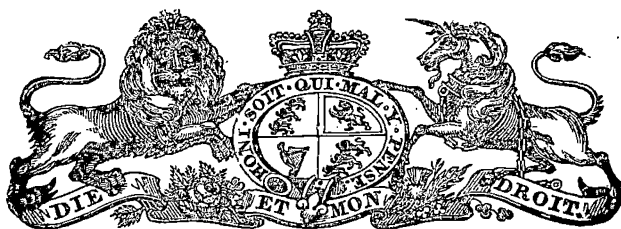


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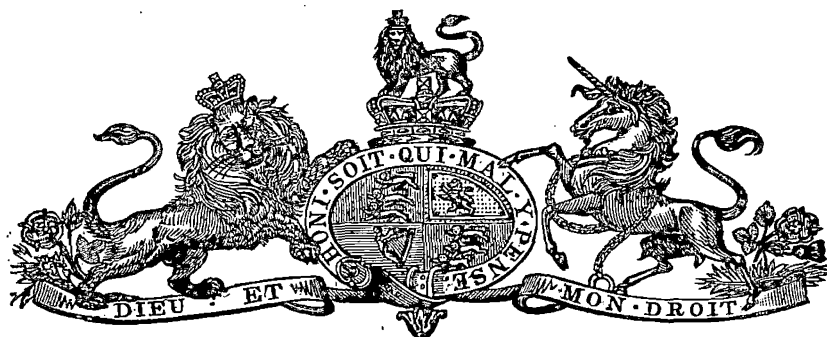
1894.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

TASMANIAN DEFENCE FORCE:

REPORT BY THE COMMANDANT.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



TASMANIAN DEFENCE FORCE.

REPORT BY THE COMMANDANT.

Head Quarters Office, Hobart, 12th May, 1894.

SIR,

I HAVE little to report this year, except that, notwithstanding the depressing effects of the large reduction in the Defence estimates for 1893, and the further reduction in 1894, the absence of a Camp of Exercise, the difficulty men have in procuring work (which frequently necessitates their leaving the district), a reduced capitation grant for the Infantry and Auxiliary Force in 1893, and no capitation at all for Infantry and Auxiliary Force in 1894, an excellent spirit exists, and Commanding Officers have loyally accepted the necessity for a reduction in expenditure, and have used every endeavour to make their corps as efficient as is possible under the circumstances.

Permanent Artillery.

The present strength of the corps is 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, and 9 gunners. During the past year 1 gunner was dismissed for misconduct.

Launceston Artillery.

The strength of this corps on the 1st April, 1894, was 68 of all ranks and 7 cadets.

On the 31st December, 1893, 78 of all ranks were classed as efficient (an increase of 4 on 1892), also 5 cadets.

The usual quarterly inspections have been held; the musters on each occasion were excellent, the turn-out clean, and the drill good. All ranks take great interest in learning their duties, and the *esprit de corps* is most satisfactory. The instructor, Sergeant-Major Martini, performs his duty gratuitously, is most energetic and painstaking, and deserves the greatest credit for the good work for very many years performed by him.

Four officers, 13 N.C. officers and 32 gunners embarked on the s.s. *Wybia* on the 9th November and proceeded to Low Heads, where they encamped until the 12th.

The men received no pay this year, only rations.

On the 10th and 11th practice was carried out; 15 rounds of common shell and 15 rounds of shrapnel were fired from each of the 12-pr. B.L. guns, and the same number of rounds from the two 2.5 R.M.L. guns. The shooting for the most part was good, particularly that with 12-pr. shrapnel.

In the afternoon of both days "battle firing" was practised; the result was fair, but some of the sections were not kept well in hand by the section commanders.

The Commander of Batteries was present at the camp the whole time. I visited the camp, and was present at the practice on the 11th.

Surgeon-Captain Gutteridge, Launceston Rifle Regiment, was in medical charge of the camp.

It is of the utmost importance that a small sum should be set apart in the Estimates for the expenses of this camp, there being no place near Launceston for practice, and since the discontinuance of a camp of exercise it is the only practical work the men have during the year.

Southern Tasmanian Artillery.

The strength of this corps on the 31st March, 1894, was 75 of all ranks.

