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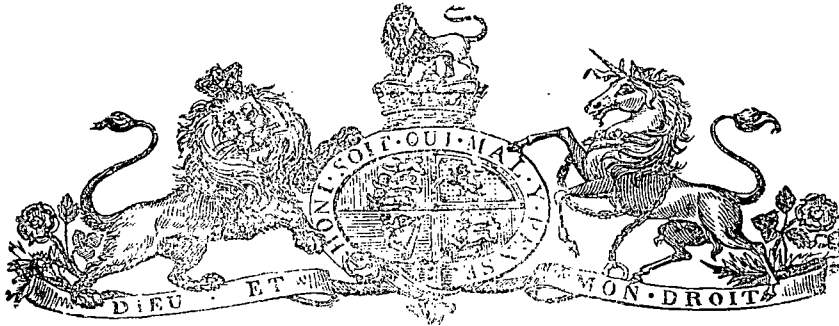
T A S M A N I A .

H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y .

D E F E N C E S :

E V I D E N C E T A K E N B Y R O Y A L C O M M I S S I O N .

Laid upon the Table by the Premier, and ordered by the House to be printed,
November 1, 1882.



VOLUNTEER FORCE INQUIRY COMMISSION.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

THURSDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER, 1882.

THE Commission met at the Military Barracks.

Members present—Lieut.-Colonel Home, *Commandant Local Forces, President*; Lieut.-Colonel Garnett; Lieut.-Colonel Warner; Major Fysh, T.V.R. Regt.; Major Crowther, S.T.V. Artillery.

The Defence Report of Colonel Scratchley, C.M.G., R.E., of the 15th June, 1882, was circulated among the Members of the Commission. Encl. A.
See Parl.
Paper, H.A.,
No. 77 of 1882.
Encl. B.

The Memorandum on Defence Organization, submitted by the Commandant, 10th July, 1882, for the consideration of Government, was read by the Secretary.

Both Reports were discussed with a view of obtaining information as to the best course to be pursued in the future transaction of the business of the Commission.

The Commission adjourned until 11 A.M. on Friday, the 8th September.

FRIDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER, 1882.

Members present.—Lieut.-Colonel Home, *Commandant Local Forces, President*; Lieut.-Colonel Garnett; Lieut.-Colonel Warner; Major Fysh, T.V.R. Regt.; Major Crowther, S.T.V. Artillery.

The Commission was read by the Secretary.

Colonel Home laid before the Commission the following Reports from Officers of the Local Forces :—

Major Just, Commanding Launceston Volunteer Rifle Regiment.	Encl. C.
Captain Collins, Commanding Launceston Volunteer Artillery.	Encl. D.
Captain Boddam, Staff Officer Local Forces.	Encl. E.
Captain Hunt, Staff Officer, Northern Division.	Encl. F.

The Reports were read by the Secretary, and considered by the Commission.

Major Fysh having been called upon by the Commission, made the Statement attached. Encl. G.

Major Crowther promised to furnish a statement at the next Meeting of the Commission.

It was resolved, after consideration, that the Local Forces of the Colony should be composed of 345 Artillery; 50 Engineers; 480 Infantry: Total, 875.

A detailed statement of the Establishment to be appended to the Report of the Commission.

Colonel Home laid on the Table Acts 42 Vict. Nos. 12 and 13.

Encls. H & K.

Act 42 Vict. No 13 was read by the Secretary ; and after consideration it was resolved that this Act, with the omission of Clause 20 and the addition of a paragraph to Clause 9 referring to the enrolment of the Force under Officers appointed by the Governor, should be recommended for adoption.

The Commission adjourned until 11 A.M. on Monday, the 11th September.

MONDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1882.

Members present.—Lieut.-Colonel Home, *Commandant Local Forces, President*; Lieut.-Colonel Garnett; Lieut.-Colonel Warner; Major Fysh, T.V.R. Regt.; Major Crowther, S.T.V. Artillery.

On the motion of Major Crowther, it was resolved that the Officers Commanding Corps in the Northern Division should be requested to present themselves before the Commission for the purpose of giving evidence, or if unable to attend, that they should detail an Officer to represent them. Also, that the Staff Officer, Northern Division, be requested to attend for the same purpose.

On the motion of Lieut.-Colonel Garnett, it was resolved that three Members should form a quorum at all future meetings of the Commission.

Encl. L. Major Crowther laid upon the table the report called for at the last meeting of the Commission. The Report was read, and attached to the Proceedings.

After due consideration and discussion, the following Resolutions were agreed to :—

That the constitution of the Local Forces of the Colony should be a Volunteer Militia; but that the present Cavalry Force be maintained, without greater cost to the Colony than is now authorised.

That, provided an Inspecting Officer be procured from the Imperial Service for the inspection of the Defence Forces of the Australian Colonies conjointly, this Colony contribute towards the maintenance of such an Officer.

That a Staff be maintained at an expense of £3265, composed of a Commandant, Officer Commanding Northern Division, Staff Officer, 3 Adjutants, 4 Instructors, Store Staff, Labourers, and Messenger.

That members of the Force be enrolled for a term of three years, and that they should not be allowed to resign except on account of continued ill health or on leaving the Colony.

If obliged to leave the Colony, they should only be allowed to do so on payment of a fine to cover the cost of clothing issued to them; the fine to be reduced in proportion to the length of service rendered.

Members of the Force only to be enrolled between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, except in the case of buglers and trumpeters, and after medical examination.

The standard of height for Artillery, except drivers and ambulance men, to be 5 feet 7 inches, and for Infantry, 5 feet 5 inches. Chest measurement, Artillery, 34 inches; Infantry, 33 inches.

Time-expired men can re-enrol, if approved by the Commanding Officer.

After six years' efficient service Members of the Force to be allowed to join a Reserve Force.

Members who have been efficient during their term of service shall, after re-engagement, be obliged to attend only such drills as may be ordered by the Commandant.

There shall be ordered by the Commandant, after consultation with the Commanding Officers, during each year,—for the Artillery Branch of the service, 8 whole day and 12 half-day parades, besides 6 days' continuous training; for the Infantry, 6 whole days, 12 half-day parades, and six days' continuous training.

No member shall be classed as efficient, in the Artillery, unless he shall have attended at least 6 whole day, 8 half-day, 3 days' continuous training, besides 18 evening parades; and, in the Infantry, unless he shall have attended 4 whole day, 8 half-day, 3 days' continuous training, and 12 evening parades.

That members of the Force be paid according to the following scale :—

Major, £12; Captain, £10; Lieutenant, £9; Sergeant, 8s., and 3s. 6d.; Corporal, 7s., and 3s.; Private 6s., and 2s. 6d.,—for whole and half-day parades.

That the extra duties of Staff Sergeants, except those performed by the Instructors, being merely nominal, no higher pay than that of Sergeant should be awarded.

The formation of the Torpedo Corps was discussed, and postponed until further information could be obtained.

TUESDAY, 12TH SEPTEMBER, 1882.

Members present.—Lieut.-Colonel Home, *Commandant Local Forces, President*; Lieut.-Colonel Garnett; Lieut.-Colonel Warner; Major Fysh, T.V.R. Regt.; Major Crowther, S.T.V. Artillery.

Lieutenant Harrap, Launceston Volunteer Artillery, was examined by the Commission, and made the Encl. M. statements appended.

Captain Hunt, Staff Officer, Northern Division, was examined, and also made the statements appended. Encl. N.

Lieut.-Colonel Home laid before the Commission a report by the Staff Officer giving further information Encl. O. with reference to the Torpedo Corps, as requested by the Commissioners at the last meeting.

It was resolved that a Torpedo Corps, as recommended in the above-mentioned report, be proposed; and in order to save expense in training and in the provision of a Staff and suitable accommodation; that the Corps be trained at Hobart, half a section being sent to Launceston in war time.

It was resolved after due consideration—

That the Officers be appointed by the Governor, under the provisions of the Act 42 Vict. No. 13.

That all Officers, both Commissioned and Non-commissioned, who have not already passed, shall pass a test examination within one year after their appointment.

That all Officers now serving, if re-appointed, shall hold the same relative rank and seniority as at present, the actual dates of commissions being preserved.

Promotion should be by seniority, provided that the Officer has passed the necessary examination for the higher grade and is recommended by the Commanding Officer.

The Committee recommended that the present plan of appointing Officers after election by the men be abolished; and that in remodelling the Force only those Officers should be selected who are thoroughly qualified.

Country Corps should be encouraged, arms and accoutrements should be issued when available, and ammunition sold at cost price to them; but they should not be maintained at the expense of the Government.

A prescribed Course of Musketry and Gunnery Instruction should be compulsory for all efficient Members of the Force.

The Government should provide ammunition for sale at a reduced rate, and provide proper Markers on all Rifle Ranges.

WEDNESDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER, 1882.

Members present.—Lieut.-Colonel Home, *Commandant Local Forces, President*; Lieut.-Colonel Garnett; Lieut.-Colonel Warner; Major Fysh, T.V.R. Regt.; Major Crowther, S.T.V. Artillery.

Major T. C. Just, Launceston Volunteer Rifle Regiment, appeared before the Commission, by direction Encl. P. of the President, and made the statements herewith attached.

Captain Evans, Southern Tasmanian Volunteer Artillery, appeared before the Commission and made Encl. Q. the statements attached.

After discussion and deliberation, the following proposals were agreed to :—

That if the present Force be disbanded before the 1st January, 1883, that it would be desirable to allow the Capitation Grant, and allow full service to be reckoned, for the year 1882.

That the whole Force be armed with the latest improved weapon issued to the Imperial Army, and that accoutrements intrenching tools, and camp equipage be provided according to a schedule to be appended to the Report.

That the Commandant should order daylight drills and parades after consultation with the Commanding Officers of Corps.

That Garrison Instruction be imparted by the Staff Officers under the supervision of the Commandant.

That Cadet Corps should be assisted, as far as possible, by allowing the services of the paid Staff when not required for other duties.

That the yearly allowance of ammunition should be at the rate of 100 rounds per battery, and 90 rounds per infantry man. 50 rounds should be allowed for the Artillery Course of Musketry Instruction.

That the amount provided for prizes for good shooting be competed for under conditions arranged by a Committee of Officers, presided over by the Commandant.

That the Course of Musketry Instruction may be carried out during the daylight parades ordered by the Commandant.

The duties of the Adjutants should be clearly defined and specified, as far as possible, to be in accordance with those prescribed by the Imperial Volunteer Regulations.

That Officers who shall prove themselves qualified shall be granted a passed certificate, and Non-commissioned Officers be entitled to wear a proficiency badge.

In case of disobedience of orders, or refusal to comply with the award of a Commanding Officer, a member of the Force should be liable to be tried by a Court Martial, and if found guilty sentenced to a fine not exceeding £5 or with the alternative of 10 days' imprisonment.

A member of the Force absent without leave from parade not only to lose his pay for that parade, but to be fined an equivalent amount; if absent for five consecutive parades without leave, unless on account of ill health, he is to be liable to a fine of £5 or ten days' imprisonment. Volunteers likewise to be subjected to fines, or in default imprisonment for offences against discipline.

The members of the Force should be paid by quarterly instalments for actual services rendered.

That the Capitation Grant of 50s. should be provided for the first year, and the Force properly equipped on starting. The amount may be reduced in future years to 30s.

THURSDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER, 1882.

Members present.—Lieut.-Colonel Home, *Commandant Local Forces, President*; Lieut.-Colonel Garnett; Lieut.-Colonel Warner; Major Fysh, T.V.R. Regt.; Major Crowther, S.T.V. Artillery.

After discussion, the following Resolutions were agreed to :—

That retirement for Combatant Officers should be compulsory on attaining the age of 60 years.

That a Military Library is necessary, and that a yearly grant should be set apart for its maintenance.

