company drill and skirmishing fairly done.

*Torpedo Corps.*—I inspected this corps on 30th April. Arms and accoutrements clean; the men well turned out. Exercised at manual, firing, and bayonet exercise and skirmishing. This corps is for the most part composed of members of the Telegraph Department, and from their calling would make a good foundation for a scientific corps.

*Wellington City Rifles.*—I inspected this corps on 3rd May. Attendance good; arms and accoutrements clean; the men well turned out. Exercised by their own officers at manual, firing, and bayonet exercise; drilled very well. This corps has ordered their new clothing.

*Wellington Rifle Cadets.*—I inspected this corps on 1st May. Well turned out and clean.

*Makara Rifles.*—I inspected this corps on 1st May. Arms and accoutrements clean. This is a very scattered district. Drilled at manual, firing, and bayonet exercises by Drill Instructor.

*Kaiwarawara Rifles.*—I inspected this corps on 4th May. Arms and accoutrements clean; men well turned out; attendance good. Drilled at manual and firing exercises by its own officers; bayonet exercise; drilled pretty well.

*Te Aro School Cadets, Mount Cook Cadets, Wellington College Cadets.*—I inspected these companies on 30th April. Boys unarmed; attendance good.

*Greytown Rifles, Carterton Rifles, Masterton Rifles.*—I inspected these companies on 6th, 7th, and 8th May. Men well turned out; arms and accoutrements clean and in good order; attendance good. Companies drilled at manual and firing exercises by their own officers fairly; bayonet and skirmishing order by Drill Instructor. Corps lately raised.

*Rifle Cadets.*—Well turned out and clean. 8th May.

#### REMARKS.

*Cadets.*—I would suggest, that in all the principal schools, the boys in the upper classes should be taught the theory of musketry during their school hours by the Drill Instructor of the district. For example, a Volunteer who has not learned the theory of musketry is unable to correct his shooting when he is at fault, by taking into consideration the deceptive influence of the sun shining on the sight of his rifle, or make allowances for the influence of the wind on the flight of the bullet. Adults joining Volunteer Forces have no time for learning theoretical instruction.

*Arms.*—The arms now in possession of Volunteers are of a very mixed description, they should all be of the same pattern.

*Clothing.*—I am glad to hear that the Volunteers are to be clothed in red tunics.

*Drill Shed.*—The drill-shed at the Constabulary Barracks, Wellington, is the best in the North Island; but what I admire most, is the gravelling, which does away with the noise made by the tramping of feet, which is so disagreeable on a wooden or asphalted place.

*Capitation Book, Ledger, &c.*—I inspected the books containing capitation lists of all the Volunteer corps, with the exception of two, and found that they were all posted up to date and carefully kept.

*Firing Exercises and Position Drill.*—Instruction in position drill in the firing exercises does not receive that attention which it should; the motions of the rifles are slurred over, and the positions in which the men place themselves when in the ranks, firing as a company with the front rank kneeling, are such that their fire would be very ineffective.

*Bayonet Exercise.*—Instruction in this exercise has not received the attention that it should have. This exercise is one of the most useful that the Volunteers can learn, it strengthens their arms and makes them acquainted with the use of their weapon, and improves their shooting by accustoming them to the weight of the rifle.

*Skirmishing.*—This part of the drill is omitted, as far as I could judge. Instruction in skirmishing is most suitable for the Volunteers, giving them opportunities of using their intelligence.

*Drill Instructors.*—The Drill Instructors are excellent; the Volunteers do not sufficiently avail themselves of their teaching.

INSPECTION RETURN of VOLUNTEERS, NORTH ISLAND.—RETURN of the VOLUNTEER FORCE seen by me at the period of Inspection, showing the Number of each on Parade and those Absent, with their different Causes assigned.