On the 31st December, 1893, 65 were classed as efficient (an increase of 12 on 1892).

The usual quarterly inspections were held. The musters were fair, the turn-out clean, and the drill good.

The annual training of the corps in the Forts commenced on the 7th October and ended on the 24th November.

Sixteen evening and three daylight drills were held at the Alexandra Battery, and 12 evening and one daylight at the Bluff.

Practice was carried out at the Alexandra Fort on the 21st October and 18th November, and at the Bluff on the 4th November (His Excellency the Governor being present).

The following rounds were fired :—

From 8-in. R.M.L. guns	3 rounds.
„ 7-in. R.M.L. guns	14 „
„ 5-in. B.L. guns	5 „
„ 80-pr. R.M.L. guns	13 „
„ 6-pr. Q.F. guns	23 „
„ Nordenfeldt Machine guns	950 „

The attendance during the training was good, and all ranks displayed great interest in their work.

I regret again to have to bring to notice that this corps is still so much below its establishment. The numbers are not sufficient to man one Fort. My Reports for 1891–2 contain recommendations for the only means (in my opinion) to bring the corps up to its establishment.

Torpedo Corps.

Strength on the 31st March, 1894, 43 of all ranks.

On the 31st December, 1893, 33 were classed as efficient. The establishment of this corps was reduced on the 1st January, 1893, and the number of efficient was in excess of the number estimated for.

The usual quarterly inspections were held, and were well attended. The corps has made fair progress in lamp and flag signaling, and have taken an increased interest in rifle shooting.

I am of opinion that unless proper provision is made for submarine mining defence, this corps should be attached to the Southern Tasmanian Artillery.

Tasmanian Rifle Regiment.

Strength on the 31st March, 1894, including the Garrison Band, 146.

On the 31st December, 1893, 132, including Garrison Band, were classed as efficient (an increase of 26 on 1892).

The usual quarterly inspections have been held, and were well attended; the men turned out clean.

Great improvement has been made in the drill of this corps, especially in handling their arms. Greater interest is taken in shooting, and the attendance at the Rifle Range greatly increased. The Instructor, Sergeant-Major Costello, deserves credit for the pains he has taken in the instruction of the recruits.

A healthy spirit exists in the corps, but the absence of daylight drills and the abandonment of the Annual Camp of Exercise is a great detriment to the efficiency of the infantry, as it is impossible to train an infantry soldier properly with only night drills in a room or on a barrack square.

Launceston Rifle Regiment.

Strength on the 31st March, 1894, including Band, 112.

On the 31st December, 1893, 57 were classed as efficient (a decrease of 10 on the previous year).

The usual quarterly inspections were held. The musters were small (attributed to men having to go into the country to get employment); those present on parade acquitted themselves creditably.

The cadets attached to this corps number 56. Nineteen rendered themselves efficient last year.

Auxiliary Force.

Strength on the 31st December, 1893, 1165. Of this number 776 made themselves efficient for 1893.

The average number of drills attended by efficient in 1893 was 21·45.

The detachment at Bothwell has been disbanded. I am only awaiting the collection of Government property from Tunnack to recommend the disbandment of this detachment, as they had not a single efficient in 1893.

For financial reasons the services of one Instructor (Sergeant-Major Anderson) had to be dispensed with on the 1st January, 1894. I much regret the loss of his services, as he was most trustworthy and energetic in the performance of his duties.

On the 7th August, 1893, four Officers and 56 N.C. officers and men of the Midland Rifle Company were brought to Hobart to take part in the reception of His Excellency the Governor on his arrival in the Colony. The men were accommodated in the Barracks for two days; received rations, but no pay. Their conduct was exemplary, and the turn-out smart. The Auxiliary Force were much pleased at being represented on the occasion, and the cost to the Colony was only a few pounds. On the occasion of His Excellency's first visit to Launceston on the 28th August, 1893, detachments from the Esk and Meander Companies took part in his reception and acquitted themselves creditably.

I regret much that for the want of the necessary funds the class of instruction at Hobart for officers and N.C. officers has been abandoned, but I have been much pleased at receiving offers from a number of officers and N.C. officers to attend a class paying for their own rations during the course. This shows the excellent spirit which exists in the Force notwithstanding the abandonment of the Annual Camp of Exercise, and the fact that this year not one penny of capitation grant will be received.

