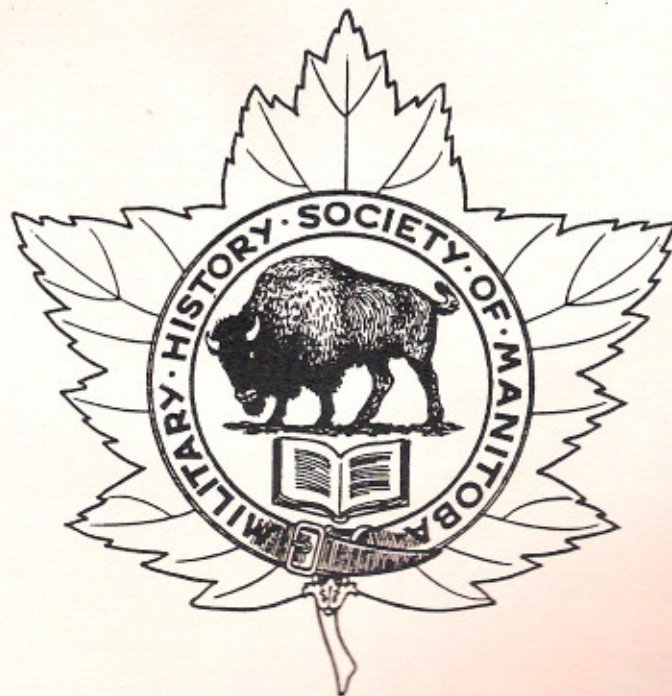


**Journal  
of the  
Military History Society  
of  
Manitoba**

**1992**



**Journal**  
**of the**  
**Military History Society of Manitoba.**  
**1992.**

**M.H.S.M. Box 131, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3C 2G1.**

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**THE MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY HISTORY SOCIETY OF MANITOBA  
WISH TO THANK THE MID-WEST DIVISION OF THE CANADA POST  
CORPORATION FOR A GENEROUS GRANT TOWARDS THE PRINTING  
AND DISTRIBUTION OF THIS ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL.**

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## **INTRODUCTION.**

The Military History Society of Manitoba is a non-profit corporation started in 1987 by four colleagues interested in the material culture, and social history of military units of all services with a Manitoba connection.

The objectives of the Society are to collate information on military material culture and history and to acquire new knowledge through research and study with special emphasis on Manitoba units and their activities wherever these may have taken them.

To this end the Society maintains a library, an archive, photo files and a very limited collection of artifacts.

For the past four years a major project of the Society has been historical and archaeological research at Camp Hughes, under the aegis of the Provincial Archaeologist. The surveys and data produced about this World War I training camp are to form the basis of an application for designation of this area as a historic site.

It is also the Society's aim to promote the study of military history and share its resources with non-members. Members give public lectures, answer enquiries and hope eventually to provide some public displays.

This Journal is another facet of the Society's commitment to sharing its resources and its members' enthusiasm for the serious study of military material culture and history. It is aimed at curators, collectors, re-enactors as well as the interpreters of military history.

The Society now has twenty members, but as may be seen from the financial statement in our Annual Report, this is a relatively modest operation. We hope to keep the operation of the Society as simple as possible, with a minimum of bureaucracy. We welcome new members who share our interests, and we welcome contributions for the 1993 Journal from members and non-members alike. (Deadline for contributions Jan 31st 1993)

David Ross  
Journal Editor

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE M.H.S.M. 1991 - A synopsis.**

### Officers for 1991-92

President	Bruce Tascona
Vice President	Grant Tyler
Secretary	Winston Anders
Treasurer	John Thyen
Director	Myron Pociuk
Director	David Riddle
Past President	David Ross

### Activities 1991:

#### Camp Hughes Project:

In 1991, the Society's activities centered primarily in assisting the Department of Historic Resources, Archaeology Branch in the survey of this site. This was necessary in order to establish the heritage significance of the site, with a view to fulfilling the Society's aim of obtaining historic site designation for Camp Hughes.

The Province conducted tests on the Hughes Cemetary assisted by members of the Society and volunteers, who also located the network of trenches and the firing point of the artillery range.

#### Fundraising:

The distribution of C.E.F. Nominal Rolls raised \$802.15. This enabled the Society to purchase 60 more rolls from the National Archives, and several publications for the library.

#### Lecture Series:

The following lectures were given by members:

- "The Camp Hughes Grenage Range", by Grant Tyler.
- "The Canadian Army Assault Vest in WWII", by Winston Anders.
- "Canadian Militia Uniforms 1860-1885", by
- "Uniforms worn at Court", by David Ross.
- "Researching Gallantry Awards to Canadians", by David Riddle.
- "XII Manitoba Dragoons, the early period", by Bruce Tascona.

The President , Bruce Tascona was interviewed by Peter Walker on the V.P.W. Cable Access TV program, "Archaeology in Manitoba" about the Camp Hughes Project. The 30 minute video of this program is available for loan.

#### Archives and Library:

The Archives and Library now contains 1,270 documents, papers, photographs and books. 270 of these were received in 1991, the major acquisition was a collection of photocopies of 60 Nominal Rolls of units of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. The Society now holds 220 Nominal Rolls, covering nearly 60% of Canadian units who served in WWI. Another significant acquisition was a collection of blueprints of buildings at Camp Hughes in 1916. These, along with all other material in the collection are available to researchers.

The Society received and replied to 80 research requests from members and the general public.

#### Artifact Collection:

The collection is at present limited to surface collected artifacts from Camp Hughes. These have been sorted by feature number for easy reference, and registered for future analysis.

#### Building Search:

The Society looked into several possibilities for a permanent home for its collections, and consulted with local regimental museums on the idea of joint quarters. As yet, this project has not reached fruition.

#### Financial Statement:

Income, inc. balance forward from 1990	\$1,687.82
Expnditures	\$847.47
Balance forward	\$840.35



## ARTICLES.

**The Independant Companies of Manitoba 1871-1884.****by Bruce Tascona**

The military troubles of the summer of 1871 had barely subsided in the newly created province of Manitoba when a former threat resurfaced. In late September, the U.S. Consul in Winnipeg informed Lt. Governor Archibald about the presence of the Fenian General John O'Neil in Pembina, Dakota Territory. It was apparent that the Fenians' strategy was to take advantage of the troubles that had plagued the Red River settlement for the previous years. Unknown to O'Neil, however, this was not the Manitoba of 1869 with its many grievances. By 1871 when the district was given provincial status, the local population had resolved many of their complaints.

Apart from the political appeasements given to Manitobans, the Dominion Government had already established a small force of regular troops consisting of two service companies of infantry under the command of Major A.G. Irvine. These troops had been volunteers from the original 1870 Red River Expedition. Upon hearing news of this threat, the Canadian Government decided to raise another expeditionary force under the command of Major Thomas Scott. The Wolseley Expedition had taken three months to complete from start to finish. With the onset of winter looming, no guarantee could be made that the relief force would arrive before the freeze-up of rivers and lakes in Northwest Ontario. Consequently, Manitobans were advised they would have to confront this threat by themselves and raise their own force of volunteers.

The Fenian Raid, 1871.

On October 2, 1871, Lt. Governor Archibald authorized Major Irvine to recruit and organize local companies of Militia within the Province. Overnight, Volunteers had stepped forward to form the first Active Militia Corps. Initially four corps were organized on an active basis: <sup>1</sup>

South St Andrews Rifle Company	57	volunteers
Mapleton Rifle Company	53	"
Poplar Point Rifle Company	61	"
Winnipeg Volunteer Rifle Company	25	"



Home Guard Volunteer Companies were also established in the following parishes: <sup>2</sup>

St Pauls	41 men	North St Andrews	58 men
St James	57 "	Winnipeg	103 "
Hudson Bay Co.	58 "	Kildonan	73 "
Headingly	45 "	St Andrews Rapids	39 "
Poplar Point	34 "	White Mud River	31 "
Baie de St Paul	28 "		

From this latter group two companies were mobilized for active service. The first was the Winnipeg Company raised by Captain Stewart Mulvey consisting of veterans of the Red River Expedition who had taken their discharge at Fort Garry in 1870. They were issued with arms and their uniforms were blue capotes provided by the Hudson Bay Co. stores. The second home guard company mobilized was the North St Andrews Company under the command of Captain S.L. Bedson. This corps was issued arms and detailed to garrison Lower Fort Garry.

Two local corps were mobilized and served as mounted troops: the St Boniface Mounted Rifles and the Headingly Mounted Rifles.

During this period the organized forces were divided into two Provisional Battalions : The Upper Fort Garry Battalion consisting of the South St Andrews Rifle Company, the Mapleton Rifle Company, the Poplar Point Rifle Company and the Hudson Bay Co. Home Guard. This garrison battalion was under the command of Captain A. MacDonald. <sup>3</sup> The Headingly Mounted Rifles were detailed as the mounted troops for this provisional corps.

The second Provisional Battalion was organized under the command of Major A.G. Irvine to deal with the immediate threat along the border. Referred to as the Service Battalion, it consisted of the following companies: the Ontario Service Company, the Quebec Service Company, the Winnipeg Rifle Company, and the Winnipeg Volunteer Battery. Local scouts under Captain de Plaineval were attached to this unit.<sup>4</sup>

The Fenians invaded Canada on October 5th at Emerson and captured the Hudsons Bay Co. post. . On October 6th, Major Irvine's Service Battalion left Fort Garry and had travelled about 22 miles when word reached them that Captain Wheaton, U.S. Army had not only entered Canada, but had arrested O'Neil and his followers. Irvine's force then returned to Fort Garry. Meanwhile, the St. Boniface Mounted Rifles under Captain Joseph Royal had deployed scouts across a broad front from Riviere Islets aux Bois to the Pembina Hills to make sure that no other Fenians had crossed the border. The Fenian crisis of 1871 was over and the volunteers were soon disbanded.

### Manitoba's Volunteer Movement 1872-1884

Manitoba was gazetted as Military District No. 10 on October 16th 1871, with Lt. Colonel Osborne Smith as its first commanding officer. A month later on November 18th the second Red River Expedition finally arrived at Fort Garry. This relief force of two hundred and the two regular Service Infantry Companies were soon organized into the Dominion Provisional Battalion of Infantry. This force took up its duties as both police and garrison in the district.

The lessons of the Red River uprising, and the Fenian Raid of 1871 were clear to Osborne Smith. To meet any future crisis in the province a force of Active Militia should be organized. Using the Fenian Raid as a guideline, Smith determined that the local Militia forces should be authorized as follows: two troops of cavalry (mounted infantry), one demi-battery, and nine companies of infantry<sup>5</sup>

From the beginning, it was apparent that the raising of this authorized number of Militia corps would never be achieved. The local populace felt a sense of security with the arrival of the regular Dominion forces, which were reinforced by the creation of the North West Mounted Police in 1873. By 1872, only one troop of cavalry, the demi-battery and four companies had been organized. Even with only half of his authorized force recruited, Smith faced many problems in trying to uniform and equip them. The uniforms he received were in many instances inadequate, and on occasion obsolete.

The District Annual Reports record Osborne Smith's repeated concerns about the uncoordinated issuing of uniforms: some corps received tunics but no trousers ! Greatcoats but no caps ! It was an annual problem and with the three year enlistment term, men usually did not receive their allotted issue of uniforms before the expiration of their enlistment. This situation had a demoralizing effect on the volunteers' efficiency. The infantry companies originally designated as "rifles" were issued uniforms of that pattern. By 1876 the companies were redesignated "infantry" and were to be issued with "scarlet" pattern. The South St Andrews Company despite redesignation as infantry in its second term of enlistment was never issued with scarlet tunics , and continued to drill in worn-out rifle uniforms. The independant companies had to make do with obsolete stock from the Quartermaster's stores.

Equipment and arms were in a similar state, always in short supply and often of obsolete pattern. The Winnipeg Field Battery trained on smooth bore 3-pdr. and 7-pdr. guns on loan from the Hudsons Bay Company. It would be 1876 before the battery received its 9-pdr. MLR weapons, five years after formation! The lack of an armourer in the District meant that if a Snider-Enfield needed repair it could not be fixed. When issued, the weapons had already seen considerable service and were in poor condition. The Winnipeg Troop of Cavalry even had to use artillery bandoliers as their cross belts.





Officers and men of the St Jean Baptiste Infantry Company in 1879. The Men are wearing the then obsolete chevron pattern scarlet tunic and the Kilmarnock cap. They are armed with the 3-band Snider Enfield rifle. La Societe Historique de St Boniface Archives (photo MF60-10963).



Shako of the pattern in use 1869-78 worn by Captain David M'Intosh of the KILDONAN INFANTRY COMPANY . Dark blue with silver lace and fittings. White over red ball tuft. Other ranks pattern badge with gilt beaver in place of punched out numerals. This shako was not officially prescribed for use in the Canadian Militia, but some officers like M'Intosh, who were members of the 1877 Rifle Shooting Team competing at Wimbledon, purchased them in London to comply with Imperial Army regulations. Collection of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles Regimental Museum.



Overall, the equipment situation remained unchanged throughout this period.

