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

**ISSN 1188-164X**

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## Letters from the Front 1885-1945.

It is hoped that this selection will be the first of a series of articles. The Editor would appreciate contributions for future issues of the Journal.

The following letters have been printed in their entirety, not just the battlefield experiences, which are usually only hinted at, because the letters, especially the WWI ones of Harold Wilson, reflect much more human concerns, and are valuable artifacts of social history.

### NORTH WEST CANADA 1885.

*Constable Alexander R. Dyre, NWMP writing to relatives, March to September 1885. Dyre was born on 13 September 1863, joined the NWMP 7 April 1882 and served at Fort Calgary, Edmonton & on the Columbia, also at Battleford where he died of typhoid 31 Oct 1885. Buried in the NWMP Cemetery at Battleford. His letters are transcribed from RCMP HQ File GS516-73.*

Beaver Creek, B.C. Mar 30th 1885

Dear Livy,

I received your letters and the slippers all right, many thanks.

Riel and his red devils are raising the very devil in the North West. Ten of our fellows were killed the other day in an engagement [*Duck Lake. Ed.*], and a lot more wounded, Fort Carleton burned and Major Crozier forced to retreat. About a thousand troops are coming up from the East to help quell the devils, and there are about twenty five of us here in the mountains who will probably be kept here while other boys are winning fame, or at least dying bravely. I tell you it is rough and we mean to contribute our mite. Calgary is in danger from the Indians around there, and there will be a bloody war in the whole North West before the rebels are crushed, which will put that beautiful country back a good many years as settlers will not come where they are likely to lose their hair. You will follow proceedings by reading the "Herald" and whenever I can write I will if I am not bowled out. We receive telegrams every day and I will not close this letter till mail day, so I can let you know the latest.

I was always unlucky and it's just my luck to be cooped up in these damned mountains, which I have begun to hate, since they keep me from joining the brave fellows who are trying to overcome that scheming, coppercoloured devil Riel. Our hopes were raised today by a telegram from the Mayor of Calgary, asking us to go down as the Blackfeet were rising, but a damper was put on our spirits by a later telegram from Inspector Dowling saying there was no immediate danger, and it looked as if we were to stay here like "Patience on a tombstone", till all the fighting was over or until this cursed C.P.R. was finished.

March 31st. I am on Guard today and among other prisoners we have a madman who is to be sent to Winnipeg next train. We have to keep him shackled and tied down in his cell, and he yells, curses and groans nearly all the time. He brooke loose an hour ago and started to batter his head against the wall. I have heard often of the strength of crazy people but never saw anything like this before. He grasped me as we were tying him down and every muscle in him appeared to be strong as steel. As I write he is lying down growling like a dog and I don't care any more for crazy people. Another telegram came today from Calgary, saying it was all quiet there.

April 1st. We have heard nothing more about the war, think the wire must be cut. I am to escort the east going mail as far as Laggan tomorrow on the train.

Love to all. Send this to Trevuss.

A.R. Dyre.

Edmonton, May 2nd 1885.

Dear Mother,

I left Beaver Creek on the 16th of last month. They have special police in the mountains now as we were wanted here in the North West. We only stayed two days in Calgary and have been till yesterday coming here. We had to travel slow as we had four companies of militia with us, about 150 teams for transportation, so our horses are fresh even if they have come 250 miles from Calgary. We have another 200 mile trip to Fort Pitt east of here. The Crees under Big Bear have captured Pitt from the Police and we are going to take it back or lose our hair. There were only about 25 in the fort when it was besieged by Big Bear. Our fellows made a tunnel from the fort to the River and escaped in the night.

Big Bear has two white women and a policeman prisoners, and report says the poor women, whose husbands were killed, are nearly dead. Those of us who were in the mountains are used as scouts and advanced guard, along with civilian scouts, and we have our old commander over us, Mr Steele, and if any man can lead us to victory he can. General Strange is head of the expedition but Steele runs the whole thing. General Middleton had a battle with Riel and his breeds, came out about even I think, but you have heard more about it by this time than we have as we have been on the prairie so long. Coming from Calgary one morning shortly after striking camp we saw a mirage. The Red Deer River, 50 miles away, was laid out before us, the trees and a solitary horsemen appearing right before us.

Edmonton is the best town I have seen in the North Westt, and Fort Edmonton, an H.B. post, is well built and protected. Fort Saskatchewan, where a detachment of our fellows are, is twenty miles down the river. I saw Mr Jacques at Calgary, and he said he was going to write to Pa. I shall write from Pitt and let you know how we get along. When you write, address to Regina in care of Major Steele, and it will be forwarded to wherever I am. Love to all.

Yours affectionately. A.R. Dyre.

Battleford, Sep. 3rd 1885.

6.

Dear Trevuss

I received yours of August 9th, last mail. I suppose you have heard from them at home an outline of my adventures during the rebellion. I do not draw the long bow in the least, indeed I did not tell them half the danger I was in at times as I know it would only upset Mother and as I am a miserable writer I can only hope to give you a verbal report of the thing sometime if I am not knocked out before I see you.

At the first engagement I was in, a bullet grazed so close to the hand I was holding my rifle with, as almost to burn it, while others struck the ground between my long legs and whistled around my head like devils let loose. McRae was shot in the leg not two feet from me. Again at Loon Lake I had similiar experience but there we carried the day and killed sixteen red devils outright and wounded a great many more., as the Globe of July 3rd, containing the only true and authentic account by Major Steele will tell you. C School and A Battery are camped here yet. It is amusing to see how the volunteers were received on their return East. What the devil did they do? And old Middleton is simply an egotistical lying old hog, no more worthy to be knighted than I am. The "charge" at Batoche was simply an advance of skirmishers and Middleton had to strike more than one of the "gallant" 90th with his riding whip to make them advance. I was told this by one of that "gallant" corps who said he was sick of hearing so many lies.. He appeared to be a sensible fellow and gave me an account of the whole thing, no more like it was represented in the papers than day is like night. Tell Milton, if he will be a soldier to first acquire a military education and join some corps as an officer, but if I ever hear of him becoming a private soldier he will get a combing from me when I see him.