I have much pleasure in reporting that I have received every assistance from Major Wallack, Adjutant; Captain Jones, Quartermaster; and that the Instructors, Sergeants-Major Welsh, Rafferty, and Costello, have performed their duties conscientiously and satisfactorily. I have also received loyal support from Captains and Officers commanding Detachments.

Land Defences.

Under present circumstances I feel it would be useless to make any recommendations about defences, but it is my duty to again point out that the two 6-inch B.L. guns mounted in the Alexandra Battery have not yet been sent Home to be chase-hooped as recommended by the Military Adviser (Lieutenant-Colonel Harman, R.A.) in 1892.

Torpedo Boat and Whitehead Torpedoes.

Mr. Milner, the Torpedo Artificer, left for England on the 10th instant on completion of his engagement with the Colony.

Report from Captain Parker, R.N., on the Torpedo Boat and Whitehead Torpedoes will be found in the Appendix marked A.

Returns A. to G. will be found in the Appendix.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

A. H. WARNER, *Colonel Commandant.*

To the Honorable the Chief Secretary.

A.

From the Commander of Batteries to the Commandant.

The Barracks, Hobart, 11th May, 1894.

SIR,
I BEG to inform you that the Torpedo Boat and her torpedoes are dismantled and laid up. This (since circumstances do not permit of these weapons being kept afloat and exercised) is as judicious a step as could be taken.

I would suggest that His Excellency the Admiral, when he visits Hobart, be asked to allow one of the Torpedo Engineers to look them over, to see that no deterioration takes place.

I have, &c.

PHILIP R. H. PARKER, *Captain, R.N., and
Commander of Batteries.*

B.

*EFFICIENCY Return of the Tasmanian Defence Force for the Year ending
31st December, 1893.*

Corps.	Number of Efficient.	Cadets.	TOTAL.
Launceston Artillery.....	78	5	83
Southern Tasmanian Artillery	65	...	65
Tasmanian Torpedo Corps	33	...	33
Tasmanian Rifle Regiment.....	111	...	111
Launceston Rifle Regiment.....	98	19	57
Ditto Band.....	16	...	16
Garrison Band	21	...	21
Auxiliary Force.....	776	...	776
TOTALS	1138	24	1162

ERNEST T. WALLACK, *Major, Staff Adjutant.*
12. 5. 94.

The Commandant.

C.

STATE of the Tasmanian Defence Force on 31st March, 1894.

Corps.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Surgeons.	Pay and Quarter Masters.	Warrant Officers	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Trumpeters and Buglers.	Band.	Rank and File.	Total of all Ranks.	Remarks.	Cadets.
General Staff.....	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	4	Includes Commander of Batteries	...
Tasmanian Permanent Artillery	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	10	11	...	...
Ditto Torpedo & Artificers...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Launceston Artillery.....	1	2	1	...	...	1	4	4	1	...	54	68	...	7
Southern Tasmanian Artillery...	1	1	3	1	1	...	...	5	2	...	61	75	...	...
Tasmanian Torpedo Corps.....	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	5	1	...	34	43	...	...
Tasmanian Rifle Regiment.....	1	2	1	1	1	...	2	14	4	...	94	120	...	...
Launceston Rifle Regiment.....	2	1	4	1	2	...	4	5	5	18	70	112	...	56
Garrison Band .....	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	24	...	26	...	...
Auxiliary Force	1	11	22	...	1	1	...	74	31	...	1024	1165	...	...
TOTALS	8	18	32	3	5	7	13	108	44	42	1347	1627	...	63

ERNEST T. WALLACK, *Major, Staff Adjutant.*
10. 5. 94.

The Commandant.

D.