That sufficient ground, if obtainable, should be purchased or reserved on existing Rifle Ranges to enable the Force to go through the proper course of Musketry.

That ambulance men should be exempted from the standard laid down as to height and chest measurement.

That Commanding Officers of Corps should have the right of granting eight hours' leave during the period of continuous training.

On the motion of Major Fysh, the attached Resolution was agreed to :—

That the thanks of the Commission are due and are hereby tendered to Captain Boddam, our Secretary, to whose promptitude, ability, and untiring application to this work largely is due the early termination of the Commission's sitting, and that his services are justly entitled to liberal compensation by the Government.

The Draft Report was read and adopted.

Enclosure A.

[See Parliamentary Paper, H.A., No. 77 of 1882.]

Enclosure B.

Head Quarters, Hobart, 10th July, 1882.

SIR,

IN forwarding the enclosed Memorandum on Defence Organization, I beg respectfully at the same time to call attention to the urgent necessity for providing a Commandant who shall be an Officer of experience from the active list of the Army.

In the other Colonies it is proposed to contribute towards the expenses of supporting an Inspecting Field Officer from the Imperial Service. I beg to recommend that this Colony also obtain a share of the services of such an Officer.

As it is impossible to pay a high salary and engage an Officer of high rank for the command of the Forces, the assistance of such an Officer would make up for any want of experience in the Commandant.

I have, &c.

R. C. D. HOME, *Lt.-Col., Commandant Local Forces.**To the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.**Head Quarters, Hobart, 10th July, 1882.*

SIR,

IN reply to your Memo. of the 8th inst., I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following proposals for the reorganization of the Local Forces, and the perfection of the scheme of Defence recommended by Sir Wm. Jervois; such proposals being based upon the Memorandum forwarded by Colonel Scratchley, R.E., bearing date 15th June.

It is proposed to point out—1st. The actual requirements of the Colony with respect to Local Forces. 2nd. The most economical method of obtaining a Force which will meet the requirements. 3rd. The shortcomings of the present Force, and the necessary steps which should be taken to raise it to the required standard.

1. Colonel Scratchley, in his Memo. on Defence Organization, sums up the requirements of all schemes of Defence to be much as follows :—

- (a.) Such scheme of Defence must be based on the system recommended for New South Wales, modifications only being made to suit local requirements.
- (b.) It is absolutely necessary to maintain a small well-trained Force, ready at all times to work the guns efficiently, and sufficient in numbers to guard the works on the outbreak of hostilities. The best method of maintaining the defensive works at all times in proper order is a question of economy, and only a means to an end. It would not necessitate the enrolment of Regular Troops.
- (c.) The balance of the Force required for the works, and a Field Force necessary to repel landings, should be furnished by Auxiliary Forces.
- (d.) It would be necessary to pay the Auxiliary Force for attendance in daylight, the scale of payments being greater or less according to the means and requirements of the Colony; and the limit will have to be considered where numbers will economically cease to make up for efficiency.
- (e.) Unpaid Volunteer Forces are only useful for the encouragement of rifle shooting.
- (f.) The Force must be properly officered.

There can be no doubt as to the accuracy of the principles set forth above, and it is proposed, therefore, to adhere to them in the reorganization of the Force; at the same time economy will necessitate only the enrolment of such numbers as are absolutely necessary to carry out the defensive measures proposed, and also a partial training being given in the place of the regular training required in the larger schemes of Defence.

<i>Distribution.</i>	<i>No. of Guns.</i>			<i>Trained Force.</i>				<i>Auxiliary.</i>			<i>Total.</i>
	Heavy.	Medium.	Light.	Artillery.	Engineers.	Infantry.	Total.	Artillery.	Infantry.	Total.	
<i>Hobart—</i>											
Alexandra Battery .....	...	2	3	28	...	40	68	48	40	88	156
Kangaroo Bluff Battery.....	2	...	2	44	...	40	84	22	...	22	106
Queen's Battery .....	...	...	7	28	...	...	28	73	...	73	101
Torpedo Defences .....	...	...	...	...	30	...	30	...	...	...	30
Field Force { Artillery .....	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	32	...	32	32
{ Infantry .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	210	210	210
<i>Launceston—</i>											
Brown's Bluff Battery.....	...	...	2	20	...	...	20	20	...	20	40
Torpedo Defences .....	...	...	...	...	20	...	20	...	...	20	20
Field Force { Artillery .....	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	30	...	30	30
{ Infantry .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	150	150
TOTAL.....	2	2	18	120	50	80	250	225	400	625	875

The above are the number of trained and partially trained troops that are absolutely necessary to render of real value the works that are being carried out. The total number must hold good whatever organization is adopted, as they are the lowest that will suffice for the carrying out of the proposed scheme in its entirety. The numbers include officers and non-commissioned officers.

It is generally considered that to work heavy guns efficiently the whole of the detachment must be trained men; that with medium guns one-half the number must be thoroughly trained; and that with light guns one-fourth will suffice as the portion of trained men required. It is necessary that all submarine miners should be thoroughly trained.

On the above data the proportions have been based, 50 per cent. numbers being allowed per gun.

In addition to Artillery and Engineers it has been considered necessary to add a small number of properly trained Infantry. Two of the defensive works are isolated, and much exposed to land attacks. It would not only be necessary to partially garrison them with Infantry, but also to provide a small Force to perform the guard and necessary outpost duties for each on the outbreak of war. These duties could not be efficiently performed except by well trained troops. Trained Infantry are recommended, as they are more easily trained, cost less, and would perform the duties most efficiently.

As regards the Field Force, as it would not be opposed to any well organized body of Land Forces, and as two or three cruisers even could not possibly land more than 200 men and a couple of light guns, the numbers will suffice.

The Infantry might be increased 50 per cent. without difficulty on the outbreak of war.

2. The requirements having been determined as 250 Trained and 625 Auxiliary Troops, the question arises as to how the numbers are to be obtained at a minimum cost, compatible with efficiency?

It is submitted that no Volunteer Force such as is organized in the other Australian Colonies, even when paid for attendance in daylight, could be expected to perform efficiently the duties required of the Trained Force necessary for Tasmania. A proper knowledge of these duties can only be obtained by continuous training. The duties, however, are not sufficiently numerous or arduous in this Colony to necessitate the enrolment of a Permanent Force, even if the outlay could in any way be afforded. It is considered that one month's continuous training would practically make a man as efficient in the duties required of him in this Colony as twelve would in England, his real duties being about a twelfth as numerous. It is therefore suggested that the portion of the Force which would on the outbreak of war have to perform the duties of a Regular Force should have one month's continuous training during the most favourable time of the year, besides two night drills per month.

If a Militia is provided, the remainder of the Force could be composed of Volunteers, paid, for two whole days attendance at 10s., and two half-days at 5s. per diem, and required to attend in addition two other drills per month, for which they would not receive payment. An estimate has been submitted (Enclosure A.) based on the above suggestions.

In explanation:—The Militia could, in the first instance, be obtained by voluntary enlistment, and in the future, when the Colony can afford more training, by a regular Militia Bill. It is proposed at first to give the men sufficient continuous training by establishing a standing camp, and by calling out the Militia for twenty-eight days on actual Military Service. The men would have to be present at the camp during the period, but, with the exception of the three first and the three last days, would be given leave during the working hours and on Sundays. Ordinary guard and routine duties would be gone through during the first three days, drills and exercises taught during the mornings and evenings of the days on which leave was granted, and the actual duties required of the Force during war time practised during the three last days of the encampment. In this manner it is considered that a considerable amount of efficiency might be obtained. It would be as well to point out here, that although the system advocated is new to the Colonies it has been practised with much success both in England and on the Continent.

By means of standing camps, and granting leave during certain hours, many Volunteer Corps are in England enabled to obtain continuous training which could not otherwise be hoped for. There is also no doubt but that many Volunteers would be able to be present for part of the time at the encampment, and that in this manner more efficiency could be obtained from officers and men of the Volunteer Force without going to the expense of making continuous training compulsory. It would, of course, be preferable to have a regular Militia, but the method proposed is in any case a step in the right direction, and the best way of obtaining real efficiency without great expense.

The only other method that could be adopted would be to have a paid Volunteer Force of the required number of men, and made up by partial training and increase of efficiency in the Force, taken as a whole, for the special training of a portion. An estimate is also submitted (Enclosure B.), which shows the cost of a Volunteer Force on the system proposed for Queensland, the lowest in cost of any advocated.

It is, however, submitted that in the case of Tasmania, where works have to be manned and submarine mines laid, increase even in numbers cannot make up for the actual efficiency required of a certain portion of the Force, and that numerous well paid Volunteers will never do away with the necessity for a small proportion of continuously trained Troops.

3. The shortcomings of the present Force, and the necessary modifications in its organization and Government, must necessarily be gone into at great length; but it would be as well to point out that the present Force could easily be brought up to the required standard if a Militia is to be provided.

On the other hand, if the Force is to be organized on the Queensland model, it will be necessary to entirely disband the present Force, as it cannot be brought as now constituted to the required standard.

I beg also to recommend that the Militia be armed with the best weapon obtainable, and proper equipment, in accordance with the attached list, be provided (Enclosure C.) One hundred Martini Rifles should also be provided for the arming of the Marksmen in the Auxiliary Forces.

These items should be charged to the Defence Bill which will have to be raised for the completion of the works, as they would suffice for the use of the Force for many years.

It has been proposed to add slightly to the number of the staff. When going into the organization of the existing Force the reasons for the increase will be fully set forth. It is proposed to obtain good warrant officers from the army, and give them commissions as Adjutants in the Force. This class of officer would cost less, and perform the duties required of them more efficiently, than young officers from the Imperial Service.

The whole of the above has been carefully considered in conjunction with Captain Boddam, as requested in your Memorandum.

I have, &c.

To the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

R. C. D. HOME, Lt.-Col., Commandant Local Forces.

ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE.

PERMANENT STAFF.

	<i>Salaries.</i>					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Consulting Engineer and Inspecting Officer	150	0	0			
Commandant	500	0	0			
Officer Commanding Northern Division	300	0	0			
Staff Officer and Officer Commanding Militia Artillery	300	0	0			
Adjutant Northern Division, and Officer Commanding Militia Northern Division	200	0	0			
Adjutant Artillery Militia and Volunteers	200	0	0			
Adjutant Infantry, Hobart, and Officer Commanding Militia Infantry	200	0	0			
Serjeant-Major, Hobart	150	0	0			
Torpedo Instructors—one at £180, one at £50	230	0	0			
Two Instructors—one for Artillery, and one for Northern Division	240	0	0			
Master Gunner	150	0	0			
Assistant Master Gunner	120	0	0			
Four Storekeepers	300	0	0			
Messenger	45	0	0			
				3085	0	0
<i>Allowances.</i>						
Travelling Expenses Inspecting Officer	15	0	0			
Ditto Commandant	50	0	0			
Ditto Officer Commanding Northern Division	50	0	0			
Ditto Staff Officer	50	0	0			
				165	0	0
<i>Contingencies.</i>						
Stationery, &c., £30; Fuel and Light, £60	90	0	0			
Advertising, £5; Clothing, £50; Incidental Expenses, £20	75	0	0			
				165	0	0
				<u>£3415</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

DISTRIBUTION.

	No. of Guns.			Trained Force.				Auxiliary.			Totals.
	Heavy.	Medium.	Light.	Artillery.	Engineers.	Infantry.	Total.	Artillery.	Infantry.	Total.	
<i>Hobart—</i>											
Alexandra Battery .....	...	2	3	28	...	40	68	48	40	88	156
Kangaroo Bluff Battery	2	...	2	44	...	40	84	22	...	22	106
Queen's Battery .....	...	...	7	28	...	...	28	73	...	73	101
Torpedo Defences .....	...	...	...	...	30	...	30	...	...	...	30
Field Force { Artillery .....	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	32	...	32	32
{ Infantry .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	210	210	210	210
<i>Launceston—</i>											
Brown's Bluff Battery .....	...	...	2	20	...	...	20	20	...	20	40
Torpedo Defences .....	...	...	...	...	20	...	20	...	...	...	20
Field Force { Artillery .....	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	30	...	30	30
{ Infantry .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	150	150	150
TOTAL	2	2	18	120	50	80	250	225	400	625	875

ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE—(Militia Basis).