I don't know whether we are to be stationed here permanently or not. We are only attached to this troop at present, but I think when Steele gets command of a troop he will send for us, as he swears by the men who kept the Rocky Mountain toughs in order and fought for his honnour at Loon Lake.

I think Livy did right in firing her knight of the axe. It seems strange to hear of Eva having lovers. She must be quite a grown up young lady. Give my love to all the family and write soon to

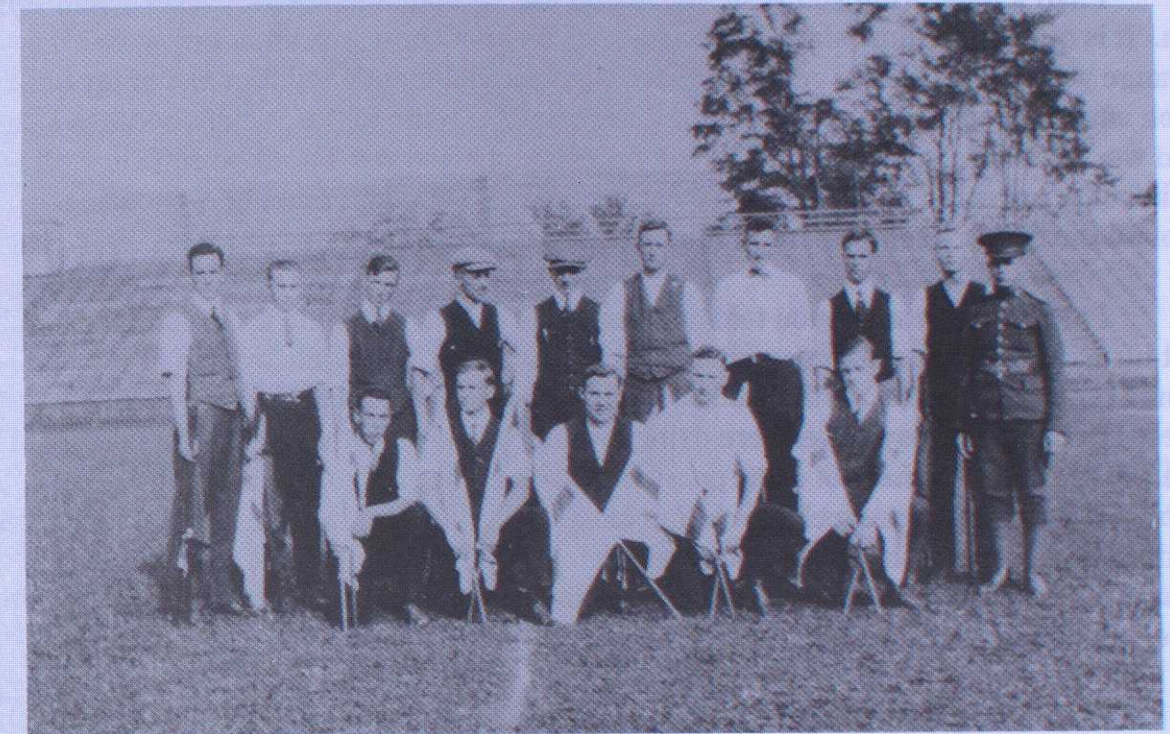
Yours as ever

A.R. Dyre.

## WESTERN FRONT 1916 - 1919.

7.

*Harold Wilson (1892-1968) writes to Miss Violet Long of Swansea, who became his wife on June 30th 1921. He was born in the U.S. and later moved to Canada with his parents. He enlisted in the Canadian Engineers in 1915, aged 23, at the Manning Depot in Toronto, and served with the Canadian Corps Signal Company in France and Belgium. He was demobilized in July 1919 after serving in the Army of Occupation in Germany. These letters, more than 100 were kept by his wife, and preserved by his son and daughter-in-law Bruce and Patricia Wilson, who have kindly allowed their publication.*



*Signallers in training Toronto 1915. Harold Wilson, rear 5th from left.*

Somewhere in France  
April 30 1917.

My Dear Violet,

In my little mud hole in a trench. That is where I am writing this. If you could see it. A hole about 6 x 6 in the side of the trench covered over with steel and sandbags on top. Two bunks with chicken wire netting for mattresses and to complete it all a small open fireplace dug into the side. You cant imagine how cosy and comfortable one can make himself after being used to nothing else for about a year. The chap who is with me is just about to make some tea. Our teapot is an old ammunition can with a piece of wire wrapped around for a handle. The tea tastes good no matter how or where it is made.

*[ On April 9th the Battle of Vimy Ridge began, resulting in the capture of this vitally important position by the Canadian Corps. Ed.]*

Since my last letter to you we have been through some time and have witnessed some wonderful changes. I suppose the Toronto Papers are full of the great work the boys have done over here since the first of the month. All our work is over captured ground and gives one a queer feeling to know that only a few days ago the same ground was active with Heinies. I will never forget the first time I went over the ridge and looked down on the lands below. It made me feel somewhat like Moses when he looked on the Promised Land. You could see for miles yet could not go there because for the time being Fritz holds sway.

I had a letter from you yesterday dated March 30th and another Later dated April 4th. It is quite some time since I had a line so you know how welcome they were. It is strange you did not know I received that church box. I mentioned it in one of my letters soon after I received it. I did not think it necessary to write to the Society because I knew you were the main squeeze and I thought mentioning it to you would be sufficient. It is quite apparent some of my letters havent reached you and and must be wandering around the country somewhere. Probably some other girl received them.

I had to laugh when you told me about Bob reminiscing into the past. If he would get his mind off such sentimental bosh and let it wander for a while over in France he would probably come to earth. Does he know there is a war on? Does he realize that there are boys, real boys, over here dying for him? Oh! after the sights and horrors of the last few weeks to hear of some poor boob back home still going on day after day in the same old way, makes me feel like cutting loose and saying something nasty. I have flirted with Death a good many times since coming to France a year ago but after all I prefer that to being a slacker with nothing more profitable to do than fill up some girls ear with sweet nothings.