Training was the responsibility of the local company commander. Thus a company's efficiency would be a reflection of whatever training the C.O. had received. But no Schools of Instruction were held in the district despite the repeated appeals of Lt. Colonel Osborne Smith. All too often local officers lacked appropriate certificates of qualification. The result was that units could only perform the simplest drill and manoueveres. "The population of Winnipeg was ill-provided with the bourgeoisie which was the backbone of the Militia, all classes being concerned with merely making a daily living"<sup>7</sup> This problem was compounded on occasion with officers leaving the district in search of better jobs, with a resulting decrease in efficiency.

Between 1871-1874 training was held annually at the local corps' headquarters. The economic depression of 1874-75 limited the resources available, with the City Corps, whose instruction cost less, being trained annually, whilst the Rural Corps only trained every two years. Since most of the units were designated "rural" this policy resulted in a low standard of efficiency for them. With 3-year terms of enlistment, the militiaman would enrol in his first year, receive part of his uniform and equipment in the second, and some training in the third. All too often this policy ensured that the militiaman would be unlikely to re-enlist for a second term.

By 1875 there was only a single company of infantry and one artillery battery still on the Active Militia List. However changes in the state of military affairs brought about a renewed interest in the Militia. In 1877 the regular Dominion Provincial Battalion was disbanded. This and the arrival of Sioux refugees in the Portage La Prairie area created another wave of insecurity. The population of Manitoba had increased six-fold since Confederation. Between 1876 and 1880 six new corps were organized. But the equipment issued remained the same and continued to fall further into disrepair. The new District Commanding Officer, Lt. Colonel C.F. Houghton sadly neglected these new companies.. His energies were devoted to creating a new city infantry battalion.

Moreover, his appointment was not welcomed by local leaders of military and civil affairs.

" Houghton has not much head and still less judgement"<sup>8</sup>, wrote Hugh John MacDonald to his father, the Prime Minister, concerning Houghton's attitude to local Militia affairs. After 1884, during Houghton's tenure all training for the rural independant companies ceased.

In 1883, the Winnipeg Infantry Company became No.1 Company of the 90th Winnipeg Rifles. The process started by Lt. Colonel Osborne Smith in the 1870's would bear fruit during the crisis of the North West Rebellion of 1885. When, despite being abused and neglected, the Independant Companies were able to mobilize considerable forces on a



large scale, which would ensure Manitoba's security during the crisis. The Winnipeg Troop of Cavalry was mobilized and sent to the North West to secure General Middleton's lines of communication. The Winnipeg Field Battery marched with Middleton from Qu'Appelle to Batoche during the campaign. The 90th Winnipeg Rifles would distinguish themselves at Fish Creek and Batoche. The Kildonan Infantry Company formed the nucleus of the 92nd Battalion (Winnipeg Light Infantry) and saw action at Frenchman's Butte and during the pursuit of Big Bear. Officers of the old companies would become the senior officers in the 95th Manitoba Grenadiers, which would see service in the Qu'Appelle Valley. The Emerson Infantry Company was mobilized for local protective duty along the U.S. border around Emerson.

The record of the Independent Companies of the Active Militia in Manitoba, and their contribution to Manitoba's military history is often overlooked by historians. It should be noted that despite inadequate training and neglect, these Companies managed to instill a military tradition into the units which campaigned in the North West Rebellion. Some units remain in being today, and much is owed to these early volunteers who built their foundations.

## APPENDIX A

### List of companies in Manitoba between 1871 and 1884

Winnipeg Field Battery: Organized Oct 13th 1871; saw service in the Fenian Raid of 1871 and in the 1885 North West Rebellion, seeing action with General Middleton's column at Batoche. Perpetuated today by the 13th Field Battery (Portage la Prairie).

Headingly Mounted Rifles: Organized October 1871. Officer commanding, Captain Cunningham. Saw service during the Fenian Raid of 1871. This corps was organized into the Active Militia but never performed any drill because no uniforms or equipment were issued during its first term of enlistment. Disbanded 1874.

St Boniface Mounted Rifles: Organized October 1871, officer commanding, Captain Joseph Royal. Saw service in the Fenian Raid of 1871. Gazetted into the Active Militia but failed to organize or perform any drill. No uniforms were issued. Disbanded in 1874.

Winnipeg Rifle Company: Organized October 1871, officer commanding, Captain Stewart Mulvey. Saw service in the Fenian Raid of 1871. Gazetted into the Active Militia. It was organized and partially uniformed but never performed any drill. Disbanded 1874.

Mapleton Rifle Company: Organized October 1871, officer commanding, Captain Picton. Saw service in the Fenian Raid of 1871. Organized into the Active Militia; uniformed as a rifle company, it performed three years of drill. Disbanded in 1875.

South St Andrews Rifle Company: Organized October 1871, officer commanding, Captain John Schultz. Saw service in the Fenian Raid of 1871. Organized into the Active Militia, issued rifle uniforms and performed several years of drill. Renamed the South St Andrews Infantry Company in 1875. Despite its conversion to infantry the unit continued to wear rifle pattern uniforms. Disbanded in 1878.

Poplar Point Rifle Company: Organized October 1871, officer commanding, Captain Newcombe. Saw service in the Fenian Raid of 1871. Organized into the Active Militia, issued with uniforms and performed several years of drill. Disbanded in 1875.

Kildonan Infantry Company: Organized August 11th 1876. Officers commanding, 1876-80 - Captain D. MacIntosh. 1881-85 - Captain R.W. Rolph. Gazetted into the Active Militia and performed several years of drill as a rural corps. The unit formed No.1 Company of the 92nd Winnipeg Light Infantry in 1885 and saw active service during the North West Rebellion, with the Alberta Field Force, being present at the engagement of Frenchman's Butte. Disbanded in 1885.

Emerson Infantry Company: Organized April 6th 1877. Officers commanding, 1878-85 - Captain W. Nash. 1885 - Captain Whitman. 1886-87 - Lieutenant C.Killer. Gazetted into the Active Militia and performed several years of drill as a rural company. During the North West Rebellion the unit was mobilized for local protective duty and employed in guarding various border points in the district. Disbanded in 1887.

Winnipeg Infantry Company: Organized Sept 20th 1878. Officers commanding, 1877-78 - Captain C.W.Allen. 1878-81 - Captain G.F.Carruthers. 1881-83 - Captain A. Mackeand. Gazetted into the Active Militia and performed several years of drill. Became No.1 Company of the 90th Winnipeg Rifles on the formation of this unit in October 1883. Saw active service in 1885 during the North West Rebellion, being present at Fish Creek and Batoche.

Winnipeg Troop of Cavalry: Organized September 20th 1878. Officers commanding, 1878-82 - Captain G.H. Young. 1882-96 - Captain C. Knight. 1896-98 - Lieutenant U. Short. Gazetted into the Active Militia and performed several years of drill. Original uniform was of hussar pattern. During the North West Rebellion the Troop was mobilized and was engaged in guarding the lines of communication in the Touchwood Hills district. In 1892 the unit was retitled the Winnipeg Dragoons and issued with dragoon pattern uniforms. Disbanded in 1898.



St Jean Baptiste Infantry Company: Organized Aug 1st 1879, officer commanding, Captain T.L Thibeault. Gazetted into the Active Militia and performed several years of drill in its two terms of enlistment. Remained on the Militia List until 1891 when it was disbanded.

St Boniface Infantry Company: Organized July 30th 1880. Officer commanding, Captain L.A. Prud'homme. Gazetted into the Active Militia and performed drill once during its term of enlistment. Existed on paper until 1887 when it was disbanded.

#### FOOTNOTES.

1. Government of Canada, Sessional papers No.8. Minister of Militia and Defence, Report of the State of the Militia" 1872. p.39
2. Ibid p.39
3. Ibid p.79
4. Ibid p.79
5. Ibid p.44
6. La Societe Historique de St Boniface Archives #MF60-10963
7. D.P. Morton, " The Canadian Militia 1867-1900. A political and social institution". August 1964. pp. 176-177. Para. 253.
8. Ibid p.178. Para 254.

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La Societe Historique de St Boniface Archive

## **Foot Guards on the Prairies**

**by Peter A. Dervis.**

Foot Guards in Bearskin caps and scarlet tunics, hardly an unusual sight in London, might seem a little out of place on the prairies of Canada. However, surprising as it may seem today, Winnipeg once boasted a local militia unit which wore the uniform of the Grenadier Guards.

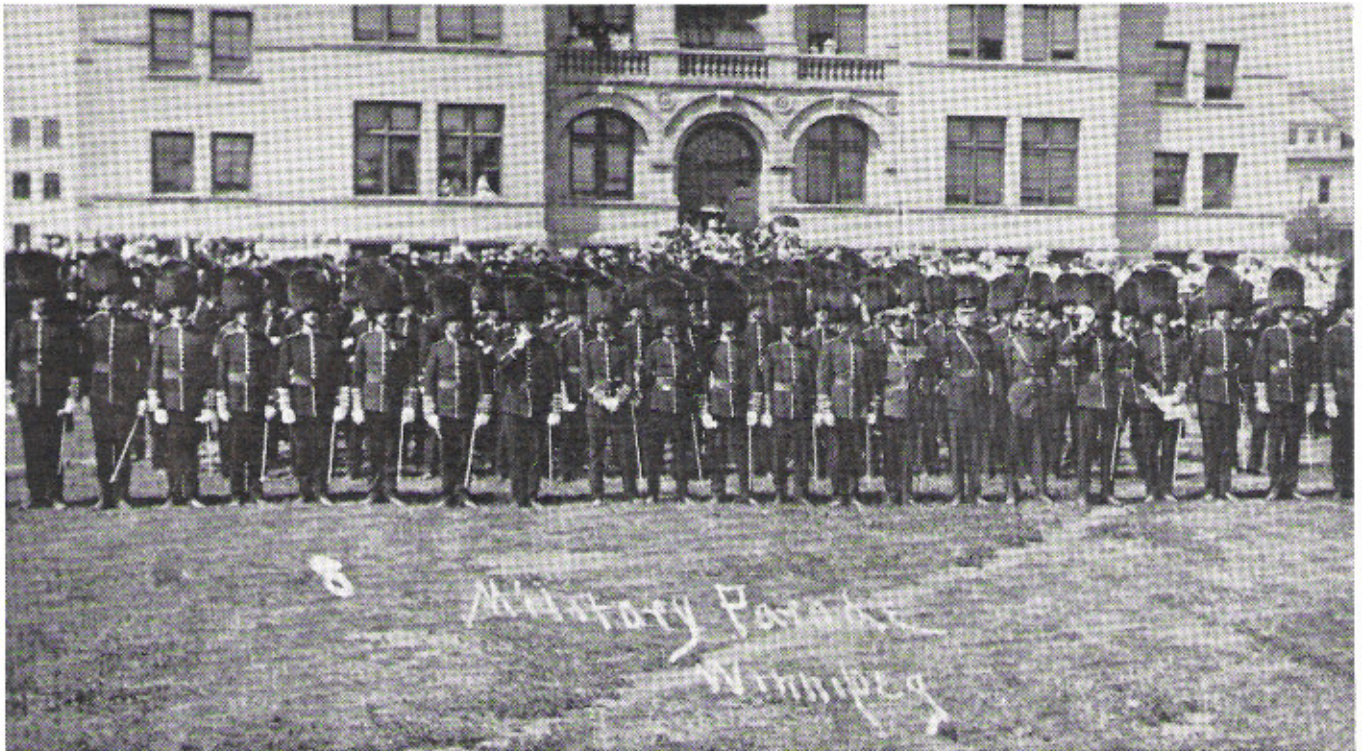
At least five Canadian Infantry regiments have worn a full dress uniform based on that of the British Brigade of Guards. These include the Governor General's Foot Guards in Ottawa, the Canadian Grenadier Guards in Montreal <sup>1</sup>, the Canadian Guards,<sup>2</sup> who as proper foot guards were officially entitled to wear this type of uniform as their ceremonial uniform. Also, the Royal Regiment of Canada, a Toronto Militia unit <sup>3</sup>, although never granted Foot Guard status, have since the early part of this century worn the Grenadier Guards pattern uniform, with only minor modifications; the most noticeable being the substitution of a red and white plume for the Grenadiers white plume.

That these regiments were stationed or raised in the nation's largest cities (the Canadian Grenadier Guards in Montreal, the Royal Regiment of Canada in Toronto and the Governor General's Foot Guards in Ottawa, the nation's capital) comes as no surprise. The cost of outfitting a unit in such a uniform, must have been enormous; no small consideration in the case of militia regiments who were required to pay for such things as bearskin caps out of unit funds. The Canadian Guards as a regular regiment raised in the 1950's, were clothed at public expense.

However the adoption of "Guards" style full dress by the fifth unit under consideration, the 100th Winnipeg Grenadiers, in 1910, is most intriguing. One cannot help but wonder why a very junior militia regiment raised in the prairies of Canada in 1908 would go to all the expense and trouble of doing so. Two photos (see illustrations) taken in 1914 show a very impressive turnout. One candid shot of a group of officers in front of their men for what was probably a church parade, shows a remarkable degree of spit and polish for part time soldiers. Only the brown leather belts with snake clasps of the men indicate that they are Canadian Militia rather than Grenadier Guards.

The two officers in undress frocks and forage caps ( the third officer with the white cap cover, is from another unit) standing in line with the officers in full dress, interestingly wear collar badges on their frocks, which does not conform with the practice of the Foot Guards today. However their forage caps are proper Guards pattern, and appear to be identical with those worn by the Grenadier Guards.





