

Having previously obtained a lease of the above grounds extending to the first day of September next, with permission for all buildings and erections to remain on the grounds until convenient to remove them, I contracted with Mr. C. W. Allin, of this City, to build over the Grand Stand (a Platform some eight feet high and 74 x 45 in area) with a substantial roof, and to enclose and floor the same, thus providing accommodation (on the scale adopted at the Camp at Fredericton last year) for the whole 300 Officers; fearing, however, that this building would prove rather crowded for Officers, I procured thirty bell Tents from the Military Store Department at this Station, which have not only given accommodation for the Staff, but have much relieved the above building, each Tent being occupied by three or four Officers.

Tables, forms and arm racks were also provided, and ventilation amply attended to.

The following buildings were next provided with—

One 50x15,—Brigade Office, Mess Room 30 feet long, and Quarters for Officer commanding 1st Battalion.

One 50x15,—1st Battalion Orderly Room, Quartermaster's Office, Quartermaster's Store, Sergeants' Mess, Paymaster's Office.

One 25x15,—Canteen, fitted with shelves, counter and forms.

One 24x12,—Mess-man's Store Room.

Three, each 20x12,—Cook Houses.

The above were all for the accommodation of the Staff and 1st Battalion of Officers, and were built on the highest ground near the main building.

Accommodations for the 2nd Battalion, consisting of 200 privates, were provided on a gravelly knoll near the entrance gate of the Pleasure Grounds. They consisted of a continuous shed 252 ft. by 12 ft. wide, resting on the board fence enclosing the grounds, six feet high in front and nine in rear, and divided into 28 feet compartments, intended to lodge 24 men each. The Band of the Saint John Volunteer Battalion was attached to this Battalion and occupied a compartment at the north end of the above sheds.

Ten Bell tents were provided for the Officers of this Battalion. A Canteen 30 x 15 was erected, fitted up in the same way as for the 1st Battalion, and a Guard House 30 x 12, with Lock-up 10 x 12, was built at the right of entrance gate, with Sentry Box at the gate; and a large barn close to the men's sheds, with a direct passage from the grounds, was kindly lent to me by Mr. Barbour, at a nominal rent, to be used in case it should be required as an Hospital.

A cook house and small store room for the Contractor were also provided near the men's quarters. Latrines for each Battalion were also built at a convenient distance. On Friday, 22nd June, I was directed by the Commander in Chief to make arrangements for rationing the 2nd Battalion of 200 men, but was given to understand that the Battalion of Officers would be expected to make their own messing arrangements. I have to report that on the 25th of June I contracted with Mr. J. R. Hopkins to provide 200 men, more or less, with rations similar to those provided at Camp of Instruction last year, and to cook the same, providing his own cooks, stove, wood, and apparatus, at as moderate a rate as could possibly be expected, taking into account the brief space of time at my disposal to make inquiries and invite competition.

Not being able to find that any contracts or arrangements had been entered into by the Battalion of Officers to mess themselves, upon my own responsibility I engaged a Mess-man to provide an evening meal for the day the Camp was to assemble, (27th June,) and also meals for the following day, leaving the Officers at liberty to make such arrangements as they might choose for the future, which, I am happy to report, turned out most fortunately, as some 150 Officers arrived on the ground by 9 o'clock of the morning of the 27th June, and were not only provided with an evening meal, (together with some 120 more who arrived by the six o'clock p. m. train,) but also had a good substantial lunch of bread, butter, cheese, and cold meat, in the middle of the day: Rations were also served out and cooked for the Men of the 2nd Battalion, and every Officer and Man on the ground was provided immediately on his arrival in Camp, with a regular soldier's Paillasse and Bolster, and two Blankets, or one Blanket and a Field Rug, and were all comfortably housed for the night.

The following two days, 28th and 29th June, were exceedingly wet, and the huts and main building leaked considerably; but not more than was to be expected, after very dry weather, of such inexpensive, hasty and temporary erections, built of green wood; the inconvenience was submitted to both by men and officers with much good humor; subsequent fine weather cheered them up, and the boards being renailed and some repairs made, not much inconvenience has been experienced from subsequent rains.

A Reading Room was not provided at the commencement of the Camp, although specially directed by the Commander in Chief; a Marquee belonging to the Provincial Government having been promised for that purpose, but when it was, after much delay, received from Shediac, it proved of such small dimensions and so much out of repair, that I immediately had a Reading Room built by the Contractor, 30 feet long by 15 feet wide, and comfortably fitted up with tables and forms, lamps, and files for newspapers, a daily supply of which were regularly and gratuitously furnished by the Saint John Press, and sent to Camp by a daily Mail bag, kindly made up and forwarded by John Howe, Esq., the Postmaster at Saint John.