<i>Militia—</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Pay for two Officers at £20 each	40	0	0			
225 Non-commissioned Officers and Men at £7 10s.	1687	10	0			
Extra pay for five Non-commissioned Officers at £5, 12 at £3 each	61	0	0			
Clothing, &c., at £4 each (first cost).....	900	0	0			
Expenses of Encampment at 10s. each	112	10	0			
				2801	0	0
<i>Volunteer Force—</i>						
Pay for 675 Volunteers at £2 10s. per man	1687	10	0			
Capitation, £1 10s. per man	1012	10	0			
				2700	0	0
Contingencies and Miscellaneous Expenses as under				1252	10	0
				£6753	10	0

ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE—(Queensland Basis).

<i>Volunteer Force—</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
875 Non-commissioned Officers and Men at £6 each	5250	0	0			
36 Non-commissioned Officers at £3 extra, 48 at £2 extra	204	0	0			
				5454	0	0
Capitation Grant at £1 10s. per man .....	...			1312	10	0
Contingencies and Miscellaneous Expenses, as under .....	...			1252	0	0
				£8018	10	0

Contingencies and Miscellaneous Expenses.

	£	s.	d.
Repairs to Arms, £30; repairs to Rifle Range and Rent, £50.....	80	0	0
Ammunition	300	0	0
Fuel and Light	100	0	0
Cartage, £10; Advertising, £40; Drill Stores, £30	80	0	0
Repairs to Buildings	50	0	0
Torpedo Explosives, Stores, and Electric Lighting	100	0	0
Prizes for Shooting	150	0	0
Expenses in connection with Magazines	242	10	0
Maintenance of Batteries	150	0	0
	£1252	10	0
<i>Militia and Auxiliary Forces</i>	6753	10	0
<i>Permanent Staff</i>	3465	0	0
	£10,218	10	0
<i>Militia Volunteers—Queensland basis</i>	8068	10	0
<i>Permanent Staff</i>	3465	0	0
	£11,533	10	0

Enclosure C.

REMARKS and Suggestions by Major T. C. JUST on subjects referred to him by order of the Commandant for the information of the Military Commission appointed to report on "The Present State and the Method of reorganizing the Volunteer Force of the Colony."

Launceston, 6th September, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor, in accordance with the request contained in the letter of the Staff Officer (Capt. Boddam), dated 2nd instant, to submit remarks and suggestions on the subjects mentioned in that letter for the information of the Military Commission convened "for the purpose of reporting on the present state and the method of reorganizing the Volunteer Force of the Colony."

1st. *Authorised and Present Establishment.—Distribution of the Force.*

In the main I approve of the establishment and distribution of the Force, as specified in "Orders by the Commandant" of 31st December, 1880; but would recommend as follows:—

- (a.) That Batteries of Artillery be maintained at their full war strength, with full complement of officers, at least until an efficient Reserve Force is secured. It takes a considerable period to train an efficient artilleryman, and should the present force be required for actual defence work I fear it would be found numerically weak. Each Battery should be fully equipped with the latest and most approved guns and weapons.

- (b.) The war strength of Infantry should be declared. While the present establishment of companies is sufficient for times of peace, they should be capable of being made up to full strength on short notice. The Launceston Rifle Regiment should be immediately made up to three companies that they may be properly trained to work in conjunction with Artillery. At present battalion drill can only be undertaken efficiently by parading the Artillery as Infantry; Artillery, as a rule, object to this, and "friction" is engendered. When the Regiment is alone I have to work a skeleton battalion by the use of ropes. As I understand frequent daylight drills are contemplated in the proposed new organization, it will be very desirable the several branches of the service should be practised to work together as a Field Force, and to this end the Infantry should be strong enough to render efficient support to the guns, and *per se* to acquire a thorough knowledge of battalion work.
- (c.) The present establishment does not provide for clerical work, of which there is a great deal in connection with every Corps. Every Commanding Officer should be allowed a paid Orderly-room Clerk. I observe considerable irregularity in my own Regiment, but cannot check it efficiently, having no officer whose special duty it is to do the work. A small salary, of say £30 a year, would provide the necessary assistance, and be money well spent.
- (d.) It would promote efficiency if Sergeant-Major Instructors occasionally exchanged stations for a few months. In small forces there is a tendency on the part of such officers to become too familiar with the rank and file, and discipline suffers in consequence. Should it ever be necessary for the Northern and Southern Divisions to take the field, there would be a decided advantage in having the Instructors familiar with the internal working of both Divisions.
- (e.) The Band question has always been a difficult one, and a cause of dissension in the Service. A good Band is an essential in a military force, and I would suggest that Garrison Bands be established at Hobart and Launceston, to be managed by a Committee of Officers to be appointed by the Commandant. The Committee to fix the annual subscription, which each Officer of the Force should have to pay, and the balance of expense to be provided by Government in the form of a subsidy. Instruments for both Bands should be provided by Government at the outset, and be Government property.

2nd. Laws and Regulations.—Corps Rules.

The present Standing Orders and Regulations require complete revision, and I suggest that, when the basis of reorganization is decided upon, Commanding Officers of Corps and Regiments be appointed a Committee to formulate new Standing Orders and Regulations suited to the new organization. In present circumstances it is unnecessary to enter into detail of objections.

3rd. Present Condition of the Force.

The present condition of the Volunteer Force is by no means satisfactory, nor does the Colony obtain a service equivalent to the expenditure. My opinions on this point are recorded in the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Assembly (Parliamentary Paper No. 104, Session 1879, and report of speech in the House of Assembly enclosed herewith).

In any reorganization I hold it to be absolutely essential—

- 1st. That the men should be enrolled and made to take the oath of allegiance for two years at the very least.
- 2nd. That a physical standard should be fixed of at least 5ft. 6in. in height; 33 inches chest measurement. All men to pass the Surgeon before being admitted.
- 3rd. That, once sworn in, men should be kept to their colors for the period for which they have taken the oath of allegiance. I recommend the South Australian system. Should a man's avocations take him out of town for a time, let him have up to three months' leave of absence on deposit of his address. If he desires to leave for a longer period, let him deposit £1, with his address. I would then give him what is termed "permanent leave." In each case arms, accoutrements, and uniform should be returned into store, labelled, and put aside till the man should rejoin. By this system, in the event of war, every absent man (on the proclamation being issued) would become a deserter, and subject to the provisions of Section 147, Army Discipline and Regulation Act, 1879, 42 and 43 Vict.) By such a system the Colony would not lose the services in time of need of men whose pay and training may have cost a considerable sum of money.

Detail matters connected with this subject should be left to the Committee on Standing Orders and Regulations suggested in Sect. 2 of these "Remarks." One subject, however, is worthy the attention of the Military Commission, viz., "the mode of recovering fines." Under present regulations, Commanding Officers have the power of levying fines for certain offences, but must go to the Magistrates to enforce them. I think the power which commands should have power to enforce obedience. Under the present system, between laying informations, attending Police Courts, &c., Volunteer Officers have to lose valuable time, and in nineteen out of twenty cases there is no defence whatever to the charges. I suggest that Commanding Officers of Corps or Regiments should have power to order payment of fines incurred under the Regulations within a given number of days, and power to levy, &c. should no defence be set up by warrant under their own hands directed to any constable. The Volunteer should have power to appeal to any two Justices in Petty Sessions within the time fixed should he desire to do so, in which case the Commanding Officer would have to make good his position. As it is, Commanding Officers do not care to incur the trouble of enforcing fines, seeing it involves a serious loss of valuable time.

4th. *Training of Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men (a); Gunnery and Musketry Instruction (b); Daylight Drills (c); Field Firing (d); and Encampments (e).*

(a.) Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men should have the best training compatible with the conditions of the Service. Periodical lectures should be delivered by the Instructors to all ranks, and Officers and Non-commissioned Officers should be required to drill their men frequently in order to give them confidence in the field. Many a man thoroughly versed in the Drill Book loses nerve when put in front of a company, simply from lack of practice.

(b.) Gunnery and Musketry are absolutely necessary, and prizes should be liberally offered for the most efficient gunners and proficient rifle shots.

(c.) Daylight Drills are all essential. There should be at least two per month, of not less than two hours' duration. There should also be a quarterly Field Day, when the whole Force should be paraded for the afternoon. These four afternoons should be declared public holidays by Act of Parliament, so as to give the general public an interest in the military display, which should be as imposing as possible. I observe the public of Launceston think nothing of making a general holiday at any time for a football or cricket match. How much more necessary where the military defence of the country is involved!

(d.) Field Firing is very necessary, and should be provided for wherever there are safe ranges. In this respect we are, however, very deficient. If it were possible to have a field day occasionally by the sea side, the men might be instructed in firing at floating targets, as I have seen it elsewhere. Failing something of this sort, a strict course of judging distance drill annually would be of the greatest importance, and should be insisted on.

(e.) *Encampments.*—I trust in any new organization Camp Equipment will be provided in its entirety. A week in camp would be of more real service than a year's desultory drill. After all, it is only the *first cost*, and with a properly organized Force this would be thoroughly repaid. In connection with this subject I would recommend that Government encourage the Officers of the Force to attend any great encampments held in the other Colonies. They would learn a great deal, and the Colony would profit by their knowledge. It is not likely many Officers would go, as they probably could not spare the time; but I recommend that Government pay the travelling and personal expenses of those willing to attend these camps. The very representation of Tasmania on such occasions would be a great indirect benefit to the country.

5th. *Appointment, Promotion, and Education of Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men.*

(a.) All appointments of Officers should be by the Governor. I do not, however, object to the system of nomination by the men. My experience of Colonial Governments is that "kissing goes by favour," and I think it more than likely that many ineligible men might be appointed were the matter left to Government patronage. In these Colonies, in such matters influence generally eclipses merit. I prefer that the men should nominate, and that the Governor should exercise his right of approving or otherwise.

(b.) Promotion should in all cases go by seniority, excepting where there is positive inefficiency.

(c.) The Education of Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men should be left to the Instructors. Every Officer should be required to pass a theoretical and practical examination within at least six months after appointment, and his commission should be provisional in the first instance.

Non-commissioned Officers should be nominated by Captains of Companies after examination. Their appointments should be subject to the approval of the Commanding Officer.

6th. *General Staff (a); Instructors (b); Inspecting Officers (c).*

(a.) The General Staff is at present well constituted, and I have no recommendations to make beyond that in Sub-sect. (d.), par. 1 of this Report. I think a salary should attach to the position of Staff Officer at Launceston.

(b.) Competent Instructors should be provided by Government for all Corps.

(c.) *Inspecting Officer.*—It is very necessary that a strict system of inspection be instituted in any new organization. A Military Officer who has already had experience of Volunteers should be appointed for this work. His advice and influence would have a most beneficial effect. He should be Inspecting Officer for the whole Colony, and should see that uniformity of system prevailed throughout the Force.