Name of District and Corps.	Enrolled Strength of Corps.	Present on Parade.	Absent with Leave.	Absent without Leave.	Sick.	Name of District and Corps.	Enrolled Strength of Corps.	Present on Parade.	Absent with Leave.	Absent without Leave.	Sick.
<b>Auckland—</b>						<b>Wanganui—continued.</b>					
Artillery, A Battery ...	97	66	...	31	...	Kakaramea Rifles ...	40	13	...	27	...
Engineers ...	97	72	...	25	...	Normanby „ ...	51	19	6	23	3
Naval Brigade ...	107	58	19	30	...	Alexandra Cavalry ...	...	6	...	...	...
Victoria Rifles ...	80	41	...	39	...	Wairoa Light Horse ...	57	43	10	4	...
No. 3, Auckland Rifles ...	71	41	12	17	1	Hawera „ ...	85	35	5	44	1
Hobson Rifles ...	100	55	...	45	...	Patea „ ...	32	22	...	10	...
Scottish „ ...	64	21	...	43	...	<b>Wellington—</b>					
Otahuhu „ ...	52	35	...	17	...	Artillery, D Battery ...	73	22	14	35	2
Forest „ ...	54	35	...	18	1	Naval Brigade ...	207	167	15	21	4
Pukekohe „ ...	63	46	...	17	...	Wellington Guards ...	109	73	6	29	1
Taukau „ ...	53	33	...	20	...	Torpedo Corps ...	65	55	10	...	...
Wairoa „ ...	53	41	...	12	...	City Rifles ...	87	74	8	5	...
Waiuku Cavalry „ ...	68	58	2	7	1	Makara Rifles ...	68	46	7	12	3
<b>Thames—</b>						Kaiwharawhara Rifles ...	69	57	4	7	1
Hauraki Engineers ...	167	103	53	8	3	Greytown „ ...	47	33	5	7	2
Naval Brigade ...	177	128	48	1	...	Carterton „ ...	56	38	...	18	...
No. 1, Scottish Rifles ...	130	127	1	1	1	Masterton „ ...	55	43	7	4	1
No. 2 „ „ ...	100	61	4	34	1	<b>CADETS.</b>					
No. 3 „ „ ...	57	26	30	...	1	<b>Auckland—</b>					
Thames Rifle Rangers ...	115	78	16	21	...	Engineer Cadets ...	70	21	...	49	...
„ Native Rifles ...	43	36	10	...	...	Artillery (Grammar School) Cadets ...	55	49	4	2	...
<b>Waikato—</b>						<b>Thames—</b>					
Te Awamutu Cavalry ...	69	51	2	14	2	Thames Scottish Cadets ...	63	53	5	5	...
Hamilton Contingent Cavalry ...	59	44	13	2	...	St. George's Naval Cadets ...	80	51	6	22	1
Cambridge „ ...	80	58	...	21	1	<b>Gisborne—</b>					
Hamilton Rifles ...	81	52	4	25	...	Artillery Cadets ...	75	63	4	7	1
<b>Opotiki—</b>						<b>Napier—</b>					
Bay of Plenty Cavalry ...	29	24	...	5	...	Artillery Cadets ...	90	90	...	...	...
<b>Gisborne—</b>						<b>Wanganui—</b>					
Artillery, J Battery ...	91	65	...	25	1	Wanganui Rifle Cadets ...	58	48	...	8	2
<b>Napier—</b>						Carlisle Cadets ...	49	38	6	4	1
Artillery, F Battery ...	68	47	...	21	...	<b>Wellington—</b>					
Engineers ...	72	32	...	40	...	City Rifle Cadets... ..	50	36	14	...	...
<b>Wanganui—</b>						Mount Cook „ ...	111	111	...	...	...
Palmerston Rifles... ..	55	32	...	15	8	Te Aro School „ ...	96	91	2	2	1
Manchester „ ...	63	35	...	28	...	Wellington College Cadets ...	36	33	3	...	...
Royal „ ...	57	37	1	18	1	Artillery Cadets ...	...	...	...	...	...
Wanganui „ ...	93	74	...	17	2	Naval „ ...	...	...	...	...	...
City „ ...	99	82	...	14	3						
Waverley „ ...	55	39	5	11	...						
No. 1, Carlyle „ ...	39	23	5	11	...						
No. 2 „ „ ...	65	36	11	16	2						

TABLE I.—RETURN of the STRENGTH of the VOLUNTEER FORCE, on 31st MARCH, 1880, and How ARMED.