Lloyd's enquiries after me also grated on a raw spot. Tell him for me that I much prefer them made personally. He will find me with the Canadians in France and to get here he will only need to get a suit of Khaki. All the really "great" boys are over here or on their way.

About that stunt of Teddy Jordan's it might work alright. I am afraid though if I was to see a lemon or fruit of any kind it would "go West". We never get a chance to get stuff like that except possibly if we go out for a rest. That particular fruit though is very rare just now in wartime. Bread is what everyone goes in for. You dont mean to tell me that song "Pack all your troubles etc" is just coming out in Toronto. We used to march to that in Ottawa two years ago this fall coming. It is soldier's cure for the grouch.

Well dear my brew of tea is just ready so I'll have to close now or get left in the lurch. You will excuse my frank remarks about your boy friends but I couldnt do otherwise because that is the way I feel. My nerves may be a bit touchy tonight because I had a rough spell with Fritz's shells this afternoon and havent quite got over it yet. Remember me to your father and mother and heaps of love to yourself

Yours  
Hal



*Harold Wilson (center)  
with two comrades,  
Bonn, Dec 29th 1918.  
All three wear cap &  
collar badges of the  
Canadian Engineers & "CE"  
patches, also blue & white  
Signals armbands. The  
Signal Corps became a  
seperate corps in 1919.*

Somewhere in France  
May 8th 1917

My Dear Violet,

It is rather hard to write a letter tonight because my little old dugout is fairly shaking with the roar of the guns. Heinie is getting a double dose of iron rations this evening so it is rather hard to concentrate ones mind on letter writing. However I will make as good a fist of it as I can.

Your sweet letter of the 12th came several days ago and acted just like a tonic. I dont know whether you know it or not but your letters are just like a barometer. They

10.  
tell me when you are well or otherwise. This last one I would judge you were in the pink of condition. Possibly having such a nice birthday made everything look rosy. Right here I owe you an apology. Just imagine me overlooking April 9th your birthday. I sincerely apologise for such an oversight and I hope next year I wont be in such a predicament as I was on this one so as to cause me to forget. That was the day allotted to the Canadians to open the ball over here [The attack on Vimy Ridge. Ed.] , which we knew some days before, and prepared for. Well the ninth and tenth I was so busy working and dodging scrap iron that I think I should be pardoned for my carelessness.

When Fritz is throwing stuff around one's thoughts are strictly in the present so you see I have a good excuse. Since then we have been pretty well on the go with work. You were right when you thought I must be in the big do. I was in it and no mistake, right up to the eyes. I do not know about the glory part but if being on ones face in the mud, countless times a day , is glory, well then I am entitled to a share. The first day was good but for days after it rained and snowed, terrible snowstorms where you could hardly see for ten feet in front of you.

Just imagine going up a ridge in that. I feel proud to be in it and doing my bit but there are parts I want to forget. I have always been blessed with a good memory but with respect to some of the horrors of war I want it to fail me.

I was so glad, girl, to hear that you had such a lovely time at your party. Your words took me back, to what seems centuries ago, to another party. You remember. You recall how you stood in the parlour door and yours truly so shy. Bob leaving his shoes behind and having to go back. I can see it as plain as though it happened last night. How serious it seemed then. Since coming over here things which appeared so serious in peace times, appear so trivial. After facing life in the raw for a year one gets a different outlook on things. I am afraid you will find me quite a changed person. I cant exactly explain how, but I feel different, possibly more serious. Maybe you wont like me that way.

Well sweetheart it is about time for me to roll in so I'll bring this to a close. I am hoping you will forgive me for forgetting your birthday. I am almost sure that next year I will be Johnnie on the Spot for I feel that this is the beginning of the end and this fall will see the finish. Let us hope so at least. Remember me to father, mother and the Baby. Give my very best to Janet and tell her that some day when I strike a quiet corner I shall write her a line. My very best goes to you and heaps of love

Yours

Hal

History of the Brigade Patch,  
2nd Canadian Army Tank Brigade  
Somewhere in Belgium  
Nov 11 1917.

My dear Sweetheart,

This wont be much of a letter tonight because I am not in trim for letter writing. I am only writing because I know you will be anxious while this battle [ The Battle of Passchendaele Ridge started on Oct 26th and continued into November. Ed.] is on. My nerves are a bit unstrung just at present after a bad afternoon. I had a glimpse into hell today so you can understand why I am not in the mood for letter writing. So please forgive me if I wander a bit.

So Major Burch has returned. A man like him should be able to wake up all the slackers that are holding back. I only hope he isnt too plain spoken for it will only cause worry. There are sights here that must never be told not even to ones' own folks. Still a man like him can make the people at home see very vividly just what the boys are doing over here. His talk will knock the idea out of some peoples head that there is anything noble or romantic in war.

So you are on the staff now. Well I am glad to hear it. It gives one a lot of encouragement to know your work is appreciated. So good luck to you !

I cant seem to collect my thoughts any more tonight so I think I had better close. You will forgive me for being so short. Probably next week I shall write more. Remember me to Dad, Mother and the Baby. Give them all my best. My usual load of love goes to you darling and dont worry too much. So I'll say ta ta now.

XXXXXX

Yours forever

Hal.

NORTH WEST EUROPE 1945.

*Marine Harry Sullivan of 45 Royal Marine Commando writes to a friend in England just after the 1st Commando Brigade had forced the crossing of the River Elbe on 29 April 1945.*

Ply/x 114535 Marine H. Sullivan  
E Troop, 45 R.M. Commando.  
B.L.A. May 6th 1945

Dear David

Many thanks indeed for the parcel of cigarettes - although we do not do too badly for cigs out here I can always make room for more - especially Senior Service.

I have some news to tell you for a change - but I am afraid the first bit is bad:- Ginger Gray was wounded in a recent stunt we did. I dont know just how seriously, as I think I told you, I am in a different troop.