*FIGURE of Merit of Trained Men of the under-mentioned Corps of the Tasmanian Defence Forces for the Musketry Course ending 31st December, 1893.
(Individual Firing.)*

Corps.	No. of Men Fired.	Weapon.	No. of Rounds fired per Man.	Total Points.	Figure of Merit.	Classification.				Remarks.
						Marksmen.	First Class Shots.	Second Class Shots.	Third Class Shots.	
Launceston Artillery	24	M.-H. R.	47	2782	52·68	11	4	2	7	Voluntary course.
Southern Tasmanian Artillery	30	M.-H. C.	36	2016	37·33	1	6	5	18	Ditto.
Tasmanian Torpedo Corps	19	M.-H. R.	47	2371	57·91	8	4	7	...	Ditto.
Tasmanian Rifle Regiment	57	M.-H. R.	47	6401	52·97	12	22	15	8	
Launceston Rifle Regiment.....	27	M.-H. R.	47	2416	38·07	5	4	5	13	
Auxiliary Force	547	M.-H. R.	47	57,731	47·97	115	142	152	138	
Launceston Police.....	23	M.-H. R.	47	2713	50·19	7	7	7	2	Voluntary course.
Hobart Police.....	18	M.-H. R.	47	2201	55·53	7	5	6	...	Ditto.

The Commandant.

ERNEST T. WALLACK, *Major, Instructor of Musketry*

E.

FIGURE of Merit of Recruits of the under-mentioned Corps of the Tasmanian Defence Forces for the Musketry Course ending 31st December, 1893, (Individual Firing).

Corps.	No. of Men fired.	Weapon.	No. of Rounds fired per Man.	Total Points.	Figure of Merit.	Remarks.
Launceston Artillery	11	M.-H. R.	28 to 56	729	32·24	Voluntary course.
Tasmanian Torpedo Corps	7	M.-H. R.	28 to 56	665	36·53	Ditto
Tasmanian Rifle Regiment	47	M.-H. R.	28 to 56	4599	43·06	
Launceston Rifle Regiment	18	M.-H. R.	28 to 56	1550	34·59	
Auxiliary Force	438	M.-H. R.	28 to 56	34,968	37·67	
Launceston Police	5	M.-H. R.	28	368	52·57	Ditto
Hobart Police	18	M.-H. R.	28 to 56	1797	20·00	Ditto

ERNEST T. WALLACK, Major, Instructor of Musketry.

The Commandant.

F.

FIGURE of Merit for Volley Firing and Field Practices of the under-mentioned Corps of the Tasmanian Defence Forces for the Musketry Course ending 31st December, 1893.

Corps.	No. of Men Fired.	Figure of Merit.		Remarks.
		Volley Firing.	Field Practices.	
Tasmanian Rifle Regiment.....	41	68·04	60·51	Only a few men could fire in these practices on account of the ranges being under water continually.
Launceston Rifle Regiment	10	80·00	61·48	
			(9 men fired.)	
Auxiliary Force	{ 427 volley	{ 57·77	59·30	
	432 attack			
Launceston Police	23		39·94	
Hobart Police	11	59·09	62·50	

ERNEST T. WALLACK, Major, Instructor of Musketry.

The Commandant.

AUXILIARY FORCE.

RETURN showing Result of Annual Course of Musketry for Trained Men, and Number of Efficientes for 1893, also Number exercised through Recruits' Course, with their Classification.