Corps.	Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Sub-Lieutenants.	Surgeons.	Assistant-Surgeons.	Staff-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Trumpeters or Buglers.	Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Sniders.			Cadet Arms.		Enfield Rifles.
													Cavalry Carbines.	Artillery Carbines.	Rifles.	T. B. L. Carbines.	M. L. Carbines.	
Auckland—																		
Staff	...	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
A. Battery Artillery	...	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	93	100	-	76	-	-	-	-
Engineers	...	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	3	1	91	99	-	-	64	-	-	-
Victoria Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	65	73	-	-	89	-	-	-
No. 3, Auckland Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	63	71	-	-	73	-	-	-
Hobson Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	92	100	-	-	80	-	-	-
Otahuhu "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	45	52	-	-	63	-	-	-
Scottish "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	61	69	-	-	55	-	-	-
Whangarei Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	43	51	-	-	-	-	-	50
Coromandel "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	78	86	-	-	-	-	-	65
Naval Brigade...	...	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	6	1	100	111	-	89	-	-	-	-
Artillery Cadets	...	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	53	55	-	-	-	-	-	-
Engineer "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	76	84	-	-	3	59	-	-
Waiuku—																		
Staff	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Waiuku Cavalry	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	60	68	68	-	-	-	-	-
Forest Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	46	54	-	-	68	-	-	-
Pukekohe Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	56	63	-	-	65	-	-	-
Tuakau "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	47	53	-	-	55	-	-	-
Wairoa "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	47	53	-	-	42	-	-	-
Wanganui, Patea, and Rangitikei—																		
Staff	...	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alexandra Cavalry	...	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	3	1	42	50	39	-	-	-	-	-
Wairoa "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	1	48	57	58	-	-	2	-	-
Hawera Light Horse	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	6	1	77	87	89	-	-	-	-	-
Patea "	...	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	2	1	24	31	53	-	-	-	-	-
Wanganui Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	5	-	101	110	-	-	90	-	-	-
Wanganui City Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	4	1	86	95	-	-	-	-	-	68
Waverley Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	49	57	-	-	-	-	-	64
Royal "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	1	51	60	-	-	72	-	-	-
Manchester Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	5	1	57	67	-	-	-	-	-	70
Palmerston North Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	3	-	66	73	-	-	70	-	-	-
No. 1, Carlyle Rifles *	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	1	42	51	-	-	-	-	-	53
No. 2 " *	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	1	55	64	-	-	-	-	-	70
Kakarama Rifles†	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	36	43	-	-	-	-	-	57
No. 1, Hawera Rifles†	...	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	41	47	-	-	-	-	-	74
No. 2 " †	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	40	48	-	-	-	-	-	56
Normanby Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	53	58	-	-	61	-	-	59
Wanganui Cadets	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	63	70	-	-	-	58	-	1
Carlyle "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	44	52	-	-	-	50	-	-
Waikato—																		
Staff	...	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Te Awamutu Cavalry	...	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	7	2	110	124	123	-	-	-	-	-
Cambridge "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	1	71	80	58	-	-	-	-	-
Hamilton Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	2	-	-	5	1	72	81	-	-	-	-	-	67
Taranaki—																		
Staff	...	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taranaki Mounted Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	6	1	68	78	66	-	-	-	-	-
No. 1, Taranaki Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	38	45	-	-	50	-	-	-
No. 2 " †	...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	30	33	-	-	48	-	-	-
No. 3 "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	30	38	-	-	-	-	-	80
Manutahi Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	73	81	-	-	-	-	-	90
Waitara "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	46	53	-	-	60	-	-	-
Waitara West Rifles	...	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	28	32	-	-	-	-	-	40
Tikorangi Rifles	...	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	31	36	-	-	25	-	-	3
Mangorei "	...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	20	23	-	-	-	-	-	25
Kent Road "	...	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	30	36	-	-	-	-	-	40
Okato "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	46	52	-	-	60	-	-	-
Oakura "	...	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	28	32	-	-	32	-	-	-
Omata "	...	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	37	42	-	-	44	-	-	-
Bell Block "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	1	51	60	-	-	-	-	-	63
Urenui "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	21	27	-	-	36	-	-	-
No. 1, Inglewood Rifles	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	64	72	-	-	75	-	-	-
No. 2 "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	32	37	-	-	-	-	-	44
No. 3 "	...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	75	83	-	-	-	-	-	79
No. 4 "	...	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	13	17	-	-	-	-	-	41
Wellington—																		
Staff	...	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
D Battery Artillery	...	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	5	-	64	73	-	70	-	-	-	-