I have to report that 73½ thousands of lumber have been used in the above buildings and in flooring tents, and eight hundred and a half weight of nails, that the entire cost, including hauling, —(very little use could be made of the Railway, there being no siding at or near Torryburn,)—horse hire, and hardware, will not amount to more than \$1000, a portion of which will be recovered by sale of materials when the Camp is broken up.

Each Officer and Man attending the Camp (including staff and fatigue men) was provided with a scarlet Tunic and Cap, the former having blue facings for 1st Battalion and yellow for 2nd Battalion; they were made by Messrs. J. Armstrong & Co. of this City, and I cannot speak too highly of the material and finish of the clothing supplied by that Firm, at such a moderate price, and very short notice, 527 Tunics and Caps having been delivered within three weeks, and at the rate of \$2.50 per set.

Arms and accoutrements were issued to each officer and private, tin plates, cans and barrack utensils to the 1st Battalion, and an ample supply of lamps, tubs, buckets, and wash-basins, to both Battalions. No expense, however, has been incurred which I did not deem absolutely essential to the efficiency of the undertaking, and the health and cleanliness of the Camp.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WM. B. ROBINSON, Lieut. Col.

Quartermaster General.

The Quartermaster General of Militia to the Adjutant General of Militia.

Quartermaster General's Office,

St. John, N. B. 28th July, 1866.

SIR,—I have the honor to report for the information of His Excellency the Commander in Chief, that the Camp of Instruction at Torryburn was broken up on Tuesday last, the 24th instant.

The Camp having been inspected by His Excellency the previous afternoon, after parade the several Companies were marched to the Reading-Room, and the Arms delivered in. Reveille was sounded at 3 o'clock the following morning and baggage packed; at 4 o'clock the carts commenced moving it to the Railway Station, about a quarter of a mile from the Camp, whence the Men were embarked for their respective Counties at the following hours, viz:—

Train.	Number.	Counties.
5.30 a. m.,	136 Officers & Men	{ Restigouche, Northumberland, Gloucester, Kent, Albert, and Westmorland.
7.00 "	127 "	{ Victoria, Carleton, York, Sun- bury, and Queen's.
8.16 "	99 "	King's, and Yeomanry Cavalry.
9.09 "	90 "	St. John and Charlotte.

The remainder had obtained leave and left the Camp the previous evening.

The bedding was then emptied of straw and packed, arms packed, tents struck, and every thing secured from the weather; and by noon the following day the whole material of the Camp had been carted in and safely stowed away in the Militia Store in this City, with as few deficiencies and as little damage as could have been expected.

The huts and buildings are still standing, as I am in hopes of making arrangements with the Pleasure Grounds Association to purchase them.

I am happy to report that the Rations supplied by the contractor were most excellent, and cooked to the entire satisfaction of the Quartermaster in charge, that many of the Officers' Battalion continued to mess with the Mess-man I had provisionally engaged, (he also provided for the Staff and regular Officers' mess, numbering some forty members,) and that the Canteens were well supplied, and rate of prices, agreed on, fairly maintained. In consequence of there being no spring or wells of good drinkable water on the grounds, a great deal of beer was consumed, but I am not aware that a single case of drunkenness was reported. The best water that could be obtained in the neighborhood was hauled, and a fair allowance of ice supplied, by the contractor, and the general health of the camp was most excellent.

The Buildings, though leaky at first, answered their purpose very well, and I have much satisfaction in stating that both Officers and Men were unanimous in pronouncing them much more comfortable than ordinary Tents, though I consider the large building to have been unsuited for Officers, as they disliked being crowded together, so many in one room, an opinion in which His Excellency the Commander in Chief was pleased to express his concurrence.

Detailed Accounts will be forwarded so soon as they can be closed by sale of the buildings.

Quartermaster Fraser, and Lieutenant M'Murray, 1st Battalion H. M. 15th Regiment, who so ably performed the duties of Quartermaster, have already received the notice of His Excellency the Commander in Chief; but I cannot close this Report without mentioning the name of Colour Sergeant M'Kenzie, H. M. 64th Regiment, who efficiently discharged the duty of Quartermaster Sergeant to both Battalions.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WM. B. ROBINSON, Lt. Col.

Quartermaster General.