7th. *Rifle Companies and Volunteer Reserve.*

I am not favourable to encouraging bodies of men to assemble with arms unless under the control of the Crown. I think it possible in Colonies like these that civil disturbances may occur, when it would be very awkward to have a number of skilled shots, armed most probably with superior weapons, opposed to the Government Forces. Still I am quite favourable to the formation of Free Rifle Corps; and for this very purpose introduced and carried a Bill through Parliament in the year 1877. If you will refer to the Act 41st Vict. No. 25, as it now stands the law of the land, you will perceive there is every encouragement

for the formation of Volunteer Corps—Cavalry, Artillery, or Infantry—in any of our Towns or Country Districts. In any reorganization I should like to see the formation of such Corps encouraged, and should provide—

- 1st. That they be considered Auxiliary Companies of some Corps or Regiment of the particular branch of the Service to which they belong.
- 2nd. That they should wear the Uniform of that Corps or Regiment, with a distinguishing facing or badge.
- 3rd. That the Officer in charge should report monthly or quarterly to the Commanding Officer of his Corps, who should be required to inspect the Auxiliary Companies at least once a quarter.*

The advantages of this arrangement would be—

- (a.) To maintain a connection between the different branches of the Forces.
- (b.) To provide an Auxiliary Force from which Volunteer Corps could be brought up to full war strength at short notice.
- (c.) To give the Country Rifle Companies an interest in their work, from the knowledge that on regular field days they would be entitled, if they chose, to take their place with the Regular Forces.

Volunteer Reserve.—This is one of the most important adjuncts to the system of defence. Men should be passed into the Reserve after their two years' service, on a system similar to that proposed by me in the Bill submitted to the Select Committee (Parliamentary Paper No. 104, Session 1879). If this system is carried out, we shall have within the next six years from 500 to 800 men, besides the Volunteers, available for service, every one of them drilled men.

I have now exhausted the subjects mentioned in the letter of the Staff Officer, and beg to offer a few remarks upon *Reorganization* and *Equipment* :—

- 1st. I am opposed to the disbandment of existing Corps, and propose instead that all now in the Volunteer Force be required to take the *new Oath of Allegiance*, and to comply with the *new Regulations*. Men who refuse the *new Oath*, or do not come up to the required *new Standard* of physique, to be struck off the rolls. We should thus retain a trained nucleus for the new Force.
- 2nd. I would give a *time privilege* in the new organization to men who have served in the old, as proposed in the speech enclosed and in Section 8 of my proposed Bill. (Parliamentary Paper No. 104, Session 1879.)
- 3rd. Government and Parliament having decided on a certain Force, should *insist on its being maintained*. With the passage of the new Volunteer Act, I should pass a Militia Act, under which every citizen within fixed ages should be liable to have his name placed on a Roll, and from that Roll I should draw the number of men required, who *should be compelled either to serve personally or find a substitute*. I do not think the Militia Act would ever have to be enforced. To escape service themselves employers of labour would be only too glad to encourage their employees to join the Volunteer Force.

Equipment.

I strongly recommend that each branch of the Service be properly equipped with the best Arms and Accoutrements, and that the valise equipment, haversacks, water-bottles, blankets, and waterproof sheets be supplied the men. From a long experience of Volunteers, I am prepared to say that very few of the men would be able to march any distance in the boots in which they come to parades. I would recommend Government to keep in store a sufficient stock of ammunition boots for issue to the Forces should they ever have to take the field. The care of the feet is of the utmost importance if we want to have soldiers fit for their work.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

THOS. C. JUST, *Major Commanding*
Launceston Volunteer Rifle Regiment.

The Commandant Tasmanian Volunteer Forces.

A D D E N D A.

Jury Service.

It has often been suggested that Volunteers should be exempt from service on Juries. In this I quite concur. With the increasing population of the Colony I think this could now be conceded.

Dress Regulations and Uniforms.

It is very necessary that proper Dress Regulations should be at once issued, and I recommend the Victorian Dress Regulations as worthy of adoption. The dress of Officers has often been a subject of discussion, and I am aware some think the present expense too great. I once thought that a cheap uniform might be adopted with advantage, but experience has caused me to alter my opinion. I find the Officers who used to advocate economy in this direction the first to rush almost into extravagance in the matter of dress.

* NOTE.—See my letter to the Colonial Secretary on this subject, 20th February, 1882.

I am afraid that the adoption of a cheap style of uniform would tend to slovenliness amongst Officers, and that their example would have a bad effect upon the men. It is difficult enough to make our ordinary citizens look like soldiers, and nothing tends more towards that end than a smart uniform.

Sir Garnet Wolseley, in his *Soldier's Pocket-book*, says very truly, "The better you dress a soldier, the more highly he will be thought of by women, and consequently by himself. Dress is of much more consequence than Civil Ministers imagine."

Our Volunteer Forces have many social duties devolving upon them almost requiring a smart uniform, and I do not think any cheap system would be found satisfactory in practice.

It would be easy to say that no other uniform should be worn than a cheap undress. What would be the result? That in a few weeks it would be worn out, dirty, and unsightly. At the very first social entertainment the richer Officers would appear in new uniform; the poorer would decline to appear in uniform at all, because their own were shabby, and they could not afford others.

After due consideration, I come to the conclusion that the man who cannot or will not afford his outfit has no business to aspire to a Commission.

At the same time *Levee* Dress should be merely *optional*. Officers moving in society which requires it would supply themselves. Others need not do so unless they thought proper.

The cost of an Officer's kit might be reduced by Government following the example of the Government of South Australia, and issuing swords and accoutrements. The cost of a sufficient number would not be much, while uniformity would be ensured. An Officer retiring would return the articles into store, and would thus be saved a considerable present outlay and probably future loss. Second-hand swords and belts are not very saleable articles.

THOS. C. JUST, *Major Commanding L.V.R. Regiment.*

7th September, 1882.

P.S.—It might be desirable, when the proper time arrives, to leave the settlement of Dress Regulations and Uniforms in the hands of a Uniform Board, merely providing that one pattern be adopted for each particular branch of the Service.

Enclosure D.

Launceston Volunteer Artillery, Orderly Room, 5th September, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge receipt of your confidential communication of 2nd instant, and have endeavoured in the within report to place before the Commandant my views upon the various subjects mentioned in the letter under reply.

1. *Authorised and Present Establishment—Distribution of the Force.*

Authorised strength of L.V. Artillery (including Band)	88
Present establishment (without Band)	93

The strength of the L.V. Artillery is maintained in accordance with the authorised number; at present we are slightly beyond it. I have no difficulty in obtaining men, and would suggest that the strength of the battery be increased to 100 men, which there would be no difficulty in keeping, provided the suggestions mentioned hereafter be adopted. By increasing the strength the small number of men required for torpedo service could be obtained, as I am of opinion that this branch should be affiliated with the Artillery at Launceston.

2. *Laws and Regulations.—Corps Rules.*

The shorter and simpler the better. A few good rules which can and must be carried out is all that is wanted. A number of frivolous rules only serve to irritate the men. Great judgment should be used in the selection of the men offering for service, and the penalties of dismissal and enforcing payment for uniform in the event of any member failing in his service are, I think, the main points to be observed. I have found that the power of dismissal is quite sufficient to hold over the men to ensure compliance with the regulations.

3. *Present Condition of the Force.*

These remarks I must necessarily confine to the corps under my command, as I have no means of judging the condition of the other portions of the Force. I consider the battery as efficient as can be expected under the disadvantages of the present system. The roll is full, the men attend drill regularly, and are efficient in gunnery, so far as the obsolete weapons with which they are armed will allow. They take a great interest in rifle shooting, and I think I may say that for the strength of the corps a larger proportion of good shots are turned out than by any other corps. If there lacks anything it is not the fault of the men, but rather the want of proper appliances to enable them to acquire more knowledge. An excellent *esprit de corps* exists in all ranks.

4. *Training of Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men; Gunnery and Musketry Instruction; Daylight Drills; Field Firing; Encampments.*

The proper training of officers is decidedly one of the most essential points to be attended to. With the limited time at their disposal it becomes a great task upon officers to study themselves and be constant in their attendance at drill. I cannot see that in the Volunteer Force this can be attained otherwise than by book study, combined with the assistance and explanations of the instructor. Practical and theoretical examinations should take place periodically.

Non-commissioned officers and men are instructed by their officers and the instructor. They are examined practically and theoretically constantly.

In gunnery instruction, the men receive at the drill-ground all possible instruction in the use of the guns, but very little actual practice takes place, which is so necessary to gain thorough efficiency. I strongly advocate that a more liberal system be adopted for facilitating practice. Commanding Officers should always be able to obtain ammunition for this purpose without being put to the trouble and delay of making application to head-quarters and awaiting the fate of such, which often takes up a great deal of time. I would propose that the amount of garrison and field-gun ammunition to be expended annually be placed at the disposal of commanding officers, who should be allowed to draw upon it as occasion may offer for its use. Many times a number of the men might be found who would devote a half-holiday to shot and shell practice if the material were available, but where the doubt exists, and the time does not admit of all the formality of making application to head-quarters, it very often has the effect of causing other arrangements to be made. It must be distinctly understood that no extravagance or waste would be permitted, and that such practices would be for purposes of instruction and conducted under the proper authorities. Situated as we are at a considerable distance from our big-gun range, it often involves considerable trouble in getting the material to and from the range and in fixing and removing targets. With regard to the small-arm, it is perhaps needless to say that the weapon with which the corps is armed has long since been laid aside for actual practice, and some of the men have either loaned or purchased Martini-Henry rifles to enable them to take part in the various rifle contests. They should be encouraged to persevere in their attendance at the rifle range by arming them with Martini-Henry rifles and granting them a liberal allowance of ammunition. The price, also, charged to volunteers for Government M.-H. ammunition is excessively high, being at the rate of 9s. 2d. per 100 rounds, as compared with 6s. 8d. in Victoria. Even were the Government to lose a little by issuing ammunition for volunteer purposes at 5s. per 100 rounds, I consider it would be money well spent. A more liberal expenditure of money for prizes should also be made both for big gun and rifle competitions. Encampments are certainly a very pleasing and interesting mode of imparting instruction, and I have no doubt if they were held at convenient seasons, and the authorities provided the necessary equipment and means, they would prove of incalculable benefit to the Force.

5. *Appointment, Promotion, and Education of Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men.*

It has been found by the Launceston Volunteer Artillery that the method at present in force,—viz., of the members nominating those whom they desire to be placed as officers over them,—to be the most satisfactory plan yet proposed. It has worked well with this corps for over 22 years. The Government reserve to themselves the power of refusing the nomination if they think fit, and I cannot offer any suggestion that I think will improve upon this system.

6. *General Staff; Instructors; Inspecting Officer.*

I am not sufficiently acquainted with the duties of the staff officers to offer any suggestion under this head, but I think they should be paid, and their services be employed in instruction besides the clerical duties devolving upon them.

Instructors are indispensable. At present the L.V. Artillery has no paid Instructor attached to the corps. The Staff Sergeant-Major Instructor visits Launceston for a fortnight or so every three or four months, the instruction meanwhile being performed by the Assistant Master Gunner, without remuneration. I think it an injustice that a paid instructor has not been attached to the battery.

I think it very desirable that an annual inspection should be held by an independent officer, the result of which must be of great value where the inspection has been careful and sincere.

7. *Rifle Companies and Volunteer Reserve.*

In a few of the larger country towns rifle companies or clubs might be formed for the promotion of military training and proficiency in rifle shooting. I do not think it would be advisable to allow any formation of this sort that did not at least number 20 working members. They should be under the control of the volunteer authorities, and under suitable rules and regulations.

If funds could be provided without curtailing the amount necessary for the proper requirements of the Volunteer Force, I should like to see all men, upon their retirement from Volunteer Corps, join a reserve liable for duty if called upon, going through a certain number of drills annually.

General Remarks.

I should like to see each corps allowed the management of its own financial matters. Would it not be possible for the amount of capitation grant for the authorised strength of each battery or corps to be paid to the commanding officer of same at the beginning of each year, together with a fixed sum to meet such

expenses as hire of horses for field-guns, providing floating targets and moorings, hire of steam launches or boats for fixing and removing same, printing, advertising, gas, clerical assistance, markers' fees at rifle range, band subsidy, cartage of material and sundry small items?—such sums to form a corps fund, under the management of a committee of officers and members of the corps, out of which uniform would be provided, and proper provision for meeting all expenses under the heads enumerated above; the commanding officer to be responsible, and furnish statements at the end of each year showing how the funds have been expended.