\* Since amalgamated.

† Since disbanded.

RETURN of the STRENGTH of the VOLUNTEER FORCE, &c.—*continued.*

Corps.	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Sub-Lieutenants.	Surgeons.	Assistant-Surgeons.	Staff-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Trumpeters or Buglers.	Rank and File.	Total of all Ranks.	Sniders.			Cadet Arms.		Enfield Rifles.
													Cavalry Carbines.	Artillery Carbines.	Rifles.	T. B. L. Carbines.	M. L. Carbines.	
Wellington—continued.																		
Wellington City Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	7	-	76	87	-	-	60	-	-	-
Makara Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	55	62	-	-	60	-	-	-
Kaiwara „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	54	62	-	-	49	-	-	-
Wellington Guards	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	7	1	91	103	-	-	10	-	-	75
Wellington Navals	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	16	1	187	207	-	120	-	-	-	-
Torpedo Corps	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	55	60	-	6	-	-	-	50
Artillery Cadets	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	5	1	66	74	-	3	-	-	58	-
City Rifle „	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	51	56	-	-	-	55	-	-
College „	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	35	38	-	-	-	-	-	-
Te Aro School Cadets	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	90	96	-	-	2	-	24	-
Mount Cook School Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	94	101	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wairarapa—																		
Staff	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greytown Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	39	47	-	-	75	-	-	-
Masterton „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	52	60	-	-	-	-	-	80
Carterton „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	1	51	60	-	-	-	-	-	70
Masterton Cadets*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Napier—																		
Staff	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
F Battery Artillery	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	60	68	-	53	-	-	-	-
Engineers†	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	1	66	72	-	78	-	-	-	-
Artillery Cadets‡	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	18	20	-	-	-	-	30	-
Poverty Bay—																		
Staff	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
J Battery Artillery	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	6	-	96	106	-	-	100	-	-	-
Artillery Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	74	81	-	-	-	-	48	-
Opotiki—																		
Bay of Plenty Cavalry	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	26	29	44	-	-	-	-	-
Queen's Native Rifles‡	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thames—																		
Staff	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Engineers	-	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	8	1	152	166	-	120	2	-	-	-
No. 1, Thames Scottish	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	6	1	119	130	-	-	125	-	-	-
No. 2 „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	6	1	90	100	-	-	100	-	-	-
No. 3 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	55	57	-	-	73	-	-	-
Thames Rifle Rangers	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	7	1	103	115	-	-	87	-	-	-
„ Native Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	41	46	-	-	40	-	-	-
„ Naval Brigade	-	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	6	1	165	177	129	-	-	-	-	-
„ Scottish Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	57	63	-	-	-	-	51	-
St. George's Naval Cadets...	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	75	80	-	-	-	45	-	-
Nelson—																		
Staff	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
H Battery Artillery	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	87	95	-	83	-	-	-	-
City Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	45	51	-	-	74	-	-	-
Stoke „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	52	59	-	-	61	-	-	-
Waimea Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	6	-	41	50	-	-	-	-	-	53
Naval Brigade	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	51	58	-	60	-	-	-	-
Artillery Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	39	46	-	-	-	-	61	-
City Rifle „	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	34	40	-	-	-	-	50	-
College „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	69	76	-	-	-	-	56	-
Marlborough—																		
Staff	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Picton Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	52	59	-	-	38	-	-	-
Spring Creek Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	71	78	-	-	58	-	-	-
Renwick Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	55	62	-	-	75	-	-	-
Blenheim Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	61	69	-	-	52	-	-	-
Picton Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	83	91	-	-	-	-	23	10
Blenheim Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	146	152	-	-	-	71	-	-
Canterbury—																		
Staff	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canterbury Yeomanry Cavalry	-	-	1	1	2	-	1	-	6	-	107	118	59	-	-	-	-	-
C Battery N.Z. Artillery	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	4	-	75	83	-	40	-	-	-	-
E Battery Artillery	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	5	1	58	68	-	52	-	-	-	-
Engineers	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	5	1	61	70	-	-	32	-	-	-
No. 1, Temuka Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	3	-	83	90	-	-	38	-	-	-
City Guards	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	1	55	64	-	-	36	-	-	70
Artillery Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	51	58	-	-	-	-	37	-
High School Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	41	48	-	-	-	-	27	-