I dont know how he was wounded - the position was roughly this:- we put in an attack on a small village - we were the leading troop - we managed to get to the first house before they opened up on us, we sat in the house until Ginger's troop came up & they moved up under fire and bashed on !. Whether he was wounded then or later when an ambulance went over a mine I dont know ! This incident about the ambulance is tragically interesting - it proves quite definitely to what extent you can trust Germans, especially the S.S. We had a crowd of Jerry wounded to evacuate & a Jerry S.S. bloke gave us his word that a certain road was not mined & it was safe to evacuate his own wounded along the road. The road proved to be mined & some of our own escort were wounded. For all I know one of them may have been Ginger as his troop was escorting !

It looks as if all the fighting in this theatre & at least this front has wrapped up now. I expect we shall be garrison troops for a while now.

Do you hear from Des Stone these days ? If you still write to him will you tell him that apart from Ginger - the following blokes have become casualties - he will probably remember them from Glasgow Troop at Towyn - Corporal Furbank & Corporal Money (my milling partner) wounded - Bill Lay, D.A.Baker killed and Corporal Knott killed.

How are you doing on the volunteering stunt ? I do so wish you could manage to get into this Commando.

Lets have some news of the lads - please remember me to them all.

Best of Luck Harry.

## History of the Brigade Patch, 2nd Canadian Army Tank Brigade.

By Captain J.R. Grodzinski, CD.

Most badge collectors are familiar with the system of formation insignia used by the Canadian Army during the Second World War, whereby patches of various colours were used to distinguish formations.

This system was applied to the three army tank brigades which existed between 1940 and 1945. The role of these brigades was to provide armour support to infantry units. By 1943 each sported a formation badge consisting of a black diamond with a coloured horizontal stripe across the middle of the diamond. The colours were red for the 1st Brigade, blue for the 2nd and French grey for the 3rd. Prior to the introduction of these patches however, the 1st and 2nd Army Tank Brigades had their own unique insignia. For example, the 1st Army Tank Brigade wore a Ram. This article will outline the history of the first patch worn by the 2nd Army Tank Brigade.

The 2nd Army Tank Brigade was formed at Debert, Nova Scotia on 26th January 1942, by the redesignation of the 11th Infantry Brigade of the 4th Infantry Division. In March, the brigade moved to Camp Borden. The Brigade initially consisted of the following units:

- 2nd Army Tank Brigade Signals
- 23rd Army Tank Regiment (The Halifax Rifles)
- 24th Army Tank Regiment (Les Voltigeurs de Quebec)
- 26th Army Tank Regiment (The Grey and Simcoe Foresters)
- No. 17 Field Ambulance, RCAMC
- 2nd Army Tank Brigade Company, RCASC
- No. 2 Tank Brigade Ordnance Field Park, RCOC
- No. 2 Tank Brigade Ordnance Workshop, RCOC
- No. 2 Army Tank Ordnance Field Park, RCOC

In June 1942, the 24th Army Tank Regiment was replaced by the 20th Army Tank Regiment (16/22 Saskatchewan Horse).

The brigade had no distinguishing patch until 25th July 1942, when a special order was published by the Brigade Headquarters:

"It is advised that the 2 Cdn Army Tank Brigade CA have adopted a dagger as a Brigade Insignia and this dagger will be worn on the left sleeve. The dagger hilt is to be in line with the top of the left breast blouse pocket seam and the dagger shaft in line with the center of the shoulder strap.

It is expected that these daggers will be provided very shortly and they will then be taken into use by all ranks".

The badge was developed in July 1942 and was first mentioned in the Brigade War Diary on 2 July:

"The pennant outside of the Brigade HQ is now a form of the Lorraine Cross, on a blue background. It is contemplated that this cross will be used by all units as a Brigade Insignia".

The next mention is on 16 July:

"Arrangements have been made for the production of 100 wooden daggers about three feet in height. The dagger in the form of the Brigade insignia will be distributed throughout the Brigade and used to indicate Brigade and Regimental Headquarters, and will mark the routes taken by various units of the brigade when on march".

Finally on 31 July 1942:

"The cloth dagger insignia was adopted today as the Brigade sleeve insignia at a meeting of unit commanders. An order has been placed for 12,000 of these, to be paid out of unit funds".

The initial design of the Lorraine Cross was modified to appear like a dagger, while maintaining many of the features of the cross. The dagger badge remained in use until the Spring of 1943, when all three army tank brigades adopted the standard diamond badge.

## TANK CORPS CHOOSES DAGGER AS INSIGNIA



*This photo of the 2nd Army Tank Brigade patch was found in a Newspaper clipping in a scrapbook. Unfortunately, the clipping was cut short on the bottom and a portion of the badge was lost. One can assume that the design of the base was similar to the top.*

As for the Brigade itself, it was decided in July 1943 that only two independent armoured brigades could be sustained. One brigade would have to be disbanded. The 1st Army Tank Brigade remained unchanged, while the 3rd Army Tank Brigade, which had achieved a higher level of operational readiness, would be reorganized to form the second brigade. As a result the following occurred:

Headquarters 2nd Armoured Brigade was formed based on 3rd Army Tank Brigade with personnel of the Headquarters 2nd Army Tank Brigade.

The 20th, 23rd and 26th Army Tank Regiments were disbanded and their personnel assigned to "E" Group Canadian Reinforcement Unit or to units of 2nd Armoured Brigade.

The 6th, 10th and 27th Armoured Regiments of the 23rd Army Tank Brigade were transferred to the new 2nd Armoured Brigade.

Headquarters 3rd Army Tank Brigade (formerly 2nd Army Tank Brigade) became a holding unit for excess personnel and units. It was finally disbanded in November 1943.

The history of the 2nd Army Tank Brigade is interesting but tragic. Proud units that had trained together for a long period were broken up and their personnel scattered to a multitude of different regiments. Of interest is the dagger badge worn by the brigade, a badge that this author has not seen mentioned in any other source. The author would appreciate any other information readers might have on the brigade history or its insignia.