No. in Order of Merit as a Company.	Name of Company.	No. in Order of Merit as a Detachment.	Detachment.	No. who commenced the Practice.	Points obtained in Individual Firing.					Average of Individual Firing.	Classification.				Company Figure of Merit.	Detachment Figure of Merit.	Volley Firing at 400 Yds.			Section Attack 500 to 200 Yds.			Best Shot of each Detachment.		No. of Points.	No. of Efficientes.	Recruits' Course.			
					200 and 300 Yards.	400, 500, and 600 Yards.	700 Yards.	Individual Attack Practice.	TOTAL.		3rd Class.	2nd Class.	1st Class.	Marksmen.			No. of Men.	Points.	Average.	No. of Men.	Points.	Average.	Rank and Names.	No. who commenced the Practice.			Classification.			
																											Remaining Recruits "in a Musketry sense."	First Class.		
3	Dorset.....	12	Scottsdale	22	837	1250	932	135	2534	115.18	5	3	4	10	52.44	52.35	20	1185.90	20	222	11.10	Private	Holmes, H. B.....	174	28	9	2	7		
		11	Derby	21	678	1302	323	124	2427	115.57	2	6	6	7		52.53	19	804.21	19	124	6.52	Sergeant	Banks, S.	151	23	5	1	4		
9	Mersey	4	East Devonport*	6	280	387	112	57	836	139.33	...	1	2	3		62.57	...	...	...	...	...	Private	Dazeley, T.....	159	13	5	...	5
		29	West Devonport	11	344	501	117	26	988	89.81	4	3	3	1	47.07	44.10	4	246.	4	34	8.50	Sergeant	Finlayson, G.....	138	10	8	3	5		
		28	Northdown	10	286	468	144	74	972	97.20	2	7	...	1		44.18	10	404.	10	91	9.10	Private	Brown, G.....	136	18	10	8	2		
4	Midland	19	Campbell Town.	30	861	1534	492	227	3114	103.80	7	9	10	4		47.18	23	1325.73	23	208	9.04	Lieut.	Pitt, C. F.....	156	53	29	16	13		
		9	Ross	30	1193	1616	522	210	3541	118.03	1	10	10	9	50.94	53.65	31	2046.58	31	378	12.19	Lieut.	Bennett, W. R.....	166	39	11	3	8		
		10	Swansea.....	12	473	674	180	82	1409	117.41	1	2	7	2		53.37	11	343.09	11	85	7.72	Private	Cotton, W.....	143	19	8	5	3		
14	West Devon	8	Ulverstone*	7	295	432	117	...	844	120.59	...	2	2	3		54.80	...	...	...	...	...	Private	Quantrill, J.....	159	20	15	13	2
		31	Forth	13	485	583	99	62	1229	94.53	5	5	2	1	40.70	42.97	9	566.22	9	87	9.66	Sergeant	Hayes, E. C.....	152	10	8	4	4		
		39	Penguin*	14	435	386	36	...	857	61.21	9	4	1	...		29.61	...	...	...	...	...	Private	Clarke, H.....	124	18	11	7	4
		24	Castra	12	400	600	129	60	1189	99.08	3	5	4	...		45.03	10	575.70	10	71	7.10	Private	M'Laren, F.	131	16	12	8	4		
8	Clyde	35	Bothwell*	11	301	431	124	33	889	80.81	6	2	3	...	47.27	37.73	...	...	...	...	...	Lieut.	Reid, A. A.....	134	4	12	8	4
		5	Hollow Tree.....	12	449	697	267	90	1503	125.25	1	1	5	5		56.93	11	746.72	11	132	12.	Sergeant	Andrews, E.	155	11	1	...	1		
1	Channel	2	LittleOyster Cove	14	470	1042	370	117	1999	142.78	1	...	3	10		64.90	13	967.38	13	177	13.61	Private	Jackson, S. H.....	179	14	1	1	...		
		18	Kingston	11	331	594	162	75	1162	105.63	2	5	2	2	59.05	48.01	10	505.	10	57	5.70	Corporal	Firth, S. V.	149	19	9	7	2		
		3	Margate	12	483	830	254	99	1666	138.83	...	1	4	7		63.10	12	857.08	12	81	6.75	Sergeant	Meredith, C. C.....	167	16	5	2	3		
2	East Devon.....	7	Sheffield	24	929	1522	403	122	2976	124.	6	4	5	9	56.36	56.36	23	1627.04	23	191	8.30	Private	Wootton, T.	192	39	18	9	9		
11	SouthChannel...	22	Dover	16	524	806	204	91	1625	101.56	5	4	5	2	46.16	46.16	12	756.25	12	74	6.16	Private	Stubbs, T.....	141	13	7	4	3		
6	Wellington ..	1	Burnie	8	347	588	180	66	1181	147.62	...	...	1	7		67.67	7	385.42	7	61	8.71	Sergeant	Tong, J.....	169	12	5	2	3