Officers and men of the 100th Winnipeg Grenadiers on parade in full dress at Fort Osborne Barracks in the summer of 1914. Note that the men are wearing brown leather belts with snake fastenings. Since no arms are carried it is probable that this was a church parade. (Photo from the author's collection)



The same parade as in the photo above, showing officers and men of the 91st Winnipeg Light Infantry on the right of the 100th Winnipeg Grenadiers. Lieutenant Colonel J.B. Mitchell CO of the Winnipeg Grenadiers is walking towards his regiment. (Photo from the author's collection).



The second photo shows the commanding officer of the 100th Winnipeg Grenadiers, Lieutenant Colonel J.B. Mitchell in full dress marching towards his regiment, past the ranks of the 91st Winnipeg Light Infantry. The officer wearing a cocked hat is a Colonel with the aiguillettes of an ADC, probably to the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba. Col. Mitchell survived to welcome King George VI and Queen Elizabeth during the Royal Visit just before the outbreak of WWII, wearing the same uniform.

These photos provide tangible evidence of the regiment's success in outfitting itself as a "Guards" regiment, which according to one source, was the intention from the regiment's inception. "On April 1st 1908 the 100th Regiment was formed. The commanding officer had initially sought to make the 100th a Guards regiment"<sup>4</sup>

Although the correspondence in Appendix A is directed towards two regiments who wished to uniform themselves as Foot Guards, it is of no small interest that one of them, the Canadian Grenadier Guards,<sup>5</sup> were shortly to receive authorization for the wearing of this uniform. One wonders if the strong discouragement on the part of the government concerning the adoption of this uniform by the 100th Winnipeg Grenadiers, was a political move designed to conceal the fact that the senior line infantry regiment of the militia had used its considerable influence to ensure that it became a Guards regiment.. After all it would not have done to have two regiments of Canadian Grenadier Guards.

Despite this prohibition against the adoption of the Guards uniform it was retained, along with the style "Grenadiers". The lack of official status in this regard cannot prevent one thinking of them as Guards.

Perhaps the answer to this ignoring of official disapproval lies in the facts of geography and demographics. Before the Great War Winnipeg was a city of much greater relative importance than it is today. It was the last urban center on the eastern edge of the prairies, a rail nexus leading to the West. It was also militarily important, headquarters of Military District No.10, home of Lord Strathcona's Horse, the 90th Winnipeg Rifles and the 79th Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada and several other militia units. It therefore comes as no surprise that there was a strong movement to organize and equip a unit aspiring to the social status of the Foot Guards. After all Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto had them, why not Winnipeg ?

Little remains of this regiment which ceased to exist in 1965. However, during its brief existence, its members won three Victoria Crosses, and the regiment was awarded twenty two battle honours. Perhaps official sanction, notwithstanding, the Winnipeg Grenadiers (which they became in 1920) had won the right to their bearskins, scarlet tunics and grenade badges. Certainly their affiliation with the Scots Guards in 1933 bestowed some credibility to that premise.

## Footnotes:

1 Successor in 1912 to the 1st Prince of Wales Fusiliers who were originally raised in 1859 as the First Battalion Volunteer Militia Rifles of Canada.

2 Canada's only Permanent Force regiment of Foot Guards, raised in 1953, disbanded in 1957. However, the name of the 5th Battalion remained as a sub-title of the Governor General's Foot Guards from 1954.

3 Successor to the 10th Royal Grenadiers who originated in 1862 as the 10th Battalion Volunteer Militia Rifles of Canada. In 1903, according to the regimental history BATTLE ROYAL p.64, the officers of the 10th Royals were given permission to wear a Foot Guards pattern tunic. This is confirmed in CANADIAN MILITIA DRESS REGULATIONS 1907 P.38. The entire regiment had been wearing bearskin caps since 1893. The NCO's and Other Ranks do not seem to have adopted a foot guards pattern tunic until after the First World War.

4. TASCONA, Bruce, The Militia of Manitoba 1883-1979 Infantry and Cavalry p.24.

5. In 1912, the senior line infantry regiment of the Canadian Militia, the 1st Prince of Wales Fusiliers became the Canadian Grenadier Guards.

## APPENDIX A

From: The Adjutant-General  
Canadian Militia

November 18, 1912

To: The D.O.C., M.D. No. 10,  
Winnipeg, Man.

**UNIFORM**  
100th Regiment (Winnipeg Grenadiers)

Sir:

Adverting to previous correspondence on the subject marginally noted, and more particularly to your letter of the 9th July last, I am directed, by the Minister in Militia Council, to forward herewith, for your information and that of the O.C. 100th Regiment, a copy of a letter dated the 9th instant from the Military Secretary to His Royal Highness the Governor-General.

I am,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Colonel  
A-Adjutant-General



## APPENDIX A CONT.

To: Deputy Minister of Militia & Defence  
Ottawa

9th November 1912

(Cdn. Grenadier Guards) (Winnipeg Grenadiers)

Sir:

His Royal Highness the Governor General desires me to acknowledge your letter of the 8th instant preferring a request that the "Grenadier Guards of Canada" be allowed to wear the uniform of the Grenadier Guards.

His Royal Highness, as Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, desires me to point out that both the name and uniform of the Grenadier Guards were given to that regiment on the occasion of their defeating the French Grenadiers at Waterloo, and that they therefore constitute a Battle Honour which would be meaningless is used by other regiments.

As the question would inevitably come round to his Royal Highness as Colonel of the Grenadiers, he desires me to say that his reply would be that if the uniform is adopted by other regiments it should only be with such modifications as to make it quite distinctive and render confusion impossible.

The above remarks also apply to your letter of August 1st relating to the "Winnipeg Grenadiers".

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) H.C. Lowther  
Lieut. Colonel  
MILITARY SECRETARY

Downing Street

December 5, 1912

CANADA  
CONFIDENTIAL

Sir:

(Winnipeg Grenadiers)

With reference to Your Royal Highness's despatch No. 438 of the 7th August, forwarding an application for the grant of His Majesty's permission for the 100th Regiment "WINNIPEG GRENADIERS" to wear a similar uniform to that of the Grenadier Guards, I have the honour to request you to inform your Ministers that the Army Council, to whom the application was in the first instance referred point out that both the title and uniform of the Grenadier Guards were given to commemorate the defeat of the French Grenadiers at Waterloo by that Regiment, and therefore constitutes a battle honour which would be meaningless if applied to a Regiment which did not exist at the time it was granted.

2. In these circumstances the Council consider that it is undesirable for the 100th Regiment "Winnipeg Grenadiers" to be permitted to adopt in its entirety the Uniform of the Grenadier Guards.

3. Before taking His Majesty's pleasure upon the application I should be glad if your Ministers would give the matter their further consideration.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Royal Highness's  
most obedient humble servant

(Sgd.) L. Harcourt

GOVERNOR GENERAL  
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS  
THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT & OF STRATHEARN, K.G., K.T., K.P., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E.,  
G.C.V.O.

## **The Fenian Raids 1866-70**

**by John R. Thyen**

The first Fenian Raid of 1866 was carried out by some Irish agitators in the United States who intended to liberate Canada from British control and use it as a bargaining counter to obtain Ireland's independence. They had little trouble raising an army from the restless soldiers demobilized at the end of the American Civil War.

### The Battle of Ridgeway.

Their leader General John O'Neill, a former cavalry officer of the Union Army, chose to cross from Buffalo to Fort Erie on the night of May 31st 1866 with a force of 800 men. After encountering no resistance at Fort Erie, the force advanced north to Frenchman's Creek some three miles distant, where they encamped to wait for reinforcements, who unfortunately did not arrive.

On June 1st the Fenian force advanced further up the Niagara River until they came to Ridge Road, camped there for the night and early next morning proceeded west until they reached Limestone Ridge early on the morning of June 2nd. Limestone Ridge, about a mile and a half from Ridgeway, was found to be an excellent site to defend since it was an elevated area of ground with a clear view of the surrounding country.

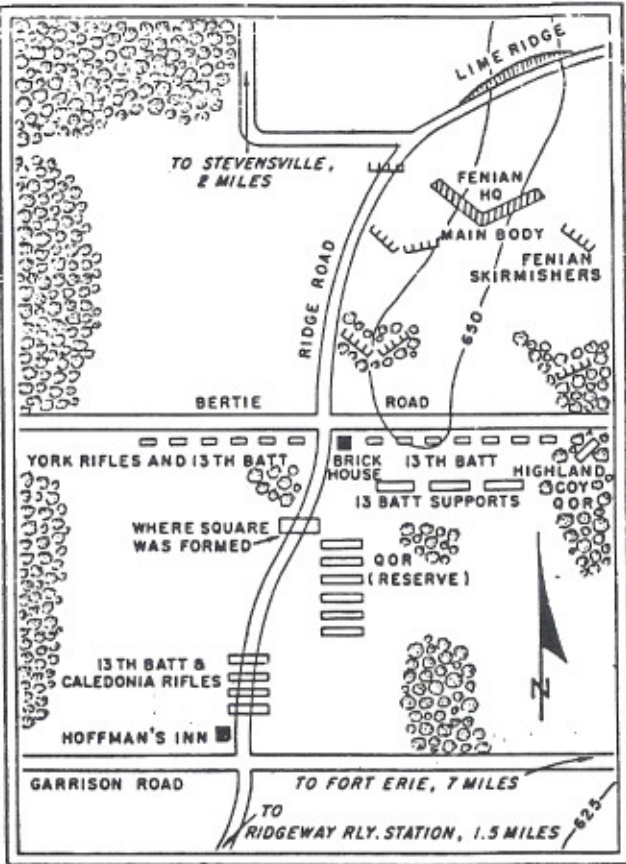
O'Neill had heard from some of his scouts that the Canadians had mobilized and were heading in his direction so knew that he did not have long to wait.

Canadian volunteers of the various militia units in both Upper Canada (Ontario) and Lower Canada (Quebec) anticipating trouble had been called to arms, first, in November 1865, then in March 1866, and finally on June 1st and 2nd 1866. A total of over 20,000 men, including home guards saw service during the raids in 1866, however we will follow only those units that were in action.

In Toronto, the Queen's Own Rifles under Lieutenant Colonel J.S. Dennis, 480 of all ranks assembled at the Drill Hall on Front Street at 4 o'clock on the morning of June 1st and boarded the steamer "City of Toronto" for Port Dalhousie. From there they entrained on the Welland Railway for Port Colborne, arriving at noon.

During the afternoon the 13th Battalion of Hamilton, 265 strong under Lieutenant Colonel Alfred Booker, along with 95 men of the York and Caledonia Rifle Companies arrived at Port Colborne from Dunnville.

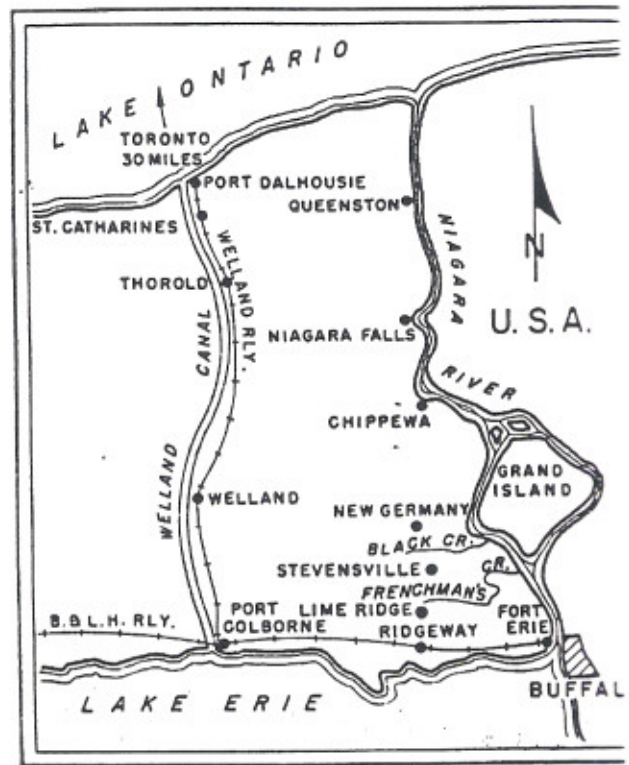




**BATTLE OF RIDGEWAY, 2 JUNE 1866**

POSITION OF QOR IN RESERVE AFTER DRIVING BACK THE FENIANS TO BERTIE ROAD.

SCALE 100 0 100 200 300 400 YARDS



**SKETCH MAP of NIAGARA PENINSULA**

SCALE 5 0 5 MILES



ENGAGEMENT WITH THE FENIANS at Cook's Corners, May 25, 1870. This sketch shows the men of the 60th Missisquoi Battalion of Volunteers engaging the Fenians at Cook's Corners near Eccles Hill.



Saturday, June 2nd was to be a hot day both in temperature and action, as the force of 840 men and officers under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Booker, the ranking officer, left Port Colborne at 5am by train for Ridgeway on the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway. From that point it was intended that they would join Colonel Peacock's force coming from Chippewa, at Stevensville, where the combined forces would meet the enemy coming from Fort Erie.

It did not work out that way for two reasons, firstly Colonel Peacock's troops were late in leaving Chippewa, and secondly, the Fenians were already waiting for the Canadians at Lime Ridge, which was some two miles south of Stevensville, and one and a half miles north of Ridgeway Station.