\* New corps.

† Changed to Napier Rifle Volunteers.

‡ Since disbanded.

RETURN of the STRENGTH of the VOLUNTEER FORCE, &c.—*continued.*

Corps.	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Sub-Lieutenants.	Surgeons.	Assistant-Surgeons.	Staff-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Trumpeters or Buglers.	Rank and File.	Total of all Ranks.	Sniders.			Cadet Arms.		Enfield Rifles.
													Cavalry Carbines.	Artillery Carbines.	Rifles.	T. B. L. Carbines.	M. L. Carbines.	
<b>Oamaru—</b>																		
Staff	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
I Battery Artillery	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	5	-	73	81	-	50	-	-	-	-
Oamaru Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	1	107	116	-	-	49	-	-	-
Hampden „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	48	55	-	-	45	-	-	-
Otepopo „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	51	58	-	-	30	-	-	-
Oamaru High School Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	103	111	-	-	-	30	15	-
„ Citizen Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	40	46	-	-	-	50	-	-
„ North School Cadets *	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	83	91	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Dunedin—</b>																		
Staff	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
B Battery Artillery	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	6	1	128	139	-	100	-	-	-	-
L Battery Artillery	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	5	1	79	89	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. 1, City Guards	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	6	1	108	119	-	-	85	-	-	-
North Dunedin Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	5	1	52	62	-	-	57	-	-	-
South District Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	47	54	-	-	40	-	-	-
No. 1, Wakari „	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	5	1	45	55	-	-	76	-	-	-
No. 2 „	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	4	1	46	53	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bruce Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	4	1	55	64	-	-	40	-	-	-
East Taieri Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	4	-	60	68	-	-	48	-	-	-
West Taieri „	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	5	-	26	34	-	-	26	-	-	-
Clutha Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	4	-	60	68	-	-	50	-	-	-
Waikouaiti Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	59	65	-	-	39	-	-	-
Portobello „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	54	61	-	-	40	-	-	-
Dunedin Navals	-	-	1	3	2	1	-	-	9	-	132	148	-	81	-	-	-	-
Port Chalmers Navals	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	7	1	77	88	-	77	-	-	-	-
No 1, City Guard Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	37	44	-	-	-	47	-	-
High School Artillery Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	120	128	-	-	-	49	-	-
„ Rifle Cadets†	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	50	57	-	-	-	2	-	-
North District School Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	6	-	91	100	-	-	-	119	-	-
South „ „	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	74	80	-	-	-	44	-	-
Middle „ „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	1	91	100	-	-	-	49	-	-
Normal „ „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	6	-	91	100	-	-	-	85	-	-
Bruce Rifle Cadets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	45	-	-	-	39	-	-
Waikouaiti „	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	39	44	-	-	-	40	-	-
Sandymount „	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	59	64	-	-	-	35	-	-
Dunedin Naval Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	58	66	-	-	-	80	-	-
Port Chalmers Naval Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	93	100	-	-	-	30	-	-
<b>Invercargill—</b>																		
Staff	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
G Battery Artillery	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	9	2	86	100	-	80	-	-	-	-
K „	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	5	1	67	77	-	75	-	-	-	-
Riverton Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	2	74	84	-	-	30	-	-	-
Invercargill Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	2	60	70	-	-	30	-	-	-
„ Artillery Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	6	2	70	81	-	-	-	60	-	-
<b>Lake—</b>																		
Staff	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
M Battery Artillery	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	5	1	82	91	-	-	47	-	-	-
Cromwell Rifles	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	6	1	60	71	-	-	60	-	-	-
Arrow Rifles	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	5	1	63	71	-	-	66	-	-	-
Queenstown Cadets	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	55	59	-	-	-	14	20	-
Arrow Cadets	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	47	54	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Westland—</b>																		
Staff	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
1st Westland Rifles	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	7	2	80	93	-	-	91	-	-	-
Greymouth Rangers	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	69	73	-	-	38	-	-	-
Greymouth Cadets	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	58	60	-	-	-	60	-	-