		37	Somersset	9	263	383	38	16	700	77.77	5	2	2	...		35.35	3	206.66	2	22	11.	Sergeant	Clark, A.	118	7	6	4	2		
		21	Table Cape	18	684	866	183	112	1845	102.50	6	4	4	4	47.88	46.59	14	825.85	14	103	7.35	Sergeant	Stutterd, F.....	146	23	10	6	4		
		6	Stanley	21	867	1278	358	115	2618	124.66	3	3	8	7		56.66	21	1386.57	21	177	8.42	Lieut.	Spicer, H. G.....	173	27	7	...	7		
		36	Waratah*	18	561	701	190	...	1452	80.66	11	3	4	...		36.66	...	...	...	...	...	Corporal	Warburton, J.....	132	17	10	8	2
10	Tamar	23	Lefroy	23	712	1120	305	146	2283	99.26	7	5	9	2		45.11	20	753.75	20	117	5.85	Private	Huxley, A.....	143	22	12	5	7		
		16	Beaconsfield	9	294	477	147	63	981	109.	2	3	3	1	46.25	49.54	8	617.62	8	108	13.50	Corporal	Lyons, J.....	158	22	15	11	4		
		26	George Town ...	2	50	91	37	18	196	98.	...	2	...	...		44.54	2	168.	2	23	11.50	Private	Lathey, J.....	101	17	19	17	2
7	Esk	20	Longford	17	570	851	213	119	1753	103.11	4	7	3	3	47.58	46.87	17	1026.	17	169	9.94	Private	Drew, G.	161	19	7	6	1		
		15	Carrick	5	175	276	58	41	550	110.00	...	3	2	...		50.	5	397.80	5	55	11.	Cr.-Sergt.	Dineen, G.	126	16	13	12	1		
12	Cornwall.....	17	Fingal	15	440	777	249	124	1590	106.	2	7	5	1		48.18	15	1067.06	15	196	13.06	Private	Curtis, L.	144	29	16	12	4		
		27	St. Mary's.....	16	466	757	209	124	1556	97.25	5	5	3	3	45.78	44.20	15	503.33	15	131	8.73	Private	Binns, W.	160	18	2	1	1		
		25	Avoca	9	309	422	126	26	883	98.11	3	2	1	3		44.59	3	268.66	3	43	14.33	Sergeant	Barnes, A.....	156	8	8	6	2		
16	Huon	38	Geeveston	11	274	336	80	59	743	68.09	8	3	...	...	36.34	30.95	11	454.09	11	94	8.72	Captain	Hill, R.	101	14	15	8	7
		32	Huonville	11	322	498	128	72	1020	92.72	4	4	3	...		42.14	10	575.70	10	118	11.80	Sergeant	Skinner, W.....	120	27	27	15	12		
5	Meander	13	Deloraine	18	550	1045	312	114	2021	112.27	2	6	5	5		51.03	15	1318.73	15	214	14.26	Private	Archer, C. M.....	151	26	13	9	4		
		30	Westbury	10	315	460	115	56	946	94.60	4	4	2	...	49.15	43.	10	545.40	10	98	9.80	Private	Barnard, —	120	18	11	7	4		
		14	Chudleigh	17	593	935	240	131	1899	111.70	...	9	7	1		50.77	9	616.77	15	202	13.46	Private	Horne, V.....	145	17	...	...	...
13	Derwent	33	Brighton	6	199	254	57	36	546	91.	3	2	1	...	41.36	41.36	5	255.	5	50	10.	P ivate	Halley, N.	118	11	7	1	6		
15	Portland	—	St. Helen's† .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36.98	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	27	18	9	
		34	Gould's Country.	16	454	643	122	83	1302	81.37	9	4	1	2		36.98	13	544.15	13	106	8.15	Private	Johnston, W.....	140	21	24	18	6		
	Somersset.....	—	Tunnack ‡.....	
			TOTALS	547	18,499	28,213	7734	3285	57,731	105.54	138	152	142	115	47.97	...	427	2467	5.77	432	4099	9.48	776	438	267	171		

* Register of Volley and Attack Practices not sent in.

† Recruits' Course only.

‡ No Returns.

Figure of Merit of the individual firing is obtained as laid down in paragraph 120 of Musketry Regulations, 1892, based on the total number of rounds (47) allotted for individual Practices.

Musketry Badges are to be worn on left forearm, one inch above point of cuff. No man can wear more than one Musketry Badge. These badges are only worn for one year, i.e., badges issued for Annual Course 1892 will be discontinued when the badges for 1893 are issued. Officers commanding Detachments are requested to see this regulation carried out.

A. H. WARNER, Colonel Commandant.