From Ridgeway, Lieutenant Colonel Booker advanced with his force, marching in columns of four along Ridge Road, the Queen's Own Rifles leading, followed by the 13th Battalion with the York and Caledonia Rifle Companies bringing up the rear.

It was some time after 7 am when the advance guard of the Queen's Own, No.5 Company sent back word that the enemy was in front. The column halted on the road, sent out flanking parties to the right and left, and established that the Fenians were about half a mile north of Garrison Road. The Queen's Own advanced carefully, with No.5 Company in the centre, No.2 Company on the right and Nos. 1 and 7 on the left. Behind these four companies, Nos. 8,4,3 and 6 Companies were immediately in support with Nos.9 and 10 in reserve.

The first of the Queen's Own to be killed was Ensign Malcolm MacEachren of No.5 Company who was shot who was shot in the stomach, and died some twenty minutes later. In an hour of continuous fighting the Queen's Own drove the Fenians back behind Bertie Road. At this point the Queen's Own's ammunition was nearly exhausted and they had to be relieved.

The 13th Battalion with the York Rifle Company on their left took over the front line. Some of the 13th remained in support and reserve along with the Caledonia Rifle Company and the Queen's Own. Their continued advance against the Fenians brought victory almost within their grasp when a cry of "Cavalry" rang out when a few Fenian horsemen were observed in the bushes about 9.30 am.

Lieutenant Colonel Booker ordered the Queen's Own, still in reserve to form square, which they did in the middle of Ridge Road. When it was discovered that this was a false alarm, an order was given to "Re-form Column", however with the Fenians pouring fire into the square, the movement became a rout all the way back to Ridgeway.

The Fenians, with 10 killed and a number of wounded, some of whom would later die in Buffalo, had just about had enough by this time, thus snatched victory from defeat.



General O'Neill himself afterwards admitted that if the Canadians had fought for another five minutes, his forces would have been in full retreat, since they were fast becoming demoralized by the steadfastness of the Canadian troops.

Casualties at Ridgeway:

Queen's Own Rifles.

Killed (9)

Pte Christopher Anderson	L/Cpl Mark Defries	Cpl Francis Lackey
Ensign Malcolm MacEachren	Sgt Hugh Matheson	Pte J.H.Mewburn
Pte Malcolm McKenzie	Pte William Smith	Pte Wm. Tempest

Wounded (21)

Lieut J.H. Beaven	Pte Chas. Bell	Capt J.B. Boustead
Lieut W.C. Campbell	Sgt Price A. Forbes	Pte Copp
Sgt William T. Foster	Ensign Wm. Fahey	Pte Chas. Lugsdin
Color Sgt F. McHardy	Pte R.E. Kingsford	Pte Alex Muir
Pte Oulster	Pte E.G. Paterson	Pte E.T. Paul
Cpl Paul Robbins	Pte J.B. Rutherford	Pte Wm. Thompson
Pte W. Vandersmissen	Pte Chas. Winter	Pte White

Captured (4)

R.W. Hines	Wm. Ellis	David Junor
Colin Forsythe		

13th Battalion

Wounded (8)

Pte S. Dallas	Pte J.G. Powell	Pte John Donnelly
Pte Richard Pentecost	Pte Edwin Hillier	Lt Percy G. Routh
Pte Geo. McKenzie	Pte James Stuart	

Privates J. Cahill, W.B. Nicholls, J.A. Crossman, Henderson, Mason, W.A. Irvine and Urquhart were sent to hospital in Port Colborne suffering from exhaustion, or sunstroke. Privates Morrison, Laker and Cahill later died from disease contracted during the campaign.

York Rifle Company:

Wounded: (3)

Sgt Jack

Pte J.B. Cranston

Pte Oneida

Action at Fort Erie.

At the same time that Lieutenant Colonel Booker was preparing to leave for Ridgeway with his force, Lieutenant Colonel J.S. Dennis of the Queen's Own, along with Captain Chas. S. Akers of the Royal Engineers, had received orders from Colonel Peacocke to put a gun detachment on board an International Ferry steamer at Port Colborne to patrol the Niagara River from Fort Erie to Chippewa.

Since the steamer had not arrived by 10.30 pm on June 1st, Captain L. McCallum, C.O. of the Dunnville Naval Brigade and owner of the powerful tug "W.T. ROBB" offered his boat which was gratefully accepted by Dennis. McCallum mustered his crew and 3 officers and 43 men of the Dunnville Naval Brigade at 2 am on June 2nd in Dunnville, which was about twenty miles west of Port Colborne, where they arrived at 4 am.

Lieutenant Colonel Dennis, Captain Akers and three officers and 59 men of the Welland Canal Field Battery, without cannon, boarded at Port Colborne, and the total force of 110 all ranks proceeded at once to Fort Erie. Early in the morning of the 2nd the "W.T.ROBB" arrived at the inlet of the Niagara River and proceed up as far as Black Creek, before returning to Fort Erie to wait for the forces of Lieutenant Colonel Booker as previously arranged.

When the "W.T.ROBB" docked at the wharf 76 members of the Dunnville Naval Brigade and the Welland Canal Field Battery went ashore to scour the surrounding countryside for a few miles. In the course of these patrols, 59 Fenian stragglers, some drunk, were picked up and put in the hold of the "W.T.ROBB" as prisoners. Finally at about 2 pm the Fenians under General John O'Neill returning from Ridgeway marched into Fort Erie to find the surprised group of Canadian Militia.

Lieutenant Colonel Dennis ordered the Captain of the "W.T.ROBB" to cast off with the prisoners and get out into the river, which was done. These prisoners were subsequently delivered to Port Colborne. Dennis then faced the Fenians with his small force, killing four, mortally wounding five and wounding fourteen more. His own losses were five wounded. But the larger force overran the Canadians. Booker had ordered his men to retreat, and get away as best they could, but a large number stood their ground and were taken prisoner. Dennis himself escaped.



Casualties and prisoners at Fort Erie:Welland Canal Field Battery.

Wounded: (5)

Gunner John Bradley  
Gunner Fergus SchofieldGunner John Herbison  
Gunner Robert S. Thomas

Capt Richard S. King

Captured: (26)

Lieut. Adam K. Scholfield  
Farrier Sgt. Issac Drew  
Gnr. Wm. Brown  
Gnr. Samuel Cook  
Gnr. Gilroy McKee  
Gnr. Issac Pew  
Gnr. Jacob Gardner  
Gnr. James Coleman  
Gnr. S. RadcliffeLieut. Chas. Nimmo  
Gnr. Robert Offspring  
Gnr. John Waters  
Gnr. Thomas Boyle  
Gnr. Joseph Reavly  
Gnr Wm. Black  
Gnr. Edward Armstrong  
Gnr. Chas. Campbell  
Gnr. Morris WeaverSgt. Major Wm. Boyle  
Gnr. Gideon Griswold  
Gnr. Patrick Roach  
Gnr. Stephen Beattie  
Gnr. Jonthan W. Hagar  
Gnr. Robert Armstrong  
Gnr. James H. Boyle  
Gnr. Issac DickersonDunnville Naval Brigade.

Wounded: (1)

Nelson H. Bush

Captured: (10)

2nd Lieut. Angus MacDonald  
Abram Thewlis  
Wm. Burgess  
Joseph GambleSamuel McCormack  
Geo. B. Magee  
Harry NeffJames Robertson  
Thomas Arderly  
Wm. Nugent

All the prisoners, including the six taken at Ridgeway were released at Fort Erie when General O'Neill withdrew across the river to Buffalo.

Fenian Attacks in Quebec.

The next, and last action to take place in Canada during the 1866 raids took place in June in the vicinity of Pidgeon Hill in Quebec, about 10 miles east of Lake Champlain on the border with Vermont.

The Fenian General Spier with General Mahon as his chief of staff , in command of about 1,000 men crossed into Canada with an advance guard on June 4th. He advanced to St Armand where he camped and set up his headquarters at Pidgeon Hill about four miles east.

A small Canadian force of about 100 men under Captain W. Carter of the British 16th Regiment retired from the St Armand area, since Carter did not feel it was his duty to engage such a strong force of Fenians on his own. His men who were willing to fight, although raw volunteers, never forgave him.

General Spier took over various houses and barns in the area, set out pickets for a few miles and remained unmolested in possession of the countryside for some days. Finally on June 9th after a great number of desertions by discontented Fenians, and with no hope of reinforcements, since American troops had closed the the Vermont border, General Spier retired. A small portion of his force stationed a few miles from St Armand was charged by 40 men of the Royal Guides of Montreal that day. Several Fenians were killed and 16 taken prisoner were sent to Montreal. There were no Canadian casualties.

The final engagement occurred on June 22nd when a few marauding Fenians crossed the border again, advanced to Pidgeon Hill, took a few shots at a body of about 75 men of the 21st Battalion (Richelieu Light Infantry) without any effect, then fled across the border again. No one on either side was injured.

#### The Raids of 1870, Eccles Hill and Trout River.

All remained quiet until May 1870 when General O'Neill once again tried to liberate Canada, crossing the border this time into Quebec on May 25th 1870. O'Neill himself was stopped at the border by the American authorities and placed under arrest. The leaderless force was taken over later in the day by General Spier. The Canadians mustered 10,000 troops again, about half in Ontario and half in Quebec.

The Fenians this time 800 strong advanced to a place called Eccles Hill, about three miles east of Pidgeon Hill where they met a small force of 75 men of the Missisquoi Home Guard and the 60th Battalion (Missisquoi) under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Brown Chamberlain. He held his position until strong reinforcements shortly arrived from Stanbridge, about eight miles away, under Lieutenant Colonel Wm. Osborne Smith, consisting of the Montreal Troop of Cavalry and companies of the 1st Prince of Wales Rifles, the 3rd Victoria Rifles, the 5th Royals and the 6th Hochelaga Light Infantry, about 400 in total.

This time the Fenians brought a field gun with them, however a charge against its position by the 60th Battalion and Missisquoi Home Guard, covered by the 3rd Victoria Rifles, broke the Fenians who retreated in confusion across the border. The Battle of



Eccles Hill was over by 6 pm with the Fenian loss of five killed and approximately 18 wounded, while the Canadians suffered no casualties, and captured the field gun as well.

The final skirmish of the 1870 Raids occurred two day later on May 27th at Trout River, located about 8-10 miles west of Eccles Hill in Quebec. A Canadian force approximately 250 strong, consisting of the 50th Battalion (Huntingdon Borderers) and the Montreal Garrison Artillery, who along with a detachment of the British 69th Regiment met the Fenians early in the morning. In face of an advance of great steadiness by the Canadians and the British the Fenians broke and fled across the border. Their retreat was so swift that only one man was captured, but were several wounded. Once again there were no Canadian casualties.

For their services at Eccles Hill and on the Huntingdon frontier, four Canadians were awarded the Order of St. Michael and St. George (C.M.G.), Lieutenant Colonels Wm. Osborne Smith, John Fletcher, Brown Chamberlain and Archibald MacEachren. A Canadian General Service Medal for the Fenian Raids and the Red River Expedition was not issued until 1899, and then only to survivors. Thus the number of medals issued was far less than the number of troops involved. Three bars were issued, "Fenian Raids 1866", "Fenian Raids 1870" and "Red River 1870". The numbers are as follows:

Fenian Raids 1866	11,221
Fenian Raids 1870	4,510
FR 66 & FR 70	1,411
Red River 1870	355
FR 66 & RR	120
FR 70 & RR	15
FR 66, FR 66 & RR	12

Of a total of 17,644 medals issued, approximately 15,300 went to Canadians.



## **The Camp Hughes Project.**

**by Grant Tyler.**

During the summer of 1987 The Military History Society of Manitoba conducted several reconnaissance trips to the site of the former Camp Hughes, a WWI training camp near Shilo, Manitoba, to see what evidence, if any, remained of its former use.

The significance of Hughes as a heritage resource became evident immediately, and the Society applied for a permit to conduct archaeology investigations. The primary goal of the Society was to protect the site from destruction, especially unauthorized excavation activity, signs of which were very apparent. The ultimate goal however is to secure official designation of Camp Hughes as a Provincial Historic Site.

For those few remaining Great War veterans in Manitoba, the name "Camp Hughes" can still evoke vivid memories of the "tent city"; row upon row of white bell tents set on sandy soil under a scorching summer sun. For most of them Camp Hughes represented their first real taste of a routine of military discipline and the training intended to convert them into soldiers of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

The need for a central training camp for Military District 10 had been apparent for a number of years. In 1909 Colonel S.B. Steele CB. MVO. D.O.C MD 10, reported that the Spruce Woods Forest Reserve, south of Carberry, would provide suitable ground for the training of infantry, cavalry & artillery. He further reported in 1910 that the Hudsons Bay Company had offered for training purposes, the use of land immediately north of the forest reserve and south of Sewell Station.

The land was readily accessible by the Canadian Northern and Canadian Pacific Railways. Sewell Station was located on the CPR line. In 1881 the CPR had reached a point between Carberry and Douglas approximately 7 miles east of Douglas. The railway laid sidings at Sewell. In 1882 a station and section house were added, and by 1900 a store and livery barn were in operation. Farms were established north of the station and south of the railway. However, the soil was not suited to grain farming and the small business section vanished.