I think distinctions should be awarded volunteers for long service. In the other colonies, I believe, badges are granted for five years' service, with further distinction for ten years, and a medal after fifteen years' service, past services being allowed to count in any new organization. Volunteers of long service should also have the preference of vacancies in the Government service, such as Customs tide-waiters, railway guards and porters, messengers, &c., provided those offering were fitted for the position vacant.

My experience in the Artillery branch of the Volunteer service does not lead me to think that the payment of members would be accompanied by such improved results as many imagine. The men we want are the artisans, who, for the most part, earn from 10s. to 15s. per diem. These men would not be attracted by the payment of such sums as 5s. or 7s. 6d. per day. If they have the true volunteering spirit in them they will come without payment, provided they are treated well.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

GEO. COLLINS, *Captain Commanding L.V.A.*

The Staff Officer Local Forces, Hobart.

Enclosure E.

Head Quarters, Hobart, 7th September, 1882.

SIR,

IN reply to your request of yesterday's date to furnish a Report setting forth my views as to the necessary steps to be taken to provide an efficient Defence Force for the Colony, I beg to forward the following for your consideration.

I should like before proceeding further to point out that these views entirely coincide with those expressed in your Report of the 10th July last, and that it is not my intention to recapitulate your recommendations, but merely to state the reasons for my opinion, and to point out how I consider those recommendations can best be carried out.

It is necessary before deciding on the organization of a Defence Force to consider generally the principles of defence on which the scheme is based (I have no intention of entering into details), and as our judgment must be to a certain extent influenced by the experience of the neighbouring Colonies, to take for our model only those whose requirements are somewhat analogous to our own. The general methods adopted for defence consist either in completely barring the entrance to the ports or in forcing an enemy to take up a position in front of batteries and compelling him either to silence them or to retire. The defence of the Queensland ports, Perth, and Launceston would be carried out in the former manner, those of Sydney and Hobart on the latter principle. The defence of Melbourne is a combination of both, the anchorage at Queenscliff having to be defended as well as the road to Melbourne barred. The South Australian defence consists in a combination of forts and an ironclad. In the first instance the forts are merely required to protect the mines, in the second the forts are of the primary importance, and it is necessary that their garrisons should be most efficient. In Adelaide the ironclad and the Field Forces are the principal defence. It would be wrong to argue that because Queensland does not require trained Artillerymen Hobart does not, or because Adelaide has regular Field Artillery Launceston must have it; the local Force must of course be organized with a view to the actual requirements of the defence in each case. For this reason the Forces for Hobart should be organized on the plan proposed for Sydney, modified to suit local requirements. The Queensland plan might be adopted for Launceston; but if payment is resorted to, I am of opinion, for the reasons set forth hereafter, that the training obtained in lieu thereof should be continuous.

A Force numbering 250 trained men and 625 auxiliaries has been recommended. As these numbers are based on the actual number of guns to be manned and the lengths of the parapets to be defended, they will hardly require comment. With heavy guns the service of the weapon depends in great measure on the proper application of mechanical power and a thorough knowledge of the appliances; for this reason a large amount of training is necessary to the detachment. On the other hand, with light guns, the loading and working being by hand, a considerable number of the detachment can be easily trained. This enables you to dispense with a considerable number of trained Artillerymen for the works in Tasmania.

I am of opinion that continuous training is the only way of procuring a thoroughly reliable and efficient Force. When instruction can only be imparted at intervals, and the course cannot be carried out from beginning to end with every member of the Force, no real improvement or progress will ever be attained. The Force may improve for a time on the daylight drill system adopted in the Colonies, but it will never

get up to the standard required for the proper defence of works or the manipulation of submarine mines. Without continuous training the details of no system can be properly carried out, and no knowledge of the actual requirements of war obtained.

In dealing with the question of training it is necessary, it is argued, to consider the avocations of the men from whom the Force is drawn. There are two distinct classes,—the men who draw salaries or weekly pay, and the labouring men and mechanics who are paid daily or work by piece work. Considerable practical experience tells me that, although the former class would willingly join a Volunteer Force, and even give a small amount of time in daylight to drill, if remunerated, they will not go beyond a certain point, and would not think of going into camp even for a week. On the other hand, the other class of men are practically their own masters, and would willingly join, and even prefer to join, a continuously trained Force if well remunerated. A month's pay to the latter class would be most acceptable, and they would lose little or nothing in earning it. For this reason, as well as for the undoubted advantages of the system, I advocate a continuously trained Force for a portion of the Defence organization of Tasmania. If the voluntary enlistment failed, recourse could be had to a Militia Bill. In any case the numbers are so small compared to the population that the drain would hardly be felt.

To provide the Auxiliary Forces the Volunteer system would I think be found sufficient, if provision was made for a small number of daylight drills. It must be borne in mind when you exact more than a certain number you change the whole character of your Force, not only in name but in material. This was found to be the case in all the other Colonies, and it is a question whether the small extra training is worth the exchange.

Having dealt with the organization of the Force, I propose to deal with the constitution and arrangements for the management of—1st. The Militia; 2nd. The Volunteer Force.

(1.) The Militia should be enrolled under the Military Discipline Act, 42 Vict. No. 13. When called out they should be for actual Military Service, and would come under the Army Discipline Act of the Imperial Forces.

The Act will require little or no alteration, except that the clause relating to votes at elections might be cancelled and a clause inserted rendering enrolment under a properly appointed enrolling officer necessary. When not called out for actual Military Service they could be governed by the same Rules and Regulations as governed the Volunteer Force.

(2.) With regard to the Volunteer Force, Colonel Scratchley reports—1. *The Volunteer Force is in an unsatisfactory condition.*—There is no doubt about this; but still the unusually severe test to which the Force was submitted at the inspection, the inferiority of the arms, the impossibility of obtaining systematic or daylight instruction, and the other extraneous causes that have militated against it, should be taken into consideration. Although enrolment under a fresh Act would have to take place, and the Force virtually disbanded, still the regulations and conditions of service should not be made too stringent to admit of the greater part of the eligible members re-enrolling.

2. *It is not sufficiently drilled.*—This could, I think, be remedied by the payment of the required number of daylight drills, and the provision of Adjutants for the Force. It is not so much that there is an insufficient number of drills, as that the nature of the drills and the kind of instruction imparted at many is unsatisfactory.

3. *Its discipline is indifferent.*—The Force should be sworn in under the Military Discipline Act, and the Regulations amended somewhat after the South Australian. The discipline would also be wonderfully improved by providing a paid Adjutant to each Corps of the proper strength. The duties of the Adjutant should be carried out in exactly the same manner as they are in the Imperial Volunteer Service, and that Officer should be held entirely responsible for the drill and discipline of the Corps, as well as be responsible for its pay, clothing, arms, and stores. It is impossible for one Officer to do the duty for several Corps. Unless he is actually connected with the Corps, under the orders of the Commanding Officer, and is given proper authority and power, he is powerless to carry out the duties. It is also not fair to expect Volunteers to do the work.

4. *There are elements of disorganization in the Force.*—If the Force is sworn in afresh under the Military Discipline Act, and proper regulations framed, which there will be no difficulty in doing, this disorganization will disappear, if it has not done so already.

5. *The Force is not improving.*—No Force will improve beyond a certain point without continuous training. If a standing camp is formed there is no doubt but that the greater part, if not the whole Force, would be present during part of the encampment, and greater efficiency might be hoped for.

6. *It cannot, as now organized, &c.*—It is proposed to organize a highly trained Force, and it is therefore hoped that the Force, which would of itself be undoubtedly unreliable, will improve sufficiently to carry out the duties of an Auxiliary Force.

In addition to the suggested remedies it will be necessary to thoroughly clothe and equip the Force on joining. Unless this is done the Force can never be sworn in for a term of years.

There are other points in Colonel Scratchley's Report on which information is required, and I will give my opinion on these before going into the details of the Regulations.

Inspecting Officer.—There can be no two opinions on this subject. Proper inspection of the Force can only be made by an Officer provided from the Imperial Service who acts in a similar capacity to the other Colonies. Such an Officer, acquainted with the requirements of Australia generally, unbiassed by local prejudices or influences, is the only true adviser of the Government on Defence questions. His recommendations would greatly strengthen the hands of the local Commandants, and enable them to obtain information. He would form the connecting link with the English Army, and unite in the only manner which is possible the various Colonial organizations.

General Staff.—I am of opinion that if a smaller staff than that allowed for in Estimates A. and B. were provided, the efficiency of the Force would be greatly impaired. It is proposed by the new Imperial Volunteer organization to provide a Major and two Captains in addition to the Adjutant, merely for the enforcement of discipline and the routine duties of the Regiment. If the duties of the staff were properly defined, as they are in the English Volunteer Regulations, they would have quite enough to do.

Training of Officers.—There would be no difficulty in carrying this out. Any Officer who has passed the examination for promotion to the rank of Captain in either of the scientific branches of the service could, if he were given time, impart sufficient instruction in reconnaissance, minor tactics, and fortification. If a Garrison Instructor were appointed, and classes formed at the most convenient times, I think the Officers would attend. A passed certificate should be granted to all Officers who pass in these subjects. The examination of Officers should be more progressive. An Officer should be required to pass a good theoretical examination on joining, and a thoroughly practical one every two or three years. The training of the Non-commissioned Officers and men can only be carried out in the essential parts of the course in an encampment. It would be the only chance of giving instruction in field firing and judging distance. Men can be taught accuracy by means of Morris's sights in the Infantry, and in the Artillery by the telescopic sight which will be provided with the new guns. There is no difficulty in instructing men if you can only get them regularly. There is one point of importance—the training of the recruits. It is the custom in the present Force to keep the Instructor for the higher instruction, and to tell off all sorts of Non-commissioned Officers to instruct the recruits. A recruit, until he passes into the ranks, should never be put into the hands of any but the Instructor or the Adjutant;—everything depends on the drill and instruction imparted to a man on joining. This, again, points to the necessity for paid Adjutants. The appointment of Non-Commissioned Officers should, I think, be in the hands of Commanding Officers, the examinations for appointment and promotion being laid down and properly carried out.

The warlike and military stores are in charge of the Permanent Staff, and not under the Civil Authorities, as in the other Colonies, and this is an undoubted advantage. The reserve of ammunition is never allowed to fall below 250 rounds per rifle (not man) and 100 rounds per gun; it is, also, of the latest Imperial pattern. Ammunition is allowed at the rate of 90 rounds per man and 100 rounds per Battery of Artillery. This is ample,—in fact the whole amount is never expended. I think that the amount allowed for prizes for shooting is too small. This vote does an immense amount of good. I think that the ordering of 200 Martini Rifles for the arming of the marksmen and first-class shots of the Force will have a very good effect, and give a great stimulus to rifle shooting. These rifles are not meant, until the whole Force is provided with them, to supersede the Snider as the service arm for a part of the Force and thus create a necessity for two kinds of ammunition in the field, but merely to teach the men to shoot accurately. I would not re-arm the Force with the Martini. There is no doubt that it will be superseded shortly.

I consider that Rifle Companies are out of place in a scheme of Coast Defence, and consider that no man would be any use in a Reserve Force until he had served six years in a well trained Force. The truest economy will be exercised by thoroughly training your Force and sending its members away free men.

I see no necessity for Corps Rules. These would only be required for transacting the private business of a Corps. As most of the members are good business men they will require either to make no rules, or be competent to devise them for themselves. Standing orders would apply to the whole Force, and if used as a text-book for reference would be of great assistance to every Officer in a Volunteer Force, unacquainted as they must be with Military forms and usages.

VOLUNTEER REGULATIONS.

