

"solidate and amend the Act relating to the Volunteer Force in Great Britain," it is amongst other things enacted that "Her Majesty in Council may from time to time declare what is requisite to entitle a volunteer to be deemed an efficient volunteer, by an Order in Council, defining, for that purpose, the extent of attendance at drill to be given by the volunteer, and the course of instruction to be gone through by him, and the degree of proficiency in drill and instruction to be attained by him and his corps, such proficiency to be judged of by the Inspecting officer at the annual inspection of the corps, or otherwise, as by Order in Council is from time to time directed;" and that "The draft of any scheme to be from time to time submitted to Her Majesty in Council for approval under the present section, shall have been laid before both Houses of Parliament for one lunar month at least, either before or after or partly before and partly after the passing of this Act, during the present or for the like period during any subsequent session of Parliament, before such scheme receives the approval of Her Majesty in Council."

And whereas a draft of the scheme hereinafter mentioned (and a copy whereof is hereunto annexed) was on the 29th day of June last laid before both Houses of Parliament: and whereas one lunar month hath elapsed since that time: and whereas the said scheme hath this day been submitted to Her Majesty in Council for her approval thereof.

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, having this day taken the said scheme into consideration, doth, in pursuance and exercise of the power in Her Majesty by the said Act of Parliament in that behalf vested, and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, hereby declare Her Royal approval of the said scheme.

*Edmund Harrison.*

*Scheme referred to in the foregoing Order in Council.*

1. A volunteer shall be entitled to be deemed an efficient volunteer, if he obtains a certificate certifying that he has fulfilled the requirements and possesses the qualifications stated in or upon such one of the annexed forms of certificate as may be applicable in his case, and not otherwise.

2. Every such certificate shall be granted as soon as may be after the thirtieth day of November in every year, and shall bear date the first day of December, and shall be evidence of the efficiency of the volunteer to whom it is granted during the year ending the thirtieth day of November next following its date.

3. Every volunteer fulfilling the requirements and possessing the qualifications aforesaid, shall be entitled to receive such a certificate of efficiency.

4. In the course of each year ending the thirtieth day of November, the adjutant of each corps, or administrative regiment, shall select from time to time such volunteers as, in his opinion, have fulfilled the requirements and possess the qualifications aforesaid, and submit their names to the commanding officer of their corps, with a view to their obtaining certificates of efficiency.

5. If the adjutant refuses to recommend any volunteer for a certificate, and the volunteer considers himself aggrieved thereby, the volunteer may appeal to the commanding officer of his corps.

6. If the commanding officer concurs in the adjutant's recommendation or refusal to recommend, he shall either sign the certificate or else

approve the withholding of it, as the case may be; but if he differs from the opinion of the adjutant, he shall refer the matter to the assistant-inspector of volunteers for the district, whose decision shall be final, and who shall sign the certificate if he thinks it ought to be granted, instead of it being signed by the commanding officer and adjutant.

In the case of a corps forming part of an administrative regiment, or attached for administrative purposes to another corps, any such reference shall be made through the officer commanding such regiment or such last-mentioned corps.

7. In the case of a corps forming part of an administrative regiment, or attached for administrative purposes to another corps, the certificate shall be countersigned by the field officer commanding the administrative regiment or such last-mentioned corps, this counter-signature being held to imply merely that the field officer has no knowledge of any reason why the certificate should not be granted.

If the field officer thinks fit to withhold his counter-signature from the certificate of any volunteer, he shall refer the matter to the assistant-inspector of volunteers for the district, whose decision shall be final, and who shall countersign the certificate, if he thinks it ought to be granted.

8. Where the situation and circumstances of an artillery volunteer corps are such as, in the opinion of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, to create serious obstacles to the fulfilment by the volunteers belonging to that corps of the requirement of attendance at gun practice, the Secretary of State shall have power to dispense with that requirement.

9. Where the situation and circumstances of a rifle volunteer corps are such as, in the opinion of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, to create serious obstacles to the fulfilment by the volunteers belonging to the corps of the requirement of attendance at battalion drill such number of times within twelve months as is prescribed upon the annexed forms of certificate, the Secretary of State shall have power to reduce the number of battalion drills, and to increase proportionately the number of company drills requisite to entitle a volunteer belonging to the corps to a certificate of efficiency.

10. Where the situation and circumstances of a corps which is not of sufficient strength to constitute by itself a regiment, brigade, or battalion, are such as, in the opinion of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, to render it impracticable for the corps to be united with or attached for administrative purposes to another corps of the same arm, the Secretary of State shall have power to make from time to time such special provision respecting the granting and signature of certificates of efficiency as he may think fit.

11. Where the officer inspecting a volunteer corps at the annual inspection in any year reports that the corps is not proficient in drill and instruction to his satisfaction, then, notwithstanding anything hereinbefore provided, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State shall have power to direct the withholding of certificates of efficiency at the end of that year from all volunteers belonging to the corps.

12. The officer inspecting a volunteer corps at the annual inspection in any year, shall have power to direct the withholding of a certificate of efficiency at the end of that year, from any individual volunteer belonging to the corps, in any case in which he considers it proper to do so, on account