Military training at Camp Sewell began in June of 1910 on property owned by the CPR. The first camp was attended by 1,469 soldiers. In 1911 the Department of the Interior reserved from entry several tracts of land adjacent to Sewell. On these tracts and adjoining private lands annual militia training camps were held until 1915 when the training of CEF units began.



The 1915 camp was attended by 10,994 men of all ranks. Several permanent and semi-permanent structures were erected to service the large number of troops. A rifle range was constructed and the water supply system improved. On 11th September Camp Sewell was re-named Camp Hughes following a decision by the CPR to re-name their station in honour of Canada's Minister of Militia and Defence, Major General Sam Hughes.

Camp Hughes became a temporary Military District in 1916, and 27,754 troops trained at the site. Although only seasonal in nature, the population of Camp Hughes was second only to Winnipeg.

Construction also reached a zenith in 1916, by which time the camp could boast six movie theatres, numerous small retail shops (Advance Photo, Military News Agency, R.J. Inglis, Birks etc), the largest in-ground swimming pool in the West, Ordnance and Army Service Corps buildings, a mechanical transport garage, Headquarters building, pay office, post office and a prison, to mention only a few.

Training was suspended at Camp Hughes during 1917 and 1918. A decline in voluntary enlistments (culminating in the Conscription Act) rendered such an extensive facility unnecessary.

During the 1920's summer training camps were again conducted at Hughes. However, by 1927 a Board of Officers had recommended abandonment of Hughes for a new site on more suitable land to the south. The final training camp was held at Hughes in 1930.

On 8th December 1933 Unemployment Relief Project No.10 commenced. It entailed the establishment of a training camp at Shilo, dismantling buildings at Hughes, and salvaging the material for the new camp. Some of the Camp Hughes buildings were actually placed on skids and towed south by caterpillar tractors over the frozen marshland during the winter months. And so Camp Hughes passed out of existence, remaining only as a distant memory for a few old soldiers. Hughes lay dormant for the next half-century, except for intrusions by soldiers on manouvers, and later by treasure seekers armed with metal detectors.

Since 1988 the Military History Society of Manitoba and Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship (Historic Resources Branch) have been working closely together in an effort to learn more about the site. A large quantity of photographic and archival material has been assembled by the Society to complement and support its work in the field.

Significant material evidence of the camp's former occupation and role has been discovered as a result of field work. A trench system of sufficient size to accomodate an infantry battalion, while enduring almost 80 years of erosion, remains essentially intact. It is likely the only extant example of a First World War training trench system in North America.

No less than 45 major features have been located to date, including: building foundations and sites; a rifle range; water tower sites; two refuse dumps; artillery firing positions and observation posts; the grenade range and trenches and various other structures. Five brigade encampments have also been pinpointed, as well as the site of the Staff lines. Approximately 2,000 artifacts have been recovered.

In 1990 the Manitoba Heritage Council recommended to the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Citizenship the designation of Camp Hughes as a site of Provincial Historic Significance. It is expected that the designation will be finalized in 1992, making Camp Hughes the first military site to be recognized by the Province of Manitoba.

## **An Introduction to British Infantry Swords, with examples from the New Brunswick Museum Collection.**

**by Grant Tyler.**

Swords have been part of the soldier's armament for centuries, and have ranged from the purely functional fighting weapon (not always as functional as one might have hoped for!), to the highly decorative, with beautifully etched blades, blued and inlaid with gold.

### Non-Commissioned Officer's and Other Ranks' Swords.

Until 1768 all non-commissioned officers and other ranks were required to carry swords. Their sword, commonly known as a hanger, was a short weapon, usually no longer than 77.8 cms. It had a curved blade with a hatchet point and often incorporated a brass half basket guard.

As the bayonet became the primary close quarter fighting weapon, the sword gradually fell by the wayside, being withdrawn in phases over a period of years. The first phase of this withdrawal, in 1768, left only the sergeants of infantry regiment centre companies, and all ranks of the grenadier companies with swords. The regulations went further still in 1784 and in 1792 with the abolition of swords for other ranks of grenadier companies.

From 1796, sergeants carried swords which were simplified versions of those carried by their officers. Their blades were normally un-etched. Even these were discontinued for the lower grades of sergeants in 1852.

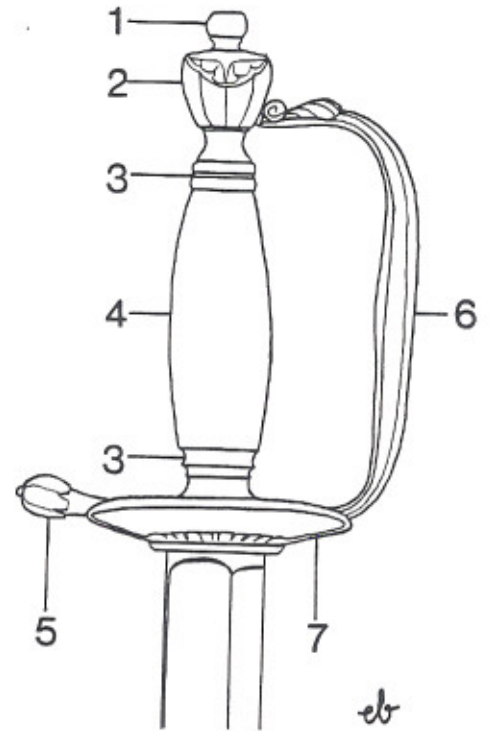


Plate No. 1

Infantry Officer's Sword pattern 1796.

Parts of the hilt.

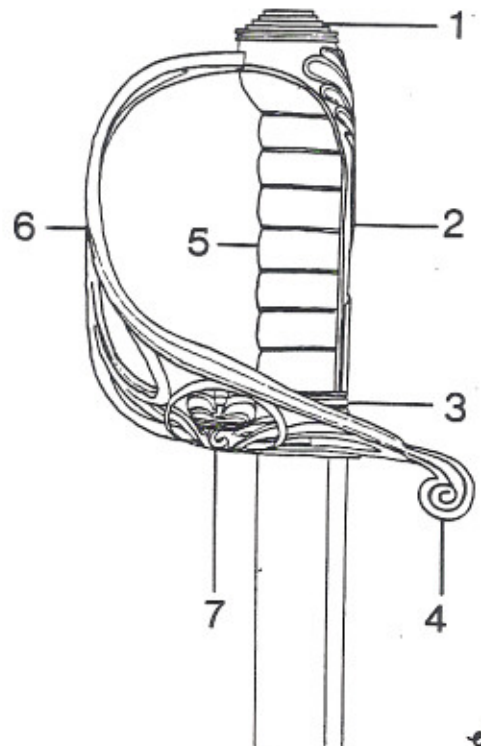
1. Tang button.
2. Pommel.
3. Ferrule.
4. Grip.
5. Quillon.
6. Guard.
7. Counter guard.

Plate No. 2

Infantry Officer's sword pattern 1822.

Parts of the hilt.

1. Stepped pommel.
2. Back piece.
3. Ferrule.
4. Quillon.
5. Grip.
6. Guard.
7. Cartouche.



Drawings by Dariusz Burzynski.



### Plate N. 3

Royal cyphers found on sword blades and guards. (from left to right, top row to bottom)

George III 1760-1820

William IV 1830-1837

George IV 1820-1830

Victoria 1837-1901

Edward VII 1902-1910

George V 1911-1936

George VI 1936-1952

Elizabeth II 1952-

Cartouche badge - rifle regiment



eb

### Plate No. 4

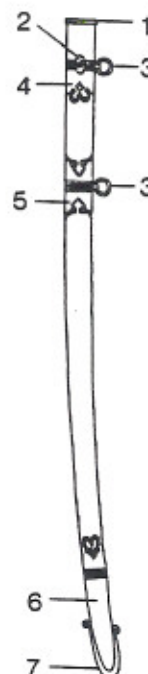
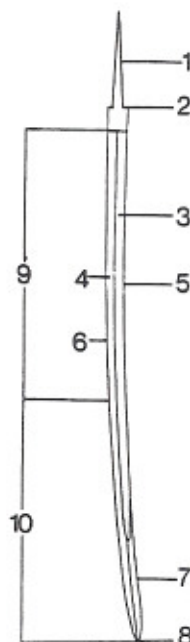
Infantry Officer's sword pattern 1845.  
Parts of blade and scabbard.

Sword:

1. Tang.
2. Shoulder.
3. Fuller.
4. Flat edge.
5. Back.
6. Sharp edge.
7. Double edge part.
8. Point.
9. Forte.
10. Foible.

Scabbard:

1. Mouthpiece.
2. Frog stud.
3. Loose rings.
4. Locket.
5. Middle band
6. Chape.
7. Shoe.



eb

Drawings by Dariusz Burzynski.



### Pioneer Swords.

By the late eighteenth century, detachments of pioneers had become a part of all infantry regiments. Their duties included the construction of defence works, the clearing of bivouac areas and obstacles. For these purposes a sword was designed which could be utilized both as a weapon and as a saw.

Before 1856, a regulation pioneer sword for the whole of the army had not existed, although regimental variations were in use. In that year a pattern was adopted which would remain the standard until 1903. Its short, straight blade was saw backed, allowing for its dual role, and terminated in a spear point. The sturdy grip was of ridged brass, while the guard was a stirrup-type knuckle bow which doubled as a saw handle.

In 1903, these weapons were declared obsolete and sold to the Royal Navy for use on H.M. ships. Whether or not any actually saw service with the navy is uncertain. Nevertheless, it is an interesting sidelight to their history.

### Drummers' and Buglers' Swords.

Swords for drummers are described in a Royal Warrant of 1768 as having a scimitar blade. By the beginning of the 19th century, drummers were authorised to wear a sword similar to the sergeant's version of the 1796 pattern officer's sword. It had a 24 inch blade and a brass guard and grip.

In 1822 drummers adopted the gothic hilted sword of infantry officers and sergeants but with a slightly shorter blade.

A new pattern for drummers and buglers in all dismounted corps appeared in 1856. This weapon had a 19 inch blade and a cruciform ridged hilt with trefoil quillons. The ecusson carried the cypher of Queen Victoria, or in the case of some rifle regiments, a bugle. The hilt was in brass for drummers and in cast iron for buglers. In 1895 a shorter 13 inch blade and a smooth grip was introduced. Drummers, buglers and bandsmen of line regiments wore the brass hilt version, rifle regiments the cast iron hilt one. Buglers swords were abolished in 1904.

### Officer's Swords.

The Royal Warrant of 1768 required that officers be armed with swords in addition to their spontoons (a pole arm with a spear point), but a definite pattern was not specified. The main requirement was that officers of the same regiment be armed with sword of the same type.

Typical of these non-standard weapons was the English short sabre, incorporating an iron knuckle bow which widened out into a four slotted counter guard. A ridged grip of bone,

horn or ebony, wrapped with a brass band was common, as was the double-fullered blade. Those of pre-1780 manufacture are normally found with both a narrow and a broad fuller. The short sabre was widely used by both British and Colonial officers during the American Revolution.

Another interesting example of an 18th century sword, in the New Brunswick Museum, is that of a Loyalist officer, Lieutenant Colonel Richard W. Hewlett, who came to Saint John in 1783. Colonel Hewlett's sword utilizes a stirrup-type knuckle bow and a ridged ebony grip bound with a brass band. Its straight blade is unfullered and terminates in a spear point.

Officers continued to carry both the sword and spontoon, at least officially, until 1786. The spontoon served well, if not as a weapon, to distinguish the officers from the other ranks. But it was a cumbersome weapon, and especially unsuited to campaigning in America, where European tactics were seldom successfully employed.

With the discontinuation of the spontoon in 1786, officers' swords were finally on the road to standardization. The infantry officers' sword of 1786 usually incorporated a fluted ivory or bone grip. Some examples have a band with a cartouche carrying the regimental identification around the middle of the grip. The Guard consisted of a narrow-stirrup knuckle bow, of which the middle portion was formed of five joined balls, and a semi-circular guard of the same ball pattern. A small ring was located at the upper portion of the knuckle bow, which allowed for the attachment of a sword knot. Examples with guard and hilt fittings in steel, silver and gilt metal can be found.

Swords of this pattern were also adopted by officers of the Royal Navy, but with a fouled anchor on the cartouche.

A new pattern sword was introduced for infantry officers in 1796 utilizing a somewhat better guard consisting of a brass knuckle bow with a straight quillon, and a counter guard of two oval discs. Because of its fragility, it was scarcely an improvement over its predecessor. Examples of this pattern are found having a folding disc on the left side, allowing the sword to lie flat against the hip when carried.

Officers of the light and grenadier companies of infantry regiments received official sanction to carry swords with curved blades in 1803, a practice which they had been following for some years previously. The guard of the 1803 pattern sword took the form of a gilt brass knuckle bow with the cypher of the reigning monarch incorporated in the lower part. The wooden grip, covered with fish skin and bound with brass wire, was topped with a pommel in the shape of a lion's head.

A flaming grenade, or a stringed bugle in relief on the knuckle bow distinguished between grenadier and light company officers respectively. Those without a



distinguishing mark were carried by field officers, while those of general and staff officers had an ivory grip.

The forte of the curved, flat backed blade was usually blued and gilded with various motifs, including the crown, royal cypher and foliate designs. The curved blade was ideally suited for slashing, but quite useless for thrusting.