Constitution of Force.—I should recommend similar clauses to the South Australian Regulations, except as follows:—

The Officers should be appointed by the Governor (not in Council), on the recommendation of the Commanding Officer, as in England. Non-commissioned Officers to be appointed by the Commanding Officers after the last examination prescribed by the Commandant. Promotion should be made by seniority, if the applicant is recommended by the Commanding Officer and has passed the necessary examination for the higher grade.

Discipline.—I consider that the South Australian Regulations would meet all requirements. The duties of the Adjutant and Instructors should, however, be clearly defined, after the manner of the English Volunteer Regulations.

Enrolment.—I would again copy generally the South Australian system. I would not allow a Volunteer to leave without repaying for his equipment and any pay which he has not properly earned. The number of parades should be reduced.

Liabilities.—These are pretty well the same in all Acts and Regulations, and are specified in the Act 42 Vict. No. 13, which is recommended for adoption.

Before closing this Report I beg to point out that the whole chance of success in a future organization will depend upon the proper equipment on joining of the Force, and their enrolment, under properly constituted Officers, for a term of years; in the appointment of an Adjutant to each Corps of sufficient strength; and the prescription of an easy mode of recovering penalties and exacting punishment. If the Commanding Officer has to take out a summons and publicly prosecute every man from whom he wishes to recover half-a-crown, it is needless to point out that fines will never be enforced. The Military Discipline Act will do away with this necessity if the regulations are properly framed; and the Adjutant should in each case be the public prosecutor.

This Report has been marked "confidential," but only because I do not wish it made public, or any part thereof, without your concurrence. Of course, if desired, any portion of the whole Report may be used by yourself.

I have, &c.

E. M. TUDOR BODDAM, *Captain and Staff Officer.*

To the Commandant Local Forces.

Enclosure F.

TASMANIAN DEFENCE FORCE.

MEMORANDUM.

The failure of the present Defence Force, raised upon a purely volunteer basis, arises from a variety of causes, amongst which may be named :—

1. The necessity for drilling at night.
2. The facility for leaving the ranks.
3. Inferiority of the arms, and want of necessary equipment.
4. Enrolment of men of insufficient physique.
5. Absence of systematic instruction for Officers and Non-commissioned Officers.

It therefore becomes necessary to consider the best organization to replace it. The cost of a Permanent Force places it altogether beyond the means of the Colony. After due consideration, I therefore propose as the most suitable—

- 1st. A *Militia*, every member of which shall be enrolled for three years.
- 2nd. A *Reserve*, composed of men drafted from the Militia after three years' efficient service.

Voluntary enrolment for the Militia should be given a fair trial, *but the power of compulsory service should be in the hands of the Governor in Council.*

In lieu of the continuous training which forms part of the English Militia system, daylight drills at detached periods, to the number of thirty annually,—viz., four days of not less than five hours each, and 26 half-days of not less than 2½ hours each,—are recommended.

Remuneration at a fixed rate to be given for daylight drills; and the following scale is suggested for Artillery and Infantry :—

- Major, 15s. whole day; 7s. 6d. half day.
- Captain, 12s. 6d. whole day; 6s. 3d. half day.
- Lieutenant, 10s. whole day; 5s. half day.
- Adjutant, 12s. 6d. whole day; 6s. 3d. half day.
- Surgeon, 12s. 6d. whole day; 6s. 3d. half day.
- Quartermaster-Sergeant, Colour-Sergeant, Battery Sergeant-Major, 7s. 6d. whole day; 3s. 9d. half day.
- Sergeant, 7s. whole day; 3s. 6d. half day.
- Corporal, 6s. 6d. whole day; 3s. 3d. half day.
- Private, 6s. whole day; 3s. half day.

A higher rate is necessary for members of the Engineer and Torpedo Branch, who are required to be skilled men.

In addition to the daylight drills, *every Member* of the Force, except Field Officers and Surgeons, to be required to go through an annual course of Musketry, including the customary preliminary drills, and attend 15 drills at night.

No member of the Force, with the above exceptions, to be classed as "efficient" unless he shall have attended two whole days, 20 half-days, 15 night drills, and the musketry course.

Pay to the extent of 50 per cent. to be made quarterly, balance to be retained until end of year, *and its payment made contingent upon efficiency.*

Enrolments should be made *only* by the Permanent Staff, and if possible at stated periods, none but men up to a prescribed standard being taken; to this end an Enrolling Officer at either end of the Island should be appointed.

No Member of the Militia should be allowed to leave unless he was quitting the Colony permanently, or on account of continued ill health; in the latter case a certificate signed by two medical men to be indispensable.

Absence from a daylight drill to entail loss of pay and a fine of a like amount. No leave to be granted.

Absence from five consecutive daylight drills to incur a fine of Five Pounds, or in default, imprisonment.

Alteration in the existing law on the following points is suggested :—

1. Vesting power of appointing Officers in the Governor, privilege of nomination being taken out of hands of rank and file.
2. Non-commissioned Officers to be appointed or removed by Commandant or Officer Commanding Northern Division.
3. Power of dismissal from the Force to be given to Commandant.
4. Period of enrolment to be for three years; after three years' efficiency a certain proportion to be drafted into a Reserve.
5. Governor in Council to have power, upon the Commandant reporting that the Defence Force is not up to its establishment, to cause the ranks to be filled compulsorily from amongst the eligible residents of the two chief towns. Penalties in default of service to be provided.

The present Regulations should be amended upon the basis of those in force in South Australia, and *stringently enforced.*

Dress Regulations should be issued, and a more inexpensive uniform for Officers detailed. The expense of an outfit as at present prevents many a good man from accepting a Commission.

An effort should be made to ensure a better system of instruction than at present for Officers and Non-commissioned Officers; to this end the establishment of a Military Library at Hobart and Launceston is strongly urged, and a course of lectures upon Military subjects instituted.

The Examinations of Officers and Non-commissioned Officers should be annual, and progressive.

Greater attention than at present should be paid to the instruction of the Infantry in Musketry; judging distance practice, without a good knowledge of which the greatest skill in rifle shooting is useless, has been almost entirely neglected.

With a view to the better instruction of the Force in Rifle shooting, the purchase of ten sets of Morris's Sighting and Aiming Apparatus, at a cost of £12, is strongly recommended. By the aid of this simple apparatus men can be taught considerable skill in the use of the rifle in the barrack-room. It has received the warm approval of the most distinguished Officers in England.

Continuous training in Camp is *not* recommended, partly because of the greatly increased annual outlay, and partly because the details of military life taught therein are *not absolutely necessary* for a Defence Force for this Colony.

Strength.

In framing attached estimate I have assumed the bare requirements to be as under; viz.—

	<i>Officers.</i>	<i>Non-commissioned Officers and Men.</i>
General Staff	4	8
Engineer and Torpedo Corps	3	51
Artillery { Garrison	13	181
{ Field	5	71
Infantry	21	352
Total.....	<u>46</u>	<u>663</u>

I am aware that it has been represented that a larger Artillery Force than I have provided for is required to man the works at Hobart; but when it is considered that the Batteries when complete, which will not be for a year or more, will mount sixteen guns, two only of which are heavy guns, it must be conceded that 13 Officers and 181 Non-commissioned Officers and Gunners are sufficient for present requirements, even should the whole of the guns have to be manned at the same time. At the end of three years the Reserve would materially increase the number of Artillerymen available.

Distribution.

It being admitted that the chances of a landing being attempted are more remote than a naval attack, it is proposed to make that portion of the Force raised in Hobart a Garrison Force, and the Launceston portion a Field Force; the Artillery at the former place to confine itself to Garrison Drill, and at the latter to Field-gun Drill, being armed for this purpose with four field-guns and two guns of position.

The Engineer Branch of the Force in Hobart to be a Torpedo and Signalling Corps, and in Launceston Field Engineers.

Launceston, as the centre of an agricultural district, is, it is considered, better able to provide horses for the Field Artillery, while the nature of the surrounding country offers greater facilities for acquiring expertness in moving guns rapidly from one position to another. The country about Hobart has been pronounced impracticable for Field Artillery.

Another advantage in the proposed distribution would be found in confining the whole attention of the Artillery at each place to its own particular branch, and thus ensuring greater efficiency.

On an outbreak of hostilities a small portion of the Garrison Artillery could be detailed to guard the works at Hobart, and, with a system of relief, this would not be found to entail any hardship upon the men, or interfere materially with their civil avocations.

The facilities existing for rapid transit per rail from one centre of population to another makes the Northern and Southern Forces practically one ; and were a good look-out kept on the seaboard, a sufficient Field Force could be assembled in ample time to oppose any threatened landing at either end of the Island.

When the details of the new organization are complete, the present Volunteer Force should be *disbanded*, and those of its Officers previously selected for the new Force immediately re-appointed, retaining their present seniority. This course is particularly necessary in the case of the rank and file, to ensure all re-enrolments coming under the personal notice of the Enrolling Officers.

Requirements.

The requirements specified in annexed Estimate *are absolutely necessary*, and it cannot be too strongly urged that the Defence Force cannot be made efficient without them. If a choice has to be made between personal and camp equipment the former should have the preference.

In addition to the requirements detailed, I desire to draw attention to the urgent want of suitable Drill-halls in Launceston as head quarters for the Corps. What is needed are lofty sheds in which gymnastic appliances can be fixed to allow of the physical training of the men; suitable out-offices should be attached, such as quarters for the Instructors, Reading-rooms, Library, &c.

WILL. HUNT, *Captain and Staff Officer.*

Staff Office, Launceston, 4th September, 1882.

ESTIMATE of Annual Cost of a Militia.

GENERAL STAFF.

Officers.	Non-com. Officers & Men.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
		<i>At Hobart—</i>						
1		Consulting Engineer and Inspecting Officer	150	0	0			
1		Commandant	500	0	0			
1		Staff Officer, to act as Pay and Quarter-master and Instructor of Gunnery	300	0	0			
	1	Sergeant Instructor, Engineers	180	0	0			
	1	Ditto, Artillery	180	0	0			
	1	Ditto, Infantry	120	0	0			
	1	Armourer and Storekeeper	150	0	0			
		<i>At Launceston—</i>						
1		Officer Commanding Northern Division	250	0	0			
1		Staff Officer, to act as Pay and Quarter-master and Instructor of Musketry	100	0	0			
	1	Sergeant Instructor, Artillery	150	0	0			
	1	Ditto, Engineers	150	0	0			
	1	Ditto, Infantry	110	0	0			
	1	Assistant Storekeeper	150	0	0			
						2520	0	0