\* New corps.

† Since disbanded.

TABLE II.—RETURN showing DISTRIBUTION of ORDNANCE on the 31st March, 1880.

Distribution.	Armstrong.			24-pr. Howitzers.	7-ton Guns.	64-pr. Guns.	4½ Mortars.	Iron Guns, various.
	40-pr.	12-pr.	6-pr.					
A.C. Force Taranaki ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...
Auckland ...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	1
Thames ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Napier ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	12	...
Wellington ...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Gisborne ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Christchurch ...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Timaru ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Nelson ...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	2
Dunedin ...	...	2	1	2	...	...	...	2
Invercargill ...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Oamaru ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Port Chalmers ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
On issue to Volunteers ...	1	6	10	10	...	...	4	8
In store ...	...	...	...	...	11	11	7	7
Total ...	1	6	10	10	11	11	11	15

TABLE III.—RETURN of SMALL ARMS and AMMUNITION.

Rifles, &amp;c., in store and on issue on 31st March, 1880,—

Snider (all sizes),—

On issue ... 5,804  
 In store ... 898  
 Expected from England ... 4,000\*

Enfield,—

In store ... 9,039  
 On issue ... 2,373

Ammunition,—

Snider, in store ... 1,351,859  
 Enfield, in store ... 668,111  
 Snider, expected from England ... 500,000

Cadet Arms,—

Carbines,—

Muzzle-loaders, on issue ... 747  
 " in store ... 27  
 Terry's, on issue† ... 941  
 " in store ... 21

Ammunition,—

Muzzle-loaders (Enfield ammunition used).  
 Terry's, in store ... 91,650

\* Since arrived and en route, 2000. † Only used for drill purposes.

TABLE IV.—RETURN of VOLUNTEERS on the 31st March, 1880.

District.	Cavalry.	Artillery.	Engineer.	Rifle.	Naval.	Total.	Cadets.
Auckland ...	...	100	99	502	111	812	139
Waikato ...	68	...	...	223	...	291	...
Waikato ...	204	...	...	81	...	285	...
Taranaki ...	78	...	...	799	...	877	...
Wanganui, Patea and Rangitikei ...	225	...	...	773	...	998	122
Wellington and Wairarapa ...	...	73	60	481	207	821	365
Napier ...	...	68	72	...	...	140	20
Poverty Bay ...	...	106	...	...	...	106	81
Bay of Plenty ...	29	...	...	27	...	56	...
Thames ...	...	...	166	448	177	791	143
Total North Island	604	347	397	3334	495	5177	870
Nelson ...	...	95	...	160	58	313	162
Marlborough ...	...	...	...	268	...	268	243
Canterbury ...	118	151	70	154	...	493	106
Oamaru ...	...	81	...	229	...	310	248
Dunedin ...	...	228	...	703	236	1167	928
Invercargill ...	...	177	...	154	...	331	81
Lake ...	...	91	...	142	...	233	113
Westland ...	...	...	...	166	...	166	60
Total South Island	118	823	70	1976	294	3281	1941
Total all New Zealand	722	1170	467	5310	789	8458	2811

Increase since the 30th June, 1879,—

North Island,—

Adults ... 152  
 Cadets ... 205

South Island,—

Adults ... 257  
 Cadets ... 351

By Authority: GEORGE DIDSBURY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1880.

Price 9d.]