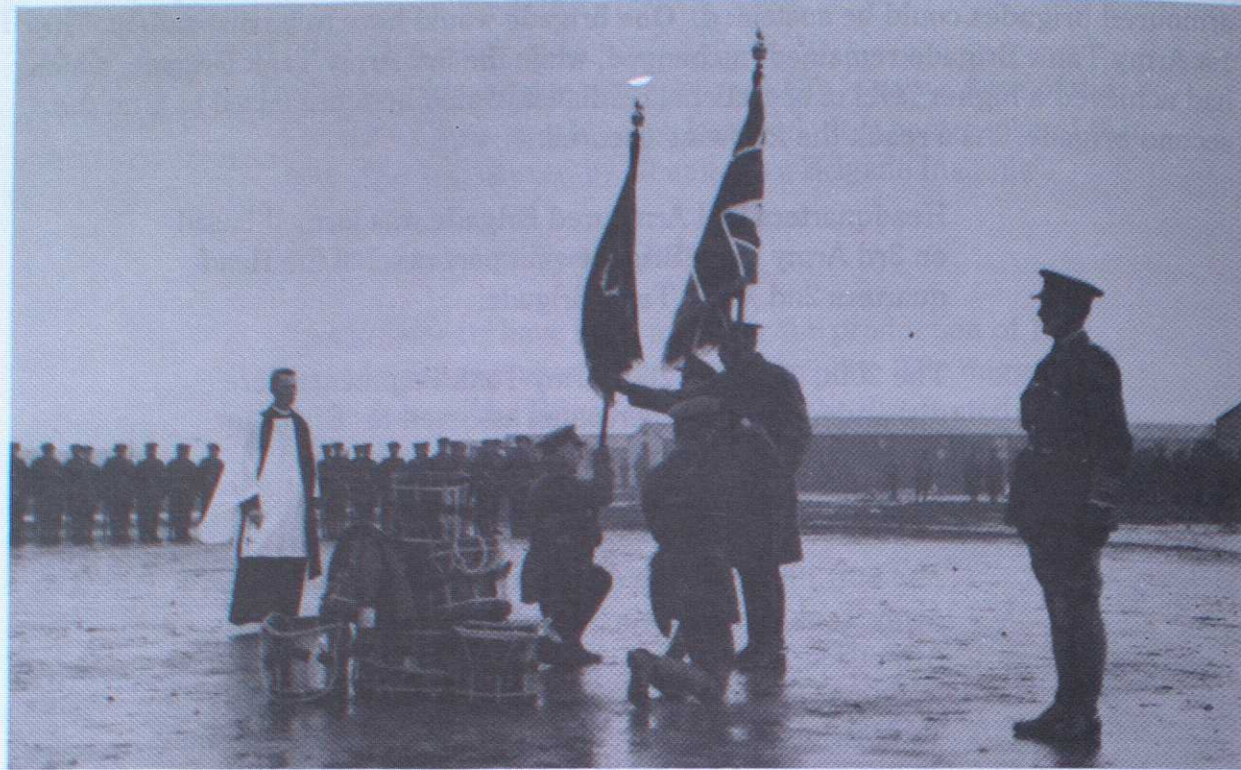
## The Unlucky Colours of the 203rd Battalion C.E.F.

By Captain J.R. Grodzinski C.D.

Six photographs held by the National Archives of Canada depict an unusual presentation to the 203rd Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, in 1917. The battalion was presented with colours, a distinction not normally granted to "rifle" units, whose "colours or battle honours are on their badges and drums". This article will briefly outline the story of the colours of the 203rd Battalion.

The 203rd Battalion was formed in July 1916, and was the last of five units raised by the 90th Winnipeg Rifles for overseas service. Using the sobriquet "No.1 Hard and





*Major General Sam Steele presents colours to the 203rd Battalion C.E.F at Dibgate Camp, England, 13 April 1917. NAC photo PA 4794.*



*Colour Party of the 203rd Battalion C.E.F. at Dibgate Camp*

Dry", the 203rd Battalion recruits were largely fundamentalist protestants who exercised temperance. One writer has commented that the battalion cap badge was appropriate since the devil carries a wine glass in his left hand and appears to be pierced through with his own trident - the theological equivalent of being "hoist with his own petard" - and symbolising victory of godliness over alcohol!

On 22 October 1916, the battalion under Lt Col J.E. Hansford, departed Halifax for England, aboard the S.S. Grampion. Upon arrival, the 203rd moved to Dibgate and commenced musketry and machine gun training. In January 1917, the 203rd and the 144th (also raised by the 90th Winnipeg Rifles) Battalions were absorbed by the 18th Reserve Battalion, formed to provide reinforcements for units at the front. Even though it did not officially exist, the 203rd Battalion continued its war Diary well into 1917.

On 13 April 1917, a parade was held by members of the former 203rd Battalion where Regimental and King's Colours were presented by Major General S.B. Steele. The regimental colour consisted of the regimental badge superimposed on a field of now unknown colour. On 14 April 1917, both colours were deposited in Westminster Central Methodist Hall, London.

At some later date the colours were recovered from Westminster for return to Canada. Unfortunately they were lost when the ship carrying them was sunk by a German U-Boat.

Following the war, a group of 203rd Battalion veterans obtained a replacement colours, consisting of a Union Flag and a Canadian Ensign, which were deposited at Young United Church in Winnipeg on 16 March 1930. By 1971, the colours were described as having "disintegrated". Shortly hereafter, Young United Church burnt down. The colours of the 203rd Battalion were no more.

The "unlucky" colours certainly had an interesting history. The battalion they were presented to was broken up, the ship returning them to Canada was sunk and the church in which their replacements were laid up burnt down. Perhaps this was some ominous sign that rifle units should not receive colours. Whatever the case, this is a truly interesting story.

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## From Toronto to Prince Arthur's Landing en Route to Winnipeg on the Red River Expedition 1870.

Ed. John Thyen.

*This letter was written by Captain Thomas Scott to a relative in Perth, Ont. Major John W. Douglas. The original is in the archives of Perth Museum.*

*Douglas, who retired as a Major in 1885 had served in both the Fenian Raids of 1866 and 1870, while Scott served in the Fenian Raid of 1866 (Perth Infantry Coy), as well as with the Ontario Rifles in the Red River Expedition of 1870.*

*Scott, who retired as a Lt. Colonel in 1887, became Mayor of Winnipeg in 1877-78, and served as the C.O. of the 95th Manitoba Grenadiers during the North West Rebellion of 1885. He passed away in Winnipeg just before the Great War of 1914-18. Ed.*

Prince Arthur's Landing, Thunder Bay,  
1st. Ont. Rifles, June 27, 1870.