Officers.		Non-com. Officers & Men.							
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Contingencies—</i>									
				Travelling Expenses, Inspecting Officer	15	0	0		
				Forage and Travelling Expenses, Commandant	95	0	0		
				Ditto, Officer Commanding Northern Division ...	75	0	0		
				Forage, Staff Officers (two, at £25)	50	0	0		
				Clothing, Drill Instructors	40	0	0		
				Stationery and Stores	25	0	0		
				Labour in Stores, Magazines, &c	250	0	0		
				Fuel and Light	50	0	0		
				Allowance in lieu of Quarters, three Non-commis- sioned Officers, Northern Division	75	0	0		
				Advertising	5	0	0		
				Unforeseen Expenses	20	0	0		
								700	0 0
				ARTILLERY.					
				<i>At Hobart—Three Batteries, Garrison.</i>					
1				Major	12	15	0		
3				Captains	31	17	6		
6				Lieutenants	51	0	0		
1				Adjutant	10	12	6		
2				Surgeons	21	5	0		
	1			Quarter-master Sergeant	6	7	6		
	3			Battery Sergeant-Majors	19	2	6		
	12			Sergeants	71	8	0		
	12			Corporals	66	6	0		
	3			Trumpeters	15	6	0		
	150			Gunners	765	0	0		
								1071	0 0
				<i>At Launceston—One Battery, Field.</i>					
1				Captain	10	12	6		
3				Lieutenants	25	10	0		
1				Surgeon	10	12	6		
	1			Quarter-master Sergeant	6	7	6		
	1			Battery Sergeant-Major	6	7	6		
	4			Sergeants	23	16	0		
	4			Corporals	22	2	0		
	1			Trumpeter	5	2	0		
	60			Gunners and Drivers	306	0	0		
								416	10 0
				INFANTRY.					
				<i>At Hobart—Three Companies.</i>					
1				Major	12	15	0		
3				Captains	31	17	6		
6				Lieutenants	51	0	0		
1				Adjutant	10	12	6		
1				Surgeon	10	12	6		
	1			Quarter-master Sergeant	6	7	6		
	3			Colour-Sergeants	19	2	6		
	12			Sergeants	71	8	0		
	12			Corporals	66	6	0		
	3			Buglers	15	6	0		
	180			Privates	918	0	0		
								1213	7 6
				<i>At Launceston—Two Companies.</i>					
1				Major	12	15	0		
2				Captains	21	5	0		
4				Lieutenants	34	0	0		
1				Adjutant	10	12	6		
1				Surgeon	10	12	6		
	1			Quarter-master Sergeant	6	7	6		
	2			Colour-Sergeants	12	15	0		
	8			Sergeants	47	12	0		
	8			Corporals	44	4	0		
	2			Buglers	10	4	0		
	120			Privates	612	0	0		
								822	7 6
				ENGINEER AND TORPEDO CORPS.					
				<i>At Hobart—Torpedo and Signalling Corps.</i>					
1				Captain	75	0	0		
1				Lieutenant	50	0	0		
	2			Sergeants	33	12	0		
	2			Corporals	31	4	0		
	25			Privates	300	0	0		
								489	16 0

Officers.	Non-com. Officers & Men.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1		<i>At Launceston—Engineers.</i>						
	1	Lieutenant	50	0	0			
	1	Sergeant	16	16	0			
	20	Corporal	15	12	0			
		Privates	240	0	0			
						322	8	0
		CONTINGENCIES.						
		Grant towards Uniform, at 30s.	982	10	0			
		Ditto Bands, one at each Garrison	100	0	0			
		Ammunition	350	0	0			
		Horse Allowance, Field Artillery	150	0	0			
		Markers, Rifle Ranges	50	0	0			
		Prizes for Shooting and Judging Distance	150	0	0			
		Military Books—Hobart, £10; Launceston, £10	20	0	0			
		Repairs, Ranges and Buildings	75	0	0			
		Ditto to Arms	20	0	0			
		Stationery and Stores	25	0	0			
		Fuel and Light	100	0	0			
		Cartage, £10; Advertising, £40	50	0	0			
		Drill Stores (including Engineer and Torpedo Corps)	150	0	0			
		Maintenance of Batteries	75	0	0			
						2297	10	0
47	663	TOTAL				£9852	19	0

REQUIREMENTS.

<i>Personal Equipment—</i>								
	Valise Equipment, 700	857	10	0				
	Rifles, Martini-Henry, 360	1080	0	0				
	Carbines, ditto, 320	869	5	0				
	Morris's Aiming and Sighting Apparatus, 10	12	0	0				
					2818	15	0	
<i>Camp Equipment—</i>								
	Including Tents, Blankets, Waterproof Sheets, Kettles, Tools, Entrenching Tools, Lanterns, and Portable Forge				720	0	0	
<i>Guns—</i>								
	Two breech-loading Rifled Guns of Position	1500	0	0				
	Four Field Guns	2000	0	0				
					3500	0	0	
	<i>Freight Expenses</i>				693	7	6	
	TOTAL				£7732	2	6	

Enclosure G.

MAJOR FYSH states :—

THE general conclusions arrived at by Colonel Scratchley, and set forth by him upon page 3 of his Memorandum, dated June 15, 1882, Major Fysh concurs in; and that he is of opinion that the existing Forces are not to be relied upon for the services expected of them in troublous times, because insufficiently trained, and that a sufficiency of training cannot be acquired by a purely Volunteer Force in Tasmania.

The Forces contain a very large per-centage of men actuated by the highest form of patriotism, and whose strength of devotion would lead them to those self sacrifices in emergencies with which they have sworn to defend this Colony.

They are leavened by the martial spirit which attracted men to the ranks in the earlier days of volunteering, and which was no new thing to Major Fysh when, in 1880, he returned to command and found old Volunteer comrades again in the ranks and in commission.

Many have remained true to their original impulses during a volunteering period of more or less activity extending over 20 years; and to his knowledge as large a body of good and true men and fairly trained Volunteers exists outside as in the ranks now,—men who have passed through the ranks as effectives and become tutored in the use of the rifle, and who would flock to head quarters in time of emergency.

It is not indifference to the service, or to the possible necessity for preparation, which keep them from the ranks now, nor a distaste for discipline, but the impracticability of giving the necessary time to that training without which their services must be at least indifferent, and most probably a failure.

It has often been a matter of surprise to Major Fysh that after a hard day's manual toil or mental exertion,—for the ranks are composed of all sorts and conditions of men,—Volunteers are found who give up all other attractions to practise together military exercises, and remain, in comparatively large numbers, constant to their self-imposed tasks.

Any thoughtful person who knows the component parts of the Force will not find in a showy parade, with the absence of all pecuniary rewards or chances of professional advancement, a sufficient attraction to the Volunteers, or repayment to them for the many hours spent in drill and under discipline.

The conclusion therefore is, that a true volunteer military spirit exists, and that if the reasons for joining the Force cannot be discovered in trifles; they will be found in the more solid, sterling, and manly impulses which govern men's actions and influence their devotion. Believing this, it is due to the men who have for so long held together, and who even now are daily enrolling themselves as vacancies occur, to limit the admission of failure to an insufficiency of training.

Doubtless very many of the more thoughtful Volunteers have discovered by their association in the service that what they have learned is little as compared with the knowledge which could be gained, and which it is absolutely necessary they should acquire, by proper continuous training and association with the practical obstacles and dangers which a time of attack would bring. And if their position be fairly stated in these remarks, there is but one practical conclusion, viz., that arrangements must be made to give a more complete training : and this cannot be done with a purely Volunteer Force.

It is impossible to make soldiers by an hour's drill weekly under gaslight, with a course of musketry instruction received in hours snatched from daily avocations, and very often at times when most fellow citizens are slumbering in bed.

The Volunteer Force, to be relied upon, must have a certain period annually of continuous daylight parades and drills ; and such a course of instruction cannot, in Major Fysh's opinion, be secured without payment,—and payment will secure, under those stringent regulations to which all soldiers are amenable, the combination of tuition and discipline which makes a soldier to be relied upon.

Major Fysh is of opinion that the existing rank and seniority of officers should be respected in a re-organization of the Force, because if a prescriptive right be admitted as any claim to recognition of past services, those services have been cheerfully and faithfully rendered ; but their indiscriminate re-appointment would be a fatal mistake, as the "elements of disorganization" charged against it by Colonel Scratchley continue in the disregard still manifested by some officers for the opinions of others as to what constitutes seemly conduct for officers and gentlemen.

In reply to Colonel Garnett, Major Fysh is of opinion that a Band for the Garrison is necessary, and that it is unreasonable to saddle upon officers and men the expense of it.

Enclosure H.

42 VICT. No. 12.

AN ACT to consolidate and amend the Acts relating to the Volunteer Force in Tasmania.
[9 November, 1878.]

Enclosure K.

42 VICT. No. 13.

AN ACT to provide for the Regulation and Discipline of the Military Forces in the Service of Her Majesty's Government in Tasmania. [9 November, 1878.]

Enclosure L.

REPORT of Major CROWTHER, Commanding S.T.V.A.

EXCELLENT and exhaustive as Colonel Scratchley's last Report to the Government is, yet, on behalf of those who have worked with myself unanimously for nearly five years under the present organization, I cannot endorse it entirely without giving an explanation of several matters therein contained ; and although I shall not refer to any but the corps I have the honor to command, yet the same remarks will equally apply to my Northern Artillery *confrères*.

Colonel Scratchley in his Report says, at page 5 :—

1st. " Volunteer Force is in an unsatisfactory condition."

So it is, regarding it as a first line of defence ; but not so, considering the slight encouragement given. The present system has worked well as regards the Artillery branch of the service, both North and South. A better result for the small outlay cannot be shown in any part of the world. As a fact, we return more men efficient each year than we are paid for, and have done so each of past four years, and shall do so this. Upwards of one hundred and sixty men, out of one hundred and seventy-four, answered to their names on last Queen's Birthday, and were the whole day under arms in battery.

2nd. "Not sufficiently drilled."

Cannot be more so without having daylight drills and paying men for same.

3rd. "The discipline is indifferent."

The Artillery will challenge favourable comparison with any Volunteer Corps in this respect.

4th. Does not apply to the Artillery.

5th. "The Force is not improving."

It cannot improve beyond a certain point unless facilities are given for daylight drills, for which the men should receive payment.

6 and 7. Agreed with.

SUGGESTIONS.

The South Australian system (leaving out the Rifle Volunteer Force, and with a few alterations in the Regulations) is the best to adopt:—

A three years' service.

Compulsory drills, and payment for attendance at the same.

Officers should be nominated by the officers of the corps, and, if they have not already done so, pass an examination.

Non-commissioned officers should be appointed by the officers commanding corps, after examination. This should only hold for, say, two years, and then re-examined. Passing the same should carry an extra capitation grant and a badge.

Enrolment, (page 22):—First clause is very good. Second clause—Ages should be 17 to 45; height should be not less than 5 feet 7 inches and 34 inches chest for Artillery, strictly enforced. For Rifle Corps, men of smaller and slighter build would do. Fifth clause would require modification. Last clause a good one.

1. The Government should procure from Parliament a three years' vote for the maintenance of the Force, not to exceed so much the first and so much each succeeding year. Of course the expenditure for the first year would be more than the following year, on account of having to put drill-sheds in order and provide drill stores, &c.

2. Disband the present Force, and at once swear in men for a three years' service, making the standard 5 feet 7 inches; chest, 34 inches. Officers of present Force to retain their commission if they rejoin, of which they should have the option.

3. Government to provide the best arms and accoutrements, rifled field guns (B.L.), Martini-Henry rifles, revolvers for Artillery, and plenty of spare ammunition for garrison, field gun, and rifle.

4. Camp equipment.

5. Each man on joining to be provided with a stout serge uniform, consisting of frock and trousers, helmet, cap, and great coat, &c. Serge uniform to last one year, helmet three years, great coat six years; but, in lieu of same, a capitation grant, say £4 first year, and £2 10s. each succeeding year.

6. Payment for daylight parades. Either six days' *at least* continuous training in camp, or so many days or half days during the year.

7. To be efficient each year or *fined* (fines recoverable by legal process). Attendance to be 42 drills per annum; daylight drills or camp to count and only to be paid for. Attendance at daylight drills compulsory; fines for non-attendance.

8. Men desiring to retire before having served their three years may do so on good cause shown, such as leaving the colony or town on account of ill-health (a man leaving Hobart to proceed to Launceston not allowed to resign; must be transferred to detachment there). All applications to be enquired into by a Board of Officers, who directs, subject to approval of Commandant; but, in any case, such men retiring to pay so much as a fine, say, if leaving 12 months after joining; so much, decreasing as length of service decreases.

9. Prize money and ammunition to be provided for artillery and rifle practice.

10. Drill-ground and sheds to be put well in order, and kept so.

11. Government to pay salary of two Garrison Bandmasters,—one in Hobart, the other in Launceston.

12. All officers who have not passed to undergo an examination, and non-commissioned officers also.

13. Men after serving three years to get a parchment certificate stating he had served his time and been returned an efficient each year, the document to be neatly engraved. Inducement to be held out for these men to re-enrol, subject to approval of Commanding Officer.