Both the 1796 and 1803 pattern swords were discontinued with the arrival of the infantry officer's sword pattern 1822. This weapon, commonly known as the gothic hilted sword, had a half-basket guard, formed of three major bars with tracing along their edges. The basket was lined with black patent leather, while the inner portion was hinged, allowing it to be folded down. Early examples do exist without this feature. Fitted between the outer bars of the basket was an oval cartouche bearing the royal cypher. The wooden grip covered with fish skin and bound with brass wire, had a brass back piece which terminated in a stepped pommel.

The blade was slightly curved and is referred to as being pipe backed because of the tubular shaped reinforcing piece running along it from the shoulder. It was chamfered for the last 23 cm., terminating in a spear point. Invariably, the blade was etched with the royal cypher, and foliate patterns.

This blade designed for both cutting and thrusting, was not up to either. It was reputed to have been among the worst ever used by the English infantry officer. The pipe back interfered with the cut, whilst the absence of fullers made it too weak for thrusting. It was carried in a black leather scabbard with gilt mounts. Those of field officers and adjutants were attached to a waist belt by two slings which were secured to the loose rings on the locket, and the middle band of the scabbard.

Junior officers used a shoulder belt worn diagonally over the right shoulder which terminated in a frog on the left hip. A stud was attached to the locket to fasten the scabbard in the frog. The junior officer's scabbard had no middle band or loose rings until ca.1826. After which they used the waist belt for undress, retaining the shoulder belt for full dress. To accommodate this the scabbard had both loose rings and a stud. A shoulder belt, to which two slings were attached for suspending the sword was used by light infantry officers, and junior officers of Highland regiments carrying the Highland broad sword. By the 1840's adjutants of line regiments were also wearing the shoulder belt with slings.

The Royal Navy, following the Army's example, adopted their own variation of the 1822 pattern sword, in 1827. The Naval pattern had a solid basket with the bars raised in relief. A fouled anchor and crown replaced the cypher in the cartouche, while the grip terminated in a lion's head pommel.

1827 also saw the introduction of a special version of the 1822 pattern for officers of rifle regiments. The brass basket was replaced by a similar design in steel with flatter bars and a stringed bugle in place of the cypher. In full dress this was carried in a black leather scabbard with steel mounts suspended from a black patent waist belt with slings. A steel scabbard was worn in undress uniform.

Brass and steel scabbards were introduced in 1832 for field officers and adjutants of infantry regiments respectively. The leather scabbard was retained for evening dress, and for junior officers in all orders of dress. The steel scabbard was withdrawn in 1834, but reappeared for adjutants in 1854.

A new blade known as the Wilkinson pattern was introduced in 1845. This cut and thrust blade incorporated a flat back which allowed for a cleaner cut, and fullered flat edges, giving it greater strength. It was a definite improvement over its predecessor. The gothic half-basket guard remained unchanged.

During the early 1850's, a rose, thistle and shamrock were added to the cartouche below the cypher, and in 1854 the hinged basket was replaced by a rigid one. The dress regulations of 1855 promulgated several major changes, including the method of wearing the sword. The shoulder belt was abolished for all except Highland regiments, and from then on all officers regardless of rank wore the sword suspended from the waist belt, in all orders of dress.

The leather scabbard, which had been worn by junior officers, was replaced by a steel one in 1866, so that adjutants were no longer distinguished by their scabbard. Field officers still used the brass scabbard.

The final change relating to the 1845 pattern sword came in the British service in 1874 with the removal of the black leather basket lining. This did not apply to Canadian swords which were still described in the Canadian Dress Regulations of 1883 as having a black patent leather lining.

A new sword introduced in 1892 (but known as the 1891 pattern) retained the gothic half-basket, but in conjunction with a straight fullered blade, intended for thrusting. Its scabbard was of nickel plated steel with two loose rings.

The gothic half-basket guard was finally replaced in 1895 by a half-basket of nickel plated sheet steel with pierced designs. The straight blade of the 1891 pattern continued in use with this guard, and from 1897 the inner edge was lapped to prevent wear and tear on the uniform.



Examples of this sword will be found bearing the cyphers of Victoria, to 1901; Edward VII 1902-10; George V 1911-36; and George VI 1936-52. With the cypher of Queen Elizabeth II it remains in use today (1992).

This last pattern was probably the finest with which the British infantry officer had ever been armed. It combined a good thrusting blade with a basket guard which afforded better protection to the hand than any of its predecessors. Perhaps the greatest irony was that this excellent weapon had arrived too late. By the time of its introduction, the sword had long since become obsolete as an infantry fighting weapon.

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Table of swords.

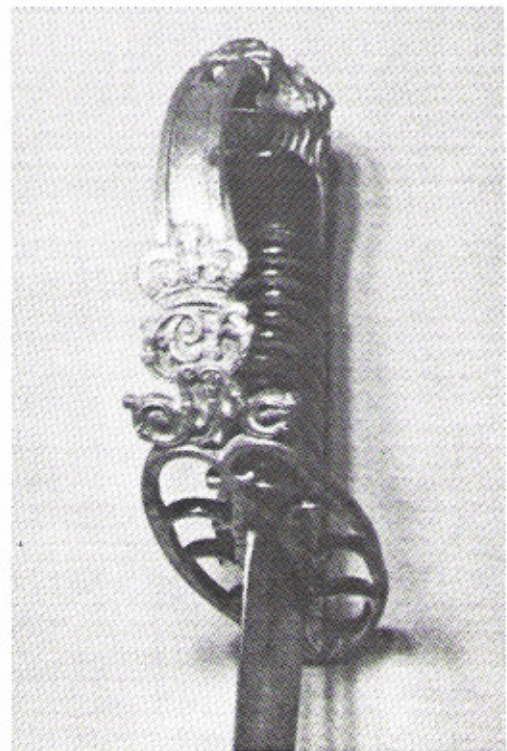
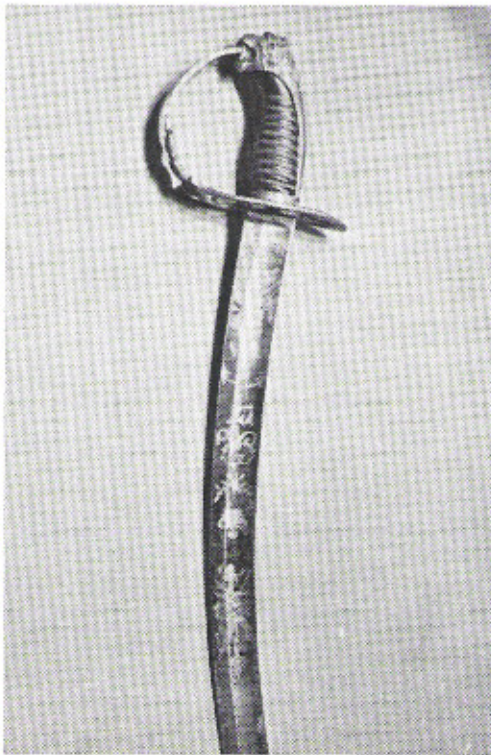
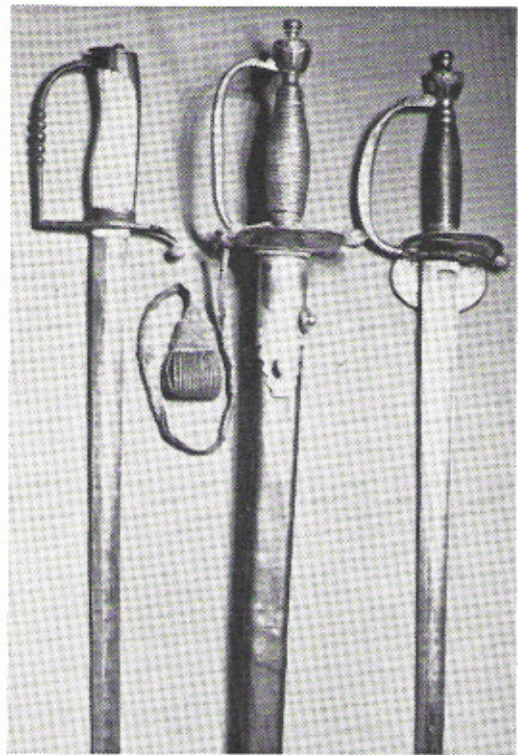
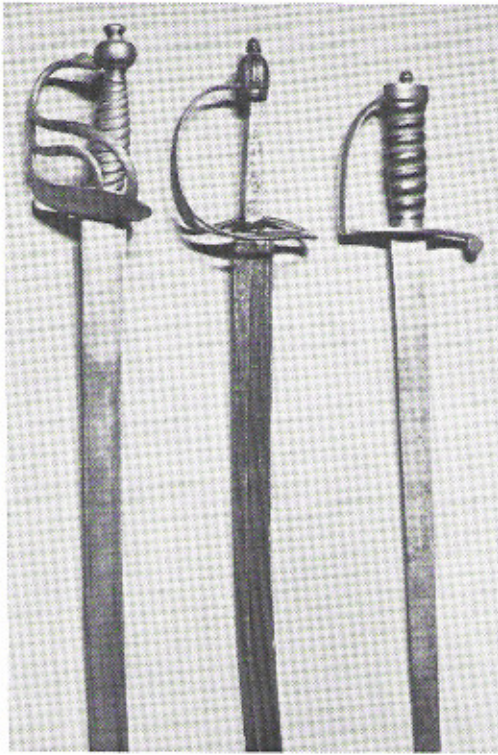
Sword Type	Length overall cm	Blade	Blade type	Guard
Hanger c.1745	77.8	63.6 x 3.3	Curved,narrow,fullered,hatchet point	Brass 1/2 basket
Short sabre c.1775	83.0	68.4 x 3.	Curved,double fullered, spear point	Iron knuckle bow, slotted counter guard
Sword c.1780 L.Col Hewlett	89.0	76.0x2.8	Straight,unfullered spear point	Steel stirrup knuckle bow
Sword c.1786	82.6	69.3x2.6 *	Straight,fullered,spear point	Gilt,silver or steel stirrup knuckle bow
Sword Patt.1796	99.0	87.7x3.0	Straight,fullered,spear point	Gilt brass knuckle bow with disc counter guard
Sword 1803	91.0	78.5x3.4	Curved,fullered, spear point	Gilt brass knuckle bow
Sword 1822	96.0	82.4x2.8	Slightly curved,unfullered, pipe back,spear point	Gilt brass gothic 1/2 basket
Sword 1845	96.5	82.5x2.5	Slightly curved,fullered, flat back,spear point	Gilt brass gothic 1/2 basket
Sword 1892	107.0	93.7x2.4	Straight,fullered,spear point	Gilt brass gothic 1/2 basket
Sword 1895	103.9	93.7x2.4	Straight,fullered,spear point	Sheet steel,nickel plated 1/2 basket pierced design
Sword 1897	108.9	93.7x2.4	Straight, fullered, spear point	Sheet steel 1/2 basket nickle plated,pierced design,inner edge lapped
Sword, Pioneer	70.5	57.5x3.5	Straight,saw backed spear point	Brass stirrup knuckle bow

NOTE: Dimensions will vary between examples of the same type.

The 1822,1845 & 1897 pattern swords were manufactured in full and second sizes. The second size was intended for use on state occasions,balls,levees etc.,and had a shortened,narrow blade in the case of the 1822 & 1845 patterns, and a narrow blade and smaller guard for the 1897 pattern.

(\*) This example is much shorter than normal. Blade is normally as for the 1796 pattern.

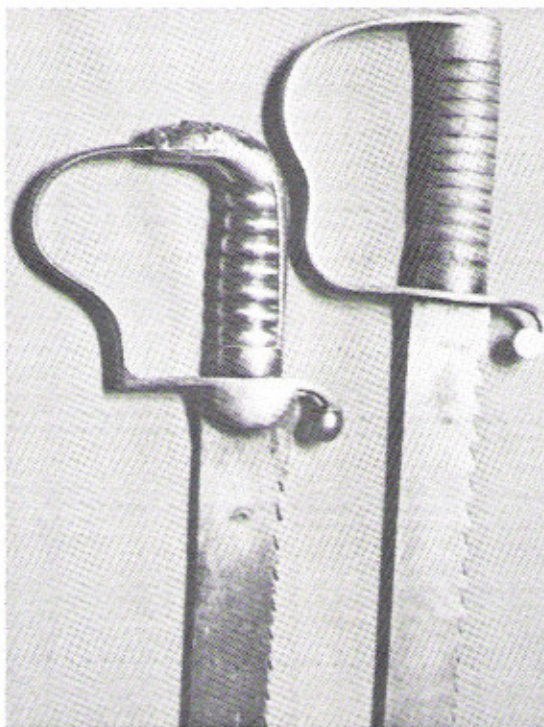
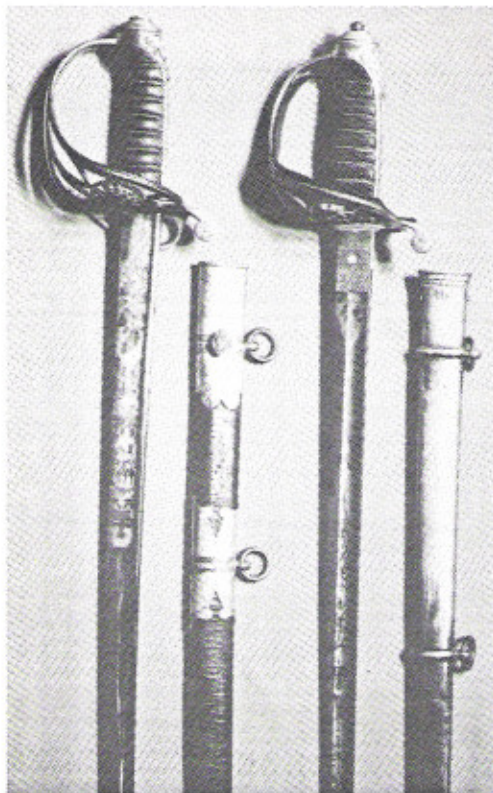




Top from left: HANGER c.1745, infantry other ranks - SHORT SABRE c.1775, note narrow & broad fullers. - SWORD c.1780 belonging to Loyalist Lt Col Richard W. Hewlett. - SWORD c.1786, infantry officer. - SWORD patt. 1796, infantry officer, note sword knot with GR cypher. - SWORD patt. 1796 showing disc counter guard in folded position. Collection of the New Brunswick Museum.