Dear John:

I was glad to receive a letter from you last evening per Chicora, and I must thank you for its length and general information about matters and things in Perth contained therein. The most of the letters I receive from Perth are short and the writers seem to think that a person a long distance from his native place has no wish to hear of trivial (in their eyes) matters. This is a great mistake, anything, if it were only a dog fight is acceptable. Since arriving in camp I have found it necessary to cut my letters short, owing to want of facilities for writing. You know it is no easy matter writing a long epistle on your knee, while sitting on the ground. But as you have very kindly written me, I will endeavour to give you as much information as possible.

To begin, you are aware, we left Toronto on the 31st of June. The sail from Collingwood to Fort William is a most delightful one, and all enjoyed it immensely. Our camping ground is beautifully situated; 15 miles from us on our left front is Thunder Cape, on our front Pie Island, and on our right is McKay Mountain. And then there are two pretty islands in the bay called "Welcome Islands". I do not believe there is a prettier harbour in America. There is a small village at the "Landing", composed of two small stores, a tavern called 'Hotel de Flatherty', two or three private residences, and a large number of government buildings, stables, sheds etc., etc. The 60th. are camped here. Our camp is about 700 yards down on the bay shore, to which a road was made by the 60th. before our arrival. Midway between the village and our camp "Fort Arthur" is being built, and now nearly completed. It is an earthwork about the size of Fort Wellington; one of the steel guns is to be mounted on it, and a company of the 2nd. Batt. is to garrison it, commanded by the senior capt. of the 2nd. (Capt. de Bellefois). Six companies of the 60th. have gone on, some up the road, and others up the Kaministikwia.

18.

The whole force would have been away from here before this, but the gov't road built by Dawson was totally unfit for travel in many places, although he represented it as all right long ago.

He has a couple of hundred men in his employ, and about all they do is eat and draw their pay. There has been a fearful amount of mismanagement in this whole affair. Col. Boulton chartered two American propellers at \$400 a day each, and they have been lying more than half the time doing nothing. Just fancy the Algoma being chartered for 30 days at \$300 per day, and lying at the Sault 20 days without ever getting up steam. The Arctic has been lying here for eight days at \$400 per day, and doing nothing but drawing the pay. But such things must be, I suppose. About two miles up the road, Dawson had a bridge built over a gully. On the opposite side is a very high and steep hill, sufficient to kill the best horses. Wolsely (*sic.*) had the course changed for 200 yards and struck on the main road, and there is now a level piece of road.

This Dawson is a humbug, and appears to know devilish little about road building, 15 men from our Batt. and 15 from the second were sent up river yesterday in charge of a lot of boats for the Shabondewan (*sic.*). Since we came here our men have been employed on fatigues, very little drill. Just think at the two o'clock drill this afternoon of one Serjt. and one man on parade, the most of the men are employed at the Fort.

Sailing and fishing are the principal amusements for the officers. Fort William is 4 1/2 miles from our camp. It lies 3/4 of a mile up from the mouth of the Kaministikwia. There is a strong stone block-house dwelling house, store, storehouse, in all about a dozen buildings painted white surrounded by a stockade. A Mr. McIntyre is the agent here. His family is the most hospitable I ever met. He has three daughters and a niece, all very fine girls. I had an introduction a few days after my arrival, and have spent many pleasant evenings there since. We go by boat in 50 minutes. Mr McIntyre has the only piano in this part of the world. The young ladies can sing and play very well.

At the store here everything you can get at a general store in Canada is kept, and the prices are about the same. And the liquor is ahead of anything I ever tasted before. Rum is the favourite with us; real Simon pure article; no headache next morning. A short distance above Fort William a man named McVicar lives, and 100 yards above that a Mr McKellar. I have visited these families frequently. Miss Mary McVicar was at Fort Garry all the time of the trouble there, interceded with Riel for poor Scott's release, and shortly afterwards left Fort Garry for her home here, coming by St. Paul's and Toronto. She says Riel can gather fully 1,000 men in a few days, and that they are splendid marksmen and horsemen. We have floating barrel targets at different ranges in the bay, and when the men are not on fatigue they are practicing firing. The men of both battalions are generally good shots; but we do not anticipate any fighting, but Wolseley believes in being prepared for any emergency.

We had a visit from several Indian chiefs, who came from Rainy Lake last week. Mr. Monkman arrived here last week on his way home; 45 lbs. of tobacco presented to him by Prince Arthur to be given to the Indians was stolen from him by some of the hands on board the Arctic. Setter, Schultz, and Donald A. Smith arrived here by the Chicora last evening. Last evening, Miss McVicar showed me a photograph of Charlie Mair and

his wife. She is well acquainted with them. She has promised me letters of introduction to a number of Families at Fort Garry, and I hope I will be able to meet as friendly people as here. Jim McLenaghan is clerking in McIntyre's store at present, but he is being sent up to the Matawin to take charge of a new post there. I'll bet he'll soon be sick of it, for he will see none but Indians, and he can't talk Indian.

The Force will leave here by detachments, of one or two Co's at a time, and the whole will rendezvous at Fort Francis, when fresh orders will be issued. Each captain has been furnished with a copy of printed orders for our guidance. There will be five boats per company, and each boat is to carry three tons of extra stores, in addition to 13 men, arms, accoutrements, and 30 days' provisions, a good load for three pairs of oars.

Tuesday afternoon, June 28:

We are expecting the Algoma this afternoon. Captain Macklem and 30 men of his company are to leave for the Shabondewan tomorrow morning to take up boats. Col. Jarvis informed me that Nos. 6 and 7 companies are to be the headquarters, consequently we will be the last companies of our battalion leaving; the Quebec battalion will follow. Our men and the 2nd do not pull very well yet. There is a creek 50 feet wide dividing the two camps, and any of our men who go there are slapped into the 2nd. guard room.