Scale of payment, &c. :—

	s.	d.
Lieut.-Colonel	16	0
Captain	11	0
Second Captain	10	6
Lieutenant.....	10	0
Second Lieutenant	9	6
Adjutant (on duty pay as Lieutenant or Second Lieutenant)... ..	10	6
Quartermaster-Sergeant	9	0
Surgeon.....	11	0
Sergeant-Major.....	9	0
Sergeant	8	6
Bombadier	7	6
Trumpeter.....	6	0
Gunner	6	0

together with an additional sum of four shillings for marching money for each day in which he shall be required to leave the district in which he is enrolled; and a further sum of six shillings for every such day to such members of the said Artillery arm of the Volunteer Force or Reserve Force as may be required, or be entitled to keep a horse for his use as a member of such Volunteer Force or Reserve Force: Provided that for the purpose hereof not less than five hours shall be considered a day, and not less than two hours half a day: Provided also that nothing in this Act shall authorise the payment of any sum of money except out of such sums as shall have been first approved by Parliament for the purposes of the said Volunteer Act, 1865-6.—(*S.A. Volunteer Amendment Act, 1866, 30 Vict. No. 19.*)

The Artillery officers' scale excepted, they requiring no fee for drill service.

In conclusion, I may state that, in order to carry out Colonel Scratchley's views, I have consulted with my officers, and this report is our unanimous view. I see no difficulty whatever in making a thorough reliable force out of the proposed Volunteer Militia system, which, to my mind, in all ways is the nearest system to combine efficiency with economy.

EDWARD L. CROWTHER, *Major Commanding S.T.V.A.*

Enclosure M.

LIEUT. HARRAP, Launceston Volunteer Artillery, being questioned by the Members of the Commission, stated :—

There would be the greatest difficulty in getting men to attend any period of continuous training. They might be obtained on a holiday, but not on other occasions. I think that continuous training would make a difference in the efficiency of the corps, but I think the Artillery Corps could be made as efficient as is required for defence purposes in this colony without it.

I would make an agreement with the men to serve for a term of years, but I would not make enrolment for a term compulsory. I do not think that the clauses proposed by the Commission would be advisable. If a man is obliged to change his residence or place of employment, thus preventing his attending at drill, he should be allowed to leave on returning his uniform, if the Commanding Officer was satisfied. The circumstances of the case are usually known to the Commanding Officer in our corps when a man leaves the Force.

If the corps were properly equipped, and it was known that the movement was to be a permanency, there would be no difficulty in getting officers.

I think a garrison band would meet all requirements if the bandmaster were paid and the band equipped at starting.

There has been no serious infringement of the rules, so far as I know, in the corps. Men are struck off if they do not attend the necessary number of drills.

I think the corps is not improving, mainly because it has no proper equipment.

I think the Volunteer system is sufficient; but a threat should be held over employers in the shape of a Militia Bill.

I would leave resignations to be dealt with by the Commanding Officer.

I do not think a paid adjutant is necessary; officers can learn their work better without one.

I think that there should be a paid instructor. An instructor should be there to attend every drill, as officers in a small corps cannot always be there.

Every artilleryman should be armed with a rifle, and trained as an infantry soldier to a certain extent as well.

If a camp of instruction was established annually, I believe a very great number of the men would visit the camp and undergo the drill instruction imparted there for a portion of the time.

I think daylight drills very necessary ; and I think a small number might be obtained in summer time.

A great coat would, I think, last ten years.

I think Sergeant-Major Martini is qualified as a drill instructor for the Launceston Artillery. He has never served in the army.

Enclosure N.

CAPTAIN HUNT, *Staff Officer, Northern Division Volunteer Force*, being questioned by the Commission, stated :—

I am of opinion that a larger proportion of ammunition should be allowed per man,—at least 150 rounds. The musketry instruction course is not carried out at all satisfactorily.

I consider the Volunteer Force at Launceston most inefficient. The Artillery would have been, I think, more efficient if they had possessed better arms and been given more opportunity.

Field firing should be carried out instead of target practice by those who have attained a certain degree of proficiency.

A professional adjutant should be appointed for Launceston ; but I would not recommend promoting a warrant officer.

Ammunition should be sold at less than cost price so as to encourage rifle shooting. A proper paid marker should be provided.

Three days' continuous training would be, in my opinion, a great deterrent to obtaining men.

If a bandmaster were paid and instruments were provided there would be no difficulty in getting the necessary band.

I think payment to officers advisable, although of itself it will never draw suitable officers into the Force. If, however, permanency were insured, I think there would be no difficulty in getting all that are required.

I think the capitation grant is too large ; in South Australia it is only £1, and the men are well dressed.

I should provide for and order continuous training, but would not make it compulsory.

Enclosure O.

Staff Office, Hobart, 11th September, 1882.

SIR,

IN reply to your request to furnish particulars as to the establishment of the proposed Torpedo Corps, and my suggestions as to its organization and constitution, I would recommend a strength of 3 officers, 1 staff sergeant (instructor), 3 sergeants, 3 corporals, 44 rank and file.

The details of the various trades required for a section are appended (Enclosure 1).

One section will be required for Hobart and half a section for Launceston. Five men will be required for the crew of the torpedo boat, of which one will be an engineer and one an electrician, the three others seamen.

I would recommend that they be enrolled under the same Act and Regulations as the rest of the Force.

That they (the Torpedo Militia) be called out for continuous training for 28 days at the end of each year.

That six of these be whole days ; and that for 18 days they be paid for overtime work, being allowed to go to their usual avocations during the working hours.

That leave be given for Sundays.

That the payment be at the rate of 12s. per whole day ; sergeants, 3s., corporals, 2s. extra ; and 1s. 6d. per hour for overtime work.

Each member of the corps will be required for six whole days out of the 28, and overtime on 18 days to the extent of three hours (1 in the morning and 2 in the evening) per diem. No payments to be made except during continuous training.

That, in addition to the continuous training, each member be required to attend 24 drills, ordered after working hours, during the year, prior to his being called out for continuous training.

That recruits on joining shall attend 24 drills and passed in signalling before being provided with uniform or allowed to join the ranks. These drills not to count towards efficiency.

A detailed statement of the drills to be gone through, and the time required for each, is appended. (Enclosure 2.)

I would recommend that payments be made at the end of each year, immediately after the continuous training for the year has been completed, and that each efficient member draw the amount due to him by regulation in lump sum.

The standard should be 5 feet 7 inches and 34 inches chest measurement, as there is a good deal of heavy work, except for electricians.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant.

E. M. TUDOR BODDAM, *Captain and Staff Officer.*

To the Commandant Tasmanian Local Forces.

An estimate of cost is appended.—E. M. T. B.

(1.)

DETAIL of Trades for a Torpedo Section.

TRADES.		No.
Sergeants.	Electricians	2
	Carpenters.....	2
	Joiners	1
	Ship Carpenters	1
	Cabinet-makers.....	1
	Bricklayers	1
	Blacksmiths	3
	Tinsmiths	1
	Engine-fitters trained as drivers	3
	Plumbers	2
	Painters	1
	Collar-makers	2
	Clerks	1
	Telegraph Operators	3
	Boatmen	3
	Testers, Signallers, &c.	3
		30

E. M. TUDOR BODDAM, *Captain and Staff Officer.*

Half a section required for Launceston.

Required for torpedo boat,—1 engineer, 1 electrician, 1 coxswain, 1 forehand boatman, 1 stoker.—E. M. T. B.

(2.)

COURSE of Instruction, Torpedo Corps.

AFTER-HOUR DRILLS.

Knotting and splicing	6 drills.
Jointing and connecting up cables.....	6 drills.
Batteries and battery connections	} 6 drills.
Shutter-boards and test connections	
Connecting up circuit closers, relays, and fuzes	6 drills.

CONTINUOUS TRAINING.

Signalling and rifle drill	3 whole days.
Filling and connecting up charges and fuzes.....	18 hours—6 days.
Connecting up mines and testing joints and connections	18 hours—6 days.
Arranging, numbering, marking, and shipping and unshipping	18 hours—6 days.
Laying out mines prepared	1 day.
Testing and working	1 day.
Taking up and replacing in store	1 day.

E. M. TUDOR BODDAM, *Captain and Staff Officer.*

(3.)

ESTIMATE of Expenditure, Torpedo Corps, (as proposed).

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Salaries—</i>						
2 Officers at £15, 1 at £20	50	0	0			
50 Non-commissioned Officers and Men, £7 13s.*	382	5	0			
3 Sergeants, extra, at 3s. per diem, and 3 Corporals, at 2s. per diem	12	5	0			
				444	10	0
<i>Contingencies—</i>						
†Capitation Grant, at £4 10s. per man (50)	225	0	0			
Torpedo Explosives and Electric Lighting.....	100	0	0			
Boat and Steamer hire.....	50	0	0			
Drill Stores	10	0	0			
				385	0	0
Extra Expenses of Encampment, £1 per man .....	...			50	0	0
				<u>£879</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>

E. M. TUDOR BODDAM, *Captain and Staff Officer.*

	£	s.	d.
* 6 days, at 12s.....	3	12	0
54 hours, at 1s. 6d.....	4	1	0
	<u>£7</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>0</u>

†This would only be required once in three years.

Enclosure P.

MAJOR JUST, *Launceston Volunteer Rifle Regiment.*

I have stated my opinions, I think, as well as possible in my last report. There is, however, one point I omitted, and that is, that I think there should be some scheme of compulsory retirement at certain ages. A man ought to be able to obtain rank up to a certain point provided that he is qualified for that rank. All officers should pass an examination for each step of rank they receive.

Appointments should, if possible, be made without the agency of the Governor in Council.

I think men could be got to attend daylight parades if proper notice was given them; and three days' continuous training could be got by means of an Easter encampment, provided men were given a few hours' leave on Saturday morning.

I think it would be most advisable to pass a compulsory Militia Bill, as it would have a considerable effect on action of the employers of labour.

I think volunteers should be exempt from sitting on juries now that the increase in the population will admit of it.

I think that an Adjutant would be a decided benefit to a corps. He would not interfere with officers learning their duty, and would enable the correspondence, pay, &c. of the corps to be carried out much more satisfactorily than at present.

I think, if possible, the Adjutant should be an officer who has previously held a commission.

I think a band should be allowed for each garrison. The Government should, I think, pay for a bandmaster, and provide the instruments on starting: it is very objectionable for the instruments to be the property of the bandmen. A committee should be appointed from the garrison to make the detailed arrangements. They might wear a combined uniform. I think £50 would be sufficient to pay a bandmaster.

The men go through a portion of the course of musketry instruction, but do not judge distance. I think that it would be very advisable to provide sufficient ground to enable men to judge distance on the range. I think that a range should be provided to enable men to obtain instruction in field firing. I think musketry instruction should be carried out during one or other of the daylight drills for which the Government pay.

Enclosure Q.

CAPTAIN T. M. EVANS, *Southern Tasmanian Volunteer Artillery.*

I think it would be advisable, if the present Force were disbanded, to allow officers to retain their present seniority, and to allow their commissions to count from the present date.

I have been in the volunteer service in all 22 years; 21 years being continuous, 4 as an officer.

I think that there would be no difficulty in getting 275 men for the artillery, provided they were paid for daylight parades.

I think 6s. and 2s. 6d. for a half day would be sufficient remuneration. I do not think there would, however, be any chance of getting the men unless it were known that they were to be enrolled, to a certain extent, permanently. The last time, just as the men were becoming efficient the Government broke faith with them and disbanded them.

I do not think that an Adjutant would conduce to the efficiency of the corps.

Unless the officers practice by drilling the men they will not learn enough.

The Instructor drills the officers of the corps.

I think the present Adjutant, if he received proper assistance, could do all the work of the corps.

I am present at all parades, and conduct the practice of the corps.

The batteries are never manned as they would be in action. We cannot get sufficient men on parade to do this.

I think that the Government should provide a bandmaster for a garrison band, and that one band in each place would be sufficient.

I think the South Australian system, as regards fines and punishments, would work well.