Bottom: SWORD 1803 for officers of Light and Grenadier Companies. - HILT of same sword showing GR cypher. Collection of the New Brunswick Museum. All photos by Harold Wright.





Top from left: SWORD 1822 & SCABBARD, for infantry officers, with pipe backed blade. Note stud on locket of scabbard for attaching to frog on cross belt, and also rings for attaching slings from waist belt. - SWORD 1845 SCABBARD, for infantry officers, note prominent tang button and Wilkinson pattern fullered blade. - SWORD 1822 special version introduced in 1817 for officers of rifle regiments. This example has the Wilkinson pattern blade introduced in 1845. Collection of the New Brunswick Museum.

Bottom from left: SWORD 1895 for infantry officers, with lapped guard in use from 1897, This example bears the cypher of Edward VII. - SWORD, Pioneer, c.1830, non-regulation pattern. - SWORD, Pioneer 1856. Collection of the New Brunswick Museum. - SWORD, Drummer, pattern 1856. Blade is etched with the inscription "Queen's Own Rifles". Note stringed bugle on ecussion. Private collection.



## **Winter for the 6th Foot at Lower Fort Garry, 1846.**

**by David Ross.**

In 1846 a detachment of the 6th Foot was sent to Fort Garry , in the Red River Settlement, at the junction of the Red and Assinaboine Rivers, on the site of the present day city of Winnipeg. They were quartered at the two Hudsons Bay Company posts, Upper and Lower Fort Garry. Their presence was intended to counter a vaguely apprehended threat of American annexation, and also, in passing, to prop up the authority of the Hudsons Bay Company, which then controlled most of western and northern Canada.

The detachment was commanded by Major John ffolliot Crofton, who wrote detailed and extensive reports to the Horse Guards, covering every aspect of the logistics of a military force moving into the heart of British North America, along with data on the local flora, fauna, inhabitants and the local political situation. Another officer of the 6th Foot in the detachment was Captain George Finlay, whose sketchbook ( now in the collection of the Glenbow Museum) provides a fascinating picture of the life led by the garrison.

These two sources are the basis of this brief account illustrating how the troops coped with the severe winter conditions . Crofton was an experienced regimental officer, who adapted the troops' clothing, diet and activities to meet the unfamiliar conditions at this isolated post. He had joined the 6th Foot in 1825 and served in India and Aden before coming to Canada in 1846. Later Colonel of the 6th Foot in 1869 and General in 1877.

George Finlay joined the 6th Foot in 1837 as an Ensign, being promoted Captain in 1842. He served in Aden, India and Ireland. His sketchbooks contain some 50 watercolours of officers and men of the British and Indian Armies, as well as his pen and ink sketches of the detachment at Red River. He retired in 1850, or 1851 and travelled extensively in Europe sketching as he went until at least 1856.

On January 13th 1847, Major Crofton reported to Lieut. General Lord Fitzroy Somerset KCB at the Horse Guards, London as follows:

"..... The troops continue very healthy, and their general conduct has been most satisfactory.

The liberal supply of warm clothing and the arrangements I was able to complete for giving good cover to the troops before winter have prevented their suffering from the rigor of the climate. The thermometer has already been 36 degrees below zero, and we may expect it to sink to 45 degrees below zero during this season.

Notwithstanding this extreme cold I have been able to see the men daily on parade; the guard is regularly mounted; the sentries posted for one hour at a time, and every duty is conducted as in England. With the precaution of fur caps and buffalo coats on the sentries I trust to have it in my power to report at the close of winter that duties can be carried on strictly as prescribed as in Her Majesty's regulations, even in this rigid climate. The plains spread like an ocean around, and the wind rushes over them violently and petrifyingly. The thermometer is no measure of the sensation during the continuance of the prairie winds. Without wind we fearlessly and with impunity face the greatest cold, but when the wind blows the utmost care has not secured either the officers or men from being severely frost bitten if removed from the shelter of the fort walls.

The depth of the snow prevents the men from enjoying out-door exercise or amusement to any extent, and I have felt myself very largely aided in lessening the tedium of the winter to the troops here, by the military library, and in it also found the means of inducing many to keep to quarters after dark. Perhaps I might be permitted to suggest that an annual addition of one box of books, weighing only 90lbs would be most advantageously conferred on the library at this most inaccessible station, by shipping the box in the Hudson's Bay Company ship which leaves England in June yearly, and that the books should consist of tales or travels only; for I observe that works of a higher class are read by very few officers only, and never by the men. While detached, I have ordered the books to be equally divided between the troops at the two forts, and occasionally interchanged".

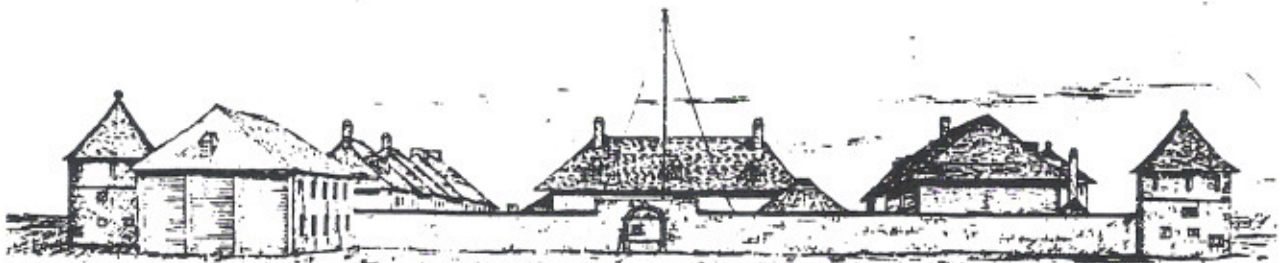
Crofton did not neglect his duty to collect intelligence and enclosed with this report a sketch map of the US Fort Snelling to supplement a previous written report. He wrote again on May 14th 1847:

" ..... Your Lordship is aware that in the latter part of November 1846 we became close prisoners of intense frost and deep snow. From that time the cold daily and steadily increased up to the 20th of January 1847, when the thermometer indicated 47 degrees below zero. It continued for weeks to range between 15 degrees and 47 degrees below zero, and until the 24th of April winter with very little mitigation continued. ....

With a deep sense of the responsible duty before me, prior to the setting in of the winter, I laid my plans for combining with strict discipline and obedience of Her Majesty's regulations the improvement and amusement of the troops confided to my care. Though the extreme cold limited the length of daily parades to a very short time I was still able to hold them for the purposes of examination of arms and ammunition. On but few days was I compelled to have this duty performed in barracks by squads only.



Pen and ink drawings (enlarged) of Upper Fort Garry and soldiers of the 6th Foot in winter clothing 1846-47 by Captain George Finlay, from his sketchbook in the collection of the Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Canada.



*Winter dress - Upper Fort Garry -*



The officers and men were dressed in greatcoats with arms and accoutrements outside, wearing also fur caps with ear flaps, mocassins with blanket socks, and flannel lined fur mits (sic), much resembling the gauntlets used by the thorn-hedge-dressers in England. With these protections we have faced the cold when greatest, fearlessly and with impunity. I furnished extra to each sentry while on his post, a buffalo skin coat, and by relieving him in one hour and causing his to be visited intemediately(sic) all fear of being frozen to death was removed, and this duty, as well as others, was performed as correctly as in England.

While thus enforcing correct performance of duty it was of importance to find occupation for the men, and in clearing the interior of the fort of snow as it fell, and a considerable space around the walls also, I was enabled to employ the men usefully, and give them exercise so requisite for their health.. This also enabled me to move the men occasionally, though in a very confined space, and keep up their drill.

To find employment was not easy, and to find amusement was no less difficult. Out of doors we had sliding, at times football within narrow limits, and sledging down an inclined plane which we made from the bank of the river. All these became popular with the men, but not until the officers led my intentions by setting an example.

..... Availing myself of the better educated men, of whom I have but very few, I suggested to the soldiers willing to learn forming themselves into little private classes for reading and writing every evening, for which purpose I promised to find extra candles &c. This partially succeeded".

Although Crofton appears to be somewhat selfsatisfied, one must remember that few officers of his rank would have the opportunity of reporting directly to Lieut General Fitzroy Somerset (soon to become Lord Raglan). A detached command in an isolated area could become a stepping stone to greater things for an ambitious officer if reported in detail. Also, Crofton seems to be an enlightened and progressive officer who was determined to ensure the health and welfare of his men.

Crofton and his men returned to England in late 1847, sailing from York Factory, returning the way they had come.



## NOTES.

1. *Royal Household and Civil Uniforms*, by David Ross. These uniforms are probably the most colourful and elaborate full dress uniforms still worn today. Especially those of the Royal Household, not only the Earl Marshal, the Master of the Horse and the Crown Equeries, but also, the Royal coachmen, the footmen and the grooms wear uniforms of a richness and quality not seen anywhere else.

This is a subject which has not attracted much attention, but should be of interest to students of military uniforms because items such as the coatee and the cocked hat now obsolete in the military field still survive here. A little known museum of Court Dress, male and female, is housed in Kensington Palace in London. Three excellent books on the subject are currently in print:

"Splendor at Court - Dressing for Royal Occasions" by Nigel Arch and Joanna Marschner, Unwin Hyman, 37-39 Queen Elizabeth St, London,, SE1 2QB 1987. ISBN 0-7135-26610 .

"The Royal Mews" by Mary Stewart-Wilson. The Bodley Head Ltd. 20 Vauxhall Bridge Rd, London, SW1V 2SA. ISBN 0-370-313453. 1991, The uniforms of many Royal servants and Court officials are shown. As well as superb plates of the Royal coaches.

"Robes of the Realm, 300 years of Ceremonial Dress" by Una Campbell. Published by Michael O'Mara Books for Ede and Ravenscroft Ltd, a firm which has been making court uniforms, herald's tabards, and peer's and judges robes for 300 years. ISBN 0-948397-61-6 This compendium also illustrates the mantles and insignia of all the British Orders of Chivalry.

2. *The Notman Photographic Collection*, by David Ross. William Notman set up his photographic studio in Montreal in 1856. In 1860 he started keeping proof copies of all the portraits taken. A practice firm continued until the death of his son Charles in 1934. These books of proofs and surviving glass plate negatives are now in the collection of the McCord Museum in Montreal, and have been for many years under the devoted care of Mr Stanley Triggs, the Curator.

For the student of military dress this collection is a treasure trove. During the 1860's many of the British officers stationed in Montreal went to Notman for their portraits. There is also a good sprinkling of NCO's and other ranks, in particular of the 78th Highlanders. The Canadian Militia followed suit, individual portraits and groups provide a wide ranging selection of uniforms of the period 1860 to 1880. After this Notman's military clientele dropped off rather, but there were always a few soldiers amongst the majority of civilian customers. There were branches in Toronto, Halifax, Saint John, Boston and Albany, N.Y. but sadly, the records of these studios have been lost. An Osprey Men at Arms book, "Campaigns in Canada 1860-70" due out in the spring of 1992 will reproduce a number of Notman military portraits.

3. *No.17 Service Training Flying School - the Gongs*, by Hugh A. Halliday. When writers dwell on honours and awards, much time is spent on medals won in action. All the same, numerous honours are granted for services outside combat theatres. The absence of battle drama may make these less appealing to some. A problem associated with non-operational awards is that most were published in official orders without the citations that had been drafted at the time the recipients had been recommended: by contrast, decorations for gallantry in action were frequently (but not invariably) accompanied by citations describing the circumstances under which the "gong" was won.

Although non-operational awards were published without citations, one can sometimes ferret out the accounts from D.N.D. files. An example is that of No.17 Service Flying Training School, Souris, Manitoba. This unit did not receive a very large number of awards; only three wartime decorations can be traced. Fortunately the citations for all have been found in various records at the Directorate of History, CFHQ. and are cited here to illustrate the work behind certain wartime honours.