Yesterday one of our boys went over a little drunk. The adjt. of the 2nd ordered several men to take him to the guard room. They endeavoured to do so, but he pitched them about pretty lively. A larger force was called on, and our fellow's hands and feet were tied, and he was carried off to the guard tent. I was capt. of the day for our regt., and I sent over part of our guard to bring him over. He was untied after being brought over, but he was bound to be back and give the French hell. I ordered handcuffs to be put on him. He then quieted down. Our guard tent is a short distance from the creek, the door facing it. The prisoner on looking across the creek noticed some of the French washing their clothes. With a yell, he made a charge down the bank and into the creek, but the current being very swift, it took his feet from under him, and he was carried down the stream. Our men chased and recaptured him. It was comical to see the Frenchmen bolt from the creek, when they heard our fellow yelling for a knife and charging down on them. This morning he got seven days' confinement and fatigues.

It is rumored here today that Gen. Lindsay is coming up by Algoma, on his way to Fort Garry, with Riel's pardon in his pocket. This matters little, as far as Riel is concerned, for there are dozens of our men who have taken a solemn oath to have his life. His pardon, if he stays in the country will be his certain death. Col. Wolseley and the 60th. intend to leave Fort Garry for Montreal this fall. It is doubtful if the Col. will manage this, as it will be very likely be the end of August when we arrive at Winnipeg. Will write again. Respects to Ned, Pink and others.

Yours, etc.,

Thos. Scott.

## From Ottawa to Red River, October 1873: The Journey of the first detachment of the N.W.M.P.

Ed. David Ross.

*This Journal was kept as an official record of the journey of the first detachment of the then newly formed North West Mounted Police, from Ottawa to Lower Fort Garry, under the command of Inspector James Morrow Walsh.*

*Public Archives of Manitoba MG 6 A1 pp.211-225 in the Papers of James Morrow Walsh.]. Note that words in square brackets [] are not part of the original document. Alternative place names in square brackets are taken from Colonel Garnet Wolseley's official Report on the Red River Expedition, which covered roughly the same route in 1870, and from STANLEY, G.F.C. Toil & Trouble: Military Expeditions to the Red River.*

### Journal of the Progress of a Detachment of Mounted Police under the command of Major J.M. Walsh from the 1st to the 22nd October 1873.

The Detachment of Mounted Police consisting of one officer, one non-com Officer & 32 privates proceeded from Ottawa by train at 9.30pm on the 1st October 1873, arriving at Prescott Junction at 1.10am 2nd instant.

T.O'Neil, trumpeter was there discharged & sent to Ottawa for being drunk & riotous. One Pte., Wm. Walsh[1] joined.

Left Prescott Junction at 3.10am & arrived at Brockville at 4pm where seven Ptes. viz. P.R. Neale[2], S.B. Steele[3], R.E. Steele[4], G.M. Steele[5], J. Harding[6], L. Auburn & James E. Rowe[7] joined.

The Detachment left Brockville at 4.30am and arrived at Kingston at 6.45am where the men breakfasted, proceeded at 7.5am arriving at Toronto at 1.10, dined and left for Collingwood at 4pm one Pte. J. Nelson[8] being absent. The following order was posted during the day.

Ptes. Lawrence Fortescue[9], Ret. Lieut. Royal Marine Lt. Infy. & S.B. Steele late Sgt. A. Battery Domn. Artillery to act as non com officers of the Detachment from this date.  
Pte. P.R. Neale late Sergt, A Battery Domn. Artillery to act as Qr. Mr. Sgt.

At Toronto Lt. Col. Richardson[10], Ottawa & Major McDonald[11], Collingwood were communicated with by telegraph. Arrived at Collingwood at 9.45pm where Major McDonald met the Deta. which was marched to billets at the Railway Hotel.

On the morning of the 3rd Pte. J. Todd[12] accidentally shot himself in the fore-arm, with his revolver while practicing on the shore of the lake.

The Detachment paraded at 9am after which they received greatcoats, towel,

soap, tin plate & cup, knife, fork & spoon. Pte Wm. Walsh took the Oath of Allegiance before the Mayor (Mr Moberley).

Pte. Nelson rejoined in the morning having come on from Toronto by night train. In the afternoon blankets were served out.

The steamer not being ready to start the Detachment remained at Collingwood.

The following memo was issued on the 3rd instant.

"The C.O. hopes the men will abstain from too free an use of intoxicating liquors. While he is no advocate for wholly abstaining, still it will be his duty to report to the Commissioner on his arrival at Lower Fort Garry cases of drunkenness that may be brought before him. All having received certificates of good moral character they should bear in mind that if they abuse them, it reflects not only on themselves but also on their .....[sponsors?] who vouched for them. The C.O. wishes it to be distinctly understood that this memo is intended more as a request than as a warning. The C.O. hopes that in passing thro the country the men will bear in mind that this is not a mere Volunteer Militia Force which has only to obey orders but that each man will be liable at any time to be called to exercise his own judgement and trusts that by their conduct they will show themselves worthy of the trust placed in them.

By Order.

On the morning of the 4th the detachment paraded at 9.30am and marched to the Volunteer drill shed for squad drill returning at 11.45, dined, paraded again at 1pm and marched aboard the Steamer Cumberland. Left Collingwood at 3pm.

The following Ptes. were appointed as Corporals of the Detachment viz.

Pte. J. McIlree[13]

" R.E. Steele

" R. Killaly[14]

A Guard was mounted & sentries posted to prevent the men from leaving the ship at the various ports. At Collingwood Lt. Col. Richardson was communicated with by letter & telegraph. The Detachment arrived at Thunder Bay at 3.50am 8th October and landed at once, breakfast at 6.45am. Landed[?] baggage at 7am leaving themselves in waggons at 7.30am. Arrived and dined at 16 Mile shanty at 12.45. Proceeded 1.15pm Arrived at Brown's Lane at 5pm.

9th October. Left Brown's Lane at 2am & arrived at Lake Shebandowan at 6am. We[?] were unable to proceed further there being no steamer to enable them to connect.

