

OFFICERS, CIVILIANS, AND MEN IN MILITARY SERVICE AT
NEW YORK.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

IN ANSWER TO

A resolution of the House of Representatives of the 18th ultimo, relative to the number of army officers, civilians, and enlisted men in military service at and near New York city.

JANUARY 29, 1869.--Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *January 28, 1869.*

The Secretary of War, in obedience to the resolution of the House of Representatives, dated December 18, 1868, has the honor to report the number of commissioned officers, enlisted men, and civilians detailed and employed in connection with the military service in and about the city of New York, as follows:

Headquarters military division of the Atlantic.--One major general, one lieutenant colonel, four captains, one second lieutenant, and nine enlisted men.

Headquarters department of the east.--One brigadier general, three first lieutenants, and ten enlisted men.

Standing general court martial.--One colonel and one first lieutenant; and two enlisted men and one civilian.

Army retiring board.--One colonel, one lieutenant colonel, and one captain.

General recruiting service.--One colonel, one lieutenant colonel, one captain, two first lieutenants, and 13 enlisted men.

Inspector General's department.--One colonel, (inspector General military division of the Atlantic,) and one lieutenant colonel, (assistant inspector general department of the east.)

Quartermasters department.--One colonel, one major, one captain, and 52 civilians.

Subsistence department.--One colonel, one major, and 13 civilians.

Medical department.--One lieutenant colonel, six majors, five enlisted men, and 19 civilians.

Pay department.--Four majors and four civilians.

Ordnance department.--One major and twenty-eight civilians.

Engineer department.--Two colonels, three lieutenant colonels, three majors, one captain, two first lieutenants, four enlisted men, and 19 civilians.

The lieutenant colonel and second lieutenant at headquarters of the military division will be relieved in the spring. All other officers and men at those headquarters will still be required if the division continues. No reduction of officers or men at headquarters department of the east can be made.

The colonel and lieutenant reported on the standing court-martial are the president and judge advocate, and officers of great experience. A large number of retired officers have just been relieved from this court; their places to be supplied by detail from the officers serving in the vicinity.

The army retiring board is organized as economically as is practicable, and cannot be dispensed with.

The general recruiting service has been so reduced in officers and men that the Adjutant General reports it as unable to meet the demands of the army.

The inspector general and assistant are busily and usefully employed at this time. The number of officers in their department is so limited that the opportunity to transfer one of them elsewhere would not be lost, if it were presented, as it may be hereafter.

The work of the quartermasters department is still large, but the force has been, is being, and will be decreased in full proportion to the decrease of business.

In the subsistence department some little decrease, it is anticipated, may be made in a short time, but just now it is not practicable.

The medical department has been largely reduced, but will admit of no further reduction just now. One major will be relieved in the spring.

The pay department will admit of no further reduction at this time.

The ordnance department is engaged in collecting, arranging, and preparing arms, &c., for sale at New York, under the law relating thereto. When this work shall have been accomplished, the present arrangements will be broken up.

The engineer department has at New York, as the most convenient point, a board of officers of high rank and long experience in the corps of engineers, to plan, revise, and consider and experiment upon, projects for permanent defences, materials for fortifications and harbor and river improvements. Other officers and employes are engaged upon the defences of New York and improvement of its rivers and harbor. Some little reduction is contemplated, but the number of officers and employes varies with the appropriations for fortifications and river and harbor improvements.

It is proper to state that ever since the close of the war the War Department has made strenuous exertions to reduce the military establishment in all its branches, which exertions will not be relaxed, and instances are not wanting wherein the reductions ordered by the department have been considerably in advance of what the public interests would properly admit, in the opinion of the officers concerned.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Secretary of War.