BOWHAY, Flight Lieutenant Samuel Leslie (14744) Awarded King's Commendation for Valuable services in the Air, effective 5 May 1944 as per AFRO 1133/44 dated 26 May 1944. Home in Three Hills, Alberta. Enlisted in Calgary, 29 June 1940. Trained at No.1 ITS (graduated 14 September 1940). No.7 EFTS (graduated 29 November 1940) and No.31 SFTS (graduated 27 January 1941). As of recommendation for award he had flown 1,826 hours, 2,000 hours as instructor, 220 hours in the previous six months.

"For the past Two years this officer has been employed on flying instructional duties and by his hard work, diligence and outstanding devotion to duty has proven to be an excellent instructor, doing much to raise the standard of flying instruction at this school.

GWYER, S/L William King (C2672). Awarded Member, Order of the British Empire (MBE), effective 1 January 1944 as per CANADA GAZETTE of that date and AFRO 113/44 dated 21 January 1944. Enlisted in Vancouver, 9 September 1944. Trained at No.1 ANS.

"This officer has served fromm Navagation Instructor up to Chief Ground Instructor with outstanding devotion to duty and excellent leadership. He has proven to be energetic and conscientious in the execution of his duties and throughout his service career he has contributed greatly to the raising of standards of efficiency of the graduates coming under his charge".

MIRABELLI, W/C Joseph Carmel (C1575) Awarded Air Force Cross (AFC), effective 8 June 1944 as per CANADA GAZETTE of that date and AFRO 1380/44 dated 30 June 1944. Enlisted at Ottawa 30 September 1927; re-enlisted at Camp Borden, 15 November 1939, previousl Commended for Valuable Services in the Air at another unit. Described when recommended as having flown 2,645 hours as instructor, 34 hours in the past six months.

"This officer has had a long and distinguished career as a flying instructor. He has at all times displayed a keen and energetic spirit in his work. His exceptional qualities of leadership and his ability as a pilot and instructor have been reflected in the high standard of training achieved by those under his command".

None of these awards represented high drama, but they illustrate that "they also serve" who are often compelled to remain at home while others fly and fight in distant lands.

**4. Napoleonic Lapel Pins:** Aseries of ten pins illustrating French and British uniforms and personalities of the Napoleonic era has been produced by Ron Boily, 16 Donald McClintock Bay, Winnipeg, Canada, R2G 3N3. Write him for details or phone 1-204-667-6811 after 6pm.

## BOOKS OF INTEREST.

This section is designed to bring to the attention of members sources of books and books which are new, interesting, or from obscure places. Normally available from any good bookstore, those marked (\*) are probably more readily obtained from the agents noted. Prices are subject to change, or correction,

SUMMERS, Brigadier General Jack L. CMM.MC.CD. "Tangled Web. Canadian Infantry Accoutrements 1855-1985". Museum Restoration Service, Bloomfield Ont. KOK 1G0. 1992. 160pp, 400 photos. \$54.50. Canadian War Museum Historical Publication No.26.

A detailed study of personal load carrying equipment by a highly respected authority on Canadian military uniforms.

STANLEY, George F.C. "Toil & Trouble - Military Expeditions to the Red River"

Dundurn Press, 2181 Queen St East, Ste 301, Toronto, M4E 1E5, 1989. 303pp.

ISBN 1-

55002-059-5. From Lord Selkirk's expedition, through the 6th Foot's garrisoning of Fort Garry to the Red River Expedition and the Provisional Battalion.



\*SKENNERTON, Ian D. (Ed.) "List of changes in British War Material in relation to edged weapons, firearms and associated ammunition and accoutrements". 3 Vols. 1860-1886, 1886-1900, 1900-1910.

Published by the Editor, Margate, Australia.

A facsimile edition of selections from the original circulars, full of useful details of dates of introduction, measurements, and materials . Many line drawings. Can be ordered from the N.American agent: IDSA Books, Box 1457, Piqua, Ohio, USA, 45356, who have an an extensive selection of books on personal weapons, mainly firearms, well worth writing for.

LIGHT, Douglas W. "Footprints in the Dust". Turner Warwick Publications, Box 1029, North Battleford, Sask. S9A 3E6, 1987. ISBN 0-919899-16-1. 635pp. A day by day account of the 1885 Rebellion from January to November 1885. Includes valuable lists of men involved , the Metis, the Militia units and the Native People as well as much background detail.

BOULTON, James J. "Uniforms of the Canadian Mounted Police". Turner Warwick Publications, Box 1029, North Battleford, Sask. S9A 3E6 1990. ISBN 0-919899-23-4. 542pp. \$80. An exhaustive account of the Force's uniforms from 1873 to the 1980's. Innumerable photos and many colour plates. A classic of uniform documentation.

\*McCONNELL, David. "British Smooth-bore Artillery: A technological Study to support identification, acquisition, restoration, reproduction, and interpretation of artillery at National Historic Parks in Canada". Canadian Parks Service, Environment Canada 1988.

ISBN 0-660-12750-4, Catalogue no. R64-178/1988E. 595pp. A very detailed study with a great quantity of illustrations. Agent: Canadian Government Publishing Center, Supply & Services Canada, Ottawa, K1A OS9.

\*CANADA, Govt. of. "Report of the Task force on Military History Museum Collections in Canada" 1991. ISBN 0-662-582 70-5. Cat. no. Co22-102/1991. Available as McCONNELL above. FREE. An interesting and exhaustive survey of the present condition of military museums and proposals for their future development.

FOSTEN, D.S.V. and B.K. "The Thin Red Line. Uniforms of the British Army between 1751 and 1914". Windrow & Greene, 59 Grosvenor St, London , England. 1989. \$75.

ISBN 1-872004-00-8. 127pp. 30 colour plates each of which shows many details of equipment, headgear, rank badges and personal weapons. High priced but well worth the cost, beautifully produced

## **RECENT & FORTHCOMING BOOKS BY M.H.S.M. MEMBERS.**

RIDDLE, David. and MITCHELL, David G. "The Distinguished Conduct Medal awarded to members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force 1914-20"; ISBN 1-895452-00-7. 305pp. \$27.

— "The Military Cross awarded to members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force 1915-1921"; ISBN 1-895452-01-5. 330pp. \$29.

— "The Distinguished Service Order awarded to members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force 1915-20". ISBN 1-895452-02-3. 130pp. \$19.

All three volumes published by Kirby-Marlton Press, Box 24027, 1853 Grant Ave, Winnipeg, Man. R3N 2B1. 1991.

A comprehensive listing of all awards, with citations recorded in full, with dates, and details of any other awards. A valuable resource for collectors and historians as well as for genealogists.

ROSS, David and TYLER, Grant. "Canadian Campaigns 1860-70". Osprey Publications, Men At Arms Series, London, England. To be published in the summer of 1992. 48pp. \$15. Photos, colour plates and text covering uniforms & equipment of British & Canadian units in Canada during the period of the Fenian Raids and the Red River Expedition.

TASCONA, Bruce. "XII Manitoba Dragoons - A Tribute 1885-1991". Manitoba Dragoons History Book Committee, c/o 659 Stewart St, Winnipeg, Man. R2Y 1P1. 1991. ISBN 1-55056-006-9. \$40. A history of this Manitoba cavalry regiment from the North West Rebellion to the present day.

## MUSEUM NOTES

*This section is to be devoted to news about, and notes on, military museums. What they are doing, new acquisitions of special interest and forthcoming exhibits etc. The Editor would welcome contributions for the 1993 Journal. In this issue it is hoped that the following brief will be of interest.*

### MILITARY HISTORY SOCIETY OF MANITOBA'S BRIEF TO THE TASK FORCE ON MILITARY HISTORY MUSEUM COLLECTIONS IN CANADA.

(In 1990 the Minister of Communications, the Hon. Marcel Masse set up this Task Force to survey and examine Canadian military museums in order to make recommendations to ensure their future welfare. Particular attention was to be paid to the future role of the Canadian War Museum. Hearings were held across the country and many museums visited. During the hearings in Winnipeg the Society submitted this brief.)

To the Task Force on Military Museum Collections:

#### 1. General:

Museums cannot be all things to all people. the wider their mandate, the thinner the coverage. Museums need to specialize, military museums especially need to find their own particular market niche. The public they reach will be determined to some extent by the nature of their collections. It is unrealistic to expect every military museum to tell the whole story of the military history of Canada. It is unlikely that even a greatly expanded Canadian War Museum could do this.

The Society believes that museums should provide depth of information rather than superficial breadth.

The Society sees itself as a partner of the military museums, supplementing their work by providing a research resource center and by carrying out military archaeology projects.

#### 2. Military Museums must find their market niche.

The Society believes that museums are not about entertainment, they are about information. They need to be interesting, they do not necessarily need to be entertaining. Which is just as well, because museums which have opted for entertainment, do not appear to be very good at it. They seem to have merely settled for the standard of the lowest common denominator. Museums lack the entrepreneurial spirit, the enormous admission revenues, and the commercial discipline which have made Disneyworld and the theme parks so successful.



The public can obtain entertainment from a myriad sources. Reliable, interesting information is available from a limited number of sources, one of which could be military museums.

Military museums have not so far fallen into the entertainment trap, neither have they realized their potential as sources of interesting information.

Military museums are fantastically rich sources of untapped information on subjects which have become increasingly popular in the last ten years. Note the quickly growing interest in militaria collecting, model soldier production, re-enactment regiments, the technology of armaments and military history in general.

This group, (from whom the Society draws its membership) form a ready-made clientele for military museums. They can also contribute expertise, and lend material to military museums, as well as consuming their products.

If military museums are made interesting to the expert and to the specialist, there is no reason to suppose that they will not become more interesting to the general visitor. The latter, like everyone else, prefer quality, if there is a choice.

We repeat that the Society believes that military museums cannot be expected to serve all sectors of the public, but should seek a "market niche" to which they can purvey a quality product.

### **3. The Expertise Gap.**

If the military museums are to serve their clientele, expertise within the museums has to be significantly up-graded. This refers to material culture expertise, not museum technique expertise. Training in the latter is effectively offered by the provincial museums associations. Training in military material culture subjects is virtually non-existent. Where can one go to learn about uniforms, where are the courses on medals and firearms ?

The majority of experts on military material culture subjects are outside the conventional military museum community. Many with narrow, but deep specialization, are private collectors.

The Society feels that these sources should be tapped as partners by the military museums.

### **4. Training Facilities needed.**

Entry level and advanced training for military curators is a crying need, if bright young people are to be attracted to the field, and if the proposed clientele is to be served by present staff.

Closer association with civil museums would help. Military museums need to join the mainstream of Canadian museums. At present contact is limited because military curators have no professional counterparts in civil museums. Only one of the major civil museums (Glenbow) has a military curator.

But both military and civil museums cover the same material culture areas; people and their lifestyle (anthropology), clothing (textiles), machines and utensils (technology).

The division of large military museums such as the Canadian War Museum into curatorial groups parallel to those of civil museums would facilitate training and cross-fertilization.

Military Anthropology: Lifestyles, customs, medals, badges.

Military Textiles: Uniforms, equipment, soft furnishings.

Military Technology: Weapons, vehicles, artillery, electronics.

Military Furniture: Barrack and camp furnishings.

Military Archaeology: Military sites.

This approach would also facilitate the study of the soldier as a social being. A member of a community, which he leaves, but returns to, and influences after his military service.

The regimental museums could become the museum of the Regimental Community, (on a par with the civil community museums) including wives, children, veterans and lifestyles off-duty.

The Society believes that the life of the soldier is just as interesting a study off the battlefield, as on it.

#### **5. Organization of Military Museums of Canada.**

The Society would be willing to discuss the feasibility of its acting in some form as a Manitoba agent/promoter of the OMMC.

#### **6. The Canadian War Museum.**

The Society believes that the CWM has produced some of the most effective museum exhibits in Canada in the last 10 years. And deserves great credit for what it has done with limited resources.

With the example of the Museum of Civilization before it, the Society does not believe that throwing money at the CWM will solve any problems. We do not consider that bigger is automatically beautiful.

The Society would like the CWM to be enabled to reach out to groups like ourselves for our mutual benefit.

The Society feels that the mandate of the CWM should be given realistic limits based on the extent of its collections, its budget, the size of its staff and its buildings, rather than on some pie-in-the-sky wish list encompassing the whole spectrum of Canadian military history from the arrival of the French to the present day.

The Society suggests caution in implementing the CWM's desire for independant status, unless it was adopted by by a more generous parent. As an orphan, the CWM would become a very small fish in a rather big, cold pond, and might well suffer accordingly.

The Society would like to see the CWM become a major center of excellence and expertise in the field of military material culture.

#### **7. A combined military museum in Winnipeg.**

The Society would be interested in participating in a combined military museum in Winnipeg, under certain conditions, viz:

- a. If the individual unit museums join voluntarily..
- b. If the individual unit museums remain autonomous, and the organization is run on the lines of a condominium.
- c. If it cooperates with collectors, re-enactors, researchers and other non-museum groups interested in military history.

The Society believes that the combined museum should concentrate on the story of Manitoba units and Manitoba citizens serving anywhere in the world, but should not try to be a general military history museum of the whole of Canada.

Bruce Tascona, President, Military History Society of Manitoba. October 1990.



(Copies of the Task Force Report can be had, free of charge from the Department of Supply & Services, Ottawa, tel. 613 990 4843. Or, the Editor has a limited number of copies available (also free). Please write.

## **NOTES ON THE CONTRIBUTORS.**

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