

THAMES NAVAL ARTILLERY VOLUNTEERS.—5th September, 1892.

Present: 2 lieutenants, 1 chief petty officer, 2 first-class petty officers, 43 seamen, and 10 bandsmen. Absent: 1 first-class petty officer and 14 seamen.

Uniform.—Naval Artillery Volunteer uniform, in good order. The bandsmen were dressed in a fancy uniform, very clean and smart.

Arms and Accoutrements.—Snider artillery carbine; brown belts.

Officers.—Lieutenant Potts: A capable painstaking commanding officer. Lieutenant Radford: A very smart officer; good drill.

Non-commissioned Officers.—Very good.

Men.—Excellent stamp.

Drill.—The drill of this corps was far above the average. The men have evidently been well drilled for years. They are veteran soldiers compared to the ordinary Volunteers. A 12-pr. R.B.L. gun is in charge of the corps. Up to the time of my inspection no gun-drill had been done. I found the gun in a very bad state. The corps has a very good band, which at the same time is quite contrary to regulations. I explained to the commanding officer that he is only entitled to five bandsmen, and that if he has more than that number in his band the extra men must be, if Volunteers, dressed in proper uniform, and on parade as properly-drilled men at Government parades.

This is a very good infantry company, but has no pretensions to be considered as a Naval Artillery Volunteer Corps.

(4.) REPORT ON VOLUNTEERS.—NORTH CANTERBURY DISTRICT.

North Canterbury District.				Officer Commanding District.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Hon. Surgeons.	Hon. Chaplains.	Staff Sergeants.	Chief Petty Officer, Sergeant - Major, Quartermaster, or Colour-sergeant.	Sergeants or First-class Petty Officers.	Corporals, Second-class Petty Officers.	Trumpeters or Buglers.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
Officer Commanding District	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Staff sergeants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Lyttelton Naval Artillery Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	4	4	1	59	72
E Battery Artillery Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	2	4	4	2	54	69
N Battery Artillery Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	2	4	2	2	48	63
Canterbury Yeomanry Cavalry Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	..	..	1	4	4	2	59	75
Canterbury Mounted Rifle Volunteers	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	1	2	2	1	35	44
Canterbury Engineer Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	2	4	5	1	36	52
Canterbury Honorary Reserve Corps Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	3	2	..	48	57
Christchurch City Guards Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	1	3	4	1	31	45
Christ's College Rifle Volunteers	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	4	4	1	50	63
Christchurch Rifle Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	1	4	4	1	37	52
A Company Canterbury Rifle Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	1	4	4	1	53	67
Canterbury Scottish Rifle Volunteers	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	4	4	1	46	59
Richmond Rifle Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	1	3	1	31	39
Kaiapoi Rifle Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	4	4	1	55	68
Rangiora Rifle Volunteers	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	1	4	4	1	39	53
Christchurch Garrison Band Volunteers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	31	35
Totals	..	..	..	1	12	22	14	8	2	18	54	55	18	712	916

NAVAL ARTILLERY.

Lyttelton Naval Artillery: This corps is supposed to be affiliated to the guns at Fort Jervois (Ripa Island). It appears that the men have great difficulty in going over to the island for drill, and I found that during last year practically no drill had been done until the corps went into camp. The drill learnt in camp is soon forgotten unless the memory is refreshed by work done during the year. If this corps finds it impossible to go to the fort at least once a month during the present year it will be unwise to continue spending money on it.

GARRISON ARTILLERY.

The Garrison Battery at Lyttelton is in good order. The Commanding Officer and men show great interest in their work with the guns on the north shore of the harbour. I have under consideration whether it will not be advisable to affiliate this corps to Ripa Island (the most important work), leaving the guns on the north shore to the Lyttelton Navals.

FIELD ARTILLERY.

The battery is in fair order. The guns and equipment were not sufficiently well cared for, and the commanding officer was not as efficient as I desire he should be. On the other hand, the non-commissioned officers and men showed good knowledge of their work, and have taken a great deal of pride in their battery. Under better conditions this battery will be efficient.

CAVALRY.

The Canterbury Yeomanry Cavalry Corps is extremely well turned out. Officers, non-commissioned officers, and men take very great pride in their corps.

MOUNTED INFANTRY.

The Mounted Rifle corps is in very good order, well cared for by its officers, and by Major Slater—a thoroughly good officer.