10th October. Left Shebandowan at 6.30pm arriving at Kashaboiwe Portage at 9.40am, crossed the portage (3/4 mile) & started on Kashaboiwe Lake at 10.30am arriving at Height of Land Portage at 12 noon. Crossed the Portage (1 3/4 miles) & started on Lac des Milles Lac at 12.45. Arrived at Baril Portage 5.30pm. Crossed the Portage (3/4 mile)

and started on Baril Lake at 6.30 arriving at Baril Portage at 8.45pm. Crossed the portage 1/2 mile & halted for the night.

11th October. Breakfast at 6am. Left on Lake Windegooshcan [Windegoostiquou] at 7am. in open boats arriving at French Portage at 10am. Crossed the Portage (2 m) and started on Lake Koagasikok [Pickerel] at 12 noon arriving at Pine Portage 2.45pm. Crossed the Portage (3 m) dined & started on Sturgeon Lake at 5.40 arriving at Sturgeon Portage at 10.30 pitched tents for the first time and halted for the night.

12th October. Breakfast at 7.30am. Started across Sturgeon Portage at 8.50. Indians at first refused to row the boats on account of its being Sunday. Embarked on Me...ie[?] River 10.30am and arrived at the Portage at 12.45, one boat having stuck at the Rapids on the way. On account of the scarcity of boats one boat was portaged. Proceeded at 1.40pm. & arrived at Island Portage at 3pm. where the Detachment was detained for want of steamer to connect. Pitched camp at 3.30pm.

13 October. Detained for want of steamer, struck tents 10.30am., steamer having arrived left on Lake Le Croix at 12.35am. arriving at Neqnachon [Namekan] Portage at 4.10 & pitched camp.

14th Oct. Struck Camp 6.30am. & started on Neqnachon [Namekan] Lake at 7.35am. arriving at Kettle Falls at 11.15am. Left on Rainy River at 12noon arriving at Fort Francis at 5.25. Crossed the Portage (2m) & pitched camp at 7.30pm.

15 October. Struck tents at 6.30am & proceeded on Rainy River at 8.40am. Arrived at the Long Irvinx[?] 3pm. Delayed on account of want of communication. Pitched camp 3.20pm.

16 October. Delayed all day for want of communications until 9.30pm. when the steamer having arrived, struck Camp & proceeded on board.

17 October. Left Long Irvinx[?] at 6am arriving at N.W. Angle at 5.30pm. While being conveyed from the steamer to the Angle in tow boats the engineer in charge of the steamer cast the barges off & left for the shore. The Detachment was left adrift in the barge for 2 hours but assistance having arrived from the shore they arrived at the Station at 9.45pm.

18 October. Started to march to 30 Mile Shanty at 9.45am, baggage following in 3 wagons & 4 Bullock Carts. At mid-day left Baggage Guard consisting of 1 Act. Corpl. & 4 Ptes. to bring up the baggage. Arrived at Birch River at 7pm.

19 October. Delayed on account of the non-arrival of the Baggage train. The men were unable to march further on account of the condition of their boots. Baggage arrived at 6pm. Left behind Baggage Guard of 1 Corpl. & 6 privates. Remainder proceeded in 5 waggons & arrived at White Mouth River at 7pm.

**20 October.** Left White Mouth River at 6am in 5 waggons arriving at Oak Point at 4pm. Sent letter to Col. Smith reporting arrival & received order from him to proceed next day to the Seine River.

**21 October.** Left Oak Point at 6.30am & arrived at Seine River at 3.20pm & pitched Camp. Communicated arrival to Col. Smith. [15]

**22nd October.** Embarked on the Red River at 11am Private Todd being left behind and sent to Hospital at [Upper] Fort Garry for medical treatment. Arrived at Stone Fort [Lower Fort Garry] at 4pm. End.

#### Footnotes:

1. Wm. Walsh, Reg. No.50, aged 21, from Prescott, occupation "Carpenter". Nephew of Major James Morrow Walsh.
2. Percy Reginald Neale, Reg. No.2, aged 23, from Kingston, occupation "Soldier. Later Inspector 1876, Superintendent 1884, in action at Cut Knife Hill 1885, retired 1890, d.1906.
3. Samuel Benfield Steele, Reg. No.5, aged 24, from Simcoe, occupation given as "Sailor", which should have read "Soldier". Sub Inspector 1878, Inspector 1880, Superintendent 1885. Famous for his work in the Klondike and for raising and commanding Strathcona's Horse in the Boer War. Later Major General Sir Sam, KCMG. CB. MVO. d.1919.
4. R.E. Steele, Reg. No.7, aged 21, from Simcoe, occupation "Farmer". Brother of S.B. Steele.
5. G.M. Steele, Reg. No.43, aged 18, from Simcoe, occupation "Farmer". Brother of S.B. Steele.
6. J.G. Harding, Reg. No.26, aged 23, from Toronto, occupation "Groom".
7. James E. Rowe, Reg. No.39, aged 23, from Brockville, occupation "Telegraph Operator". Left the Force 3.2.1874.
8. J. Nelson, Reg. No.35, aged 25, from Nova Scotia, occupation "Farmer".
9. Lawrence Fortescue, Reg. No.9, aged 30, from Ottawa, occupation "Soldier" (served in the Royal Marines 1864-70). Sub Inspector 1875. Left the Force 1879. Joined the Civil Service, Comptroller RNWMP 1913-16, CMG.ISO. d.1924.
10. Lt. Col. Richardson
11. Major McDonald
12. J. Todd, Reg. No.46, aged 26, from Ottawa, occupation "Groom". Dismissed 27.10.1874.
13. John Henry McIlree, Reg. No.6, aged 24, Sub Inspector 1874, Superintendent 1882, Assistant Commissioner 1892, ISO, retired 1911. d.1925.
14. R. Killaly, Reg. No.3, aged 26, from Toronto, occupation "Clerk".
15. Lieutenant Colonel W. Osborne Smith, temporary Commissioner of the NWMP 25.9.73 to 17.10.73.

## Moise Cormier, A Manitoba Veteran of the Papal Zouaves 1868-70.

By David Ross.

In 1892-93 Moise Cormier visited Saskatchewan and Manitoba and with the help of M. Joseph Lecomte, a notary and former Zouave, bought land in the Village of La Salle, near Winnipeg, where he farmed until his death on March 5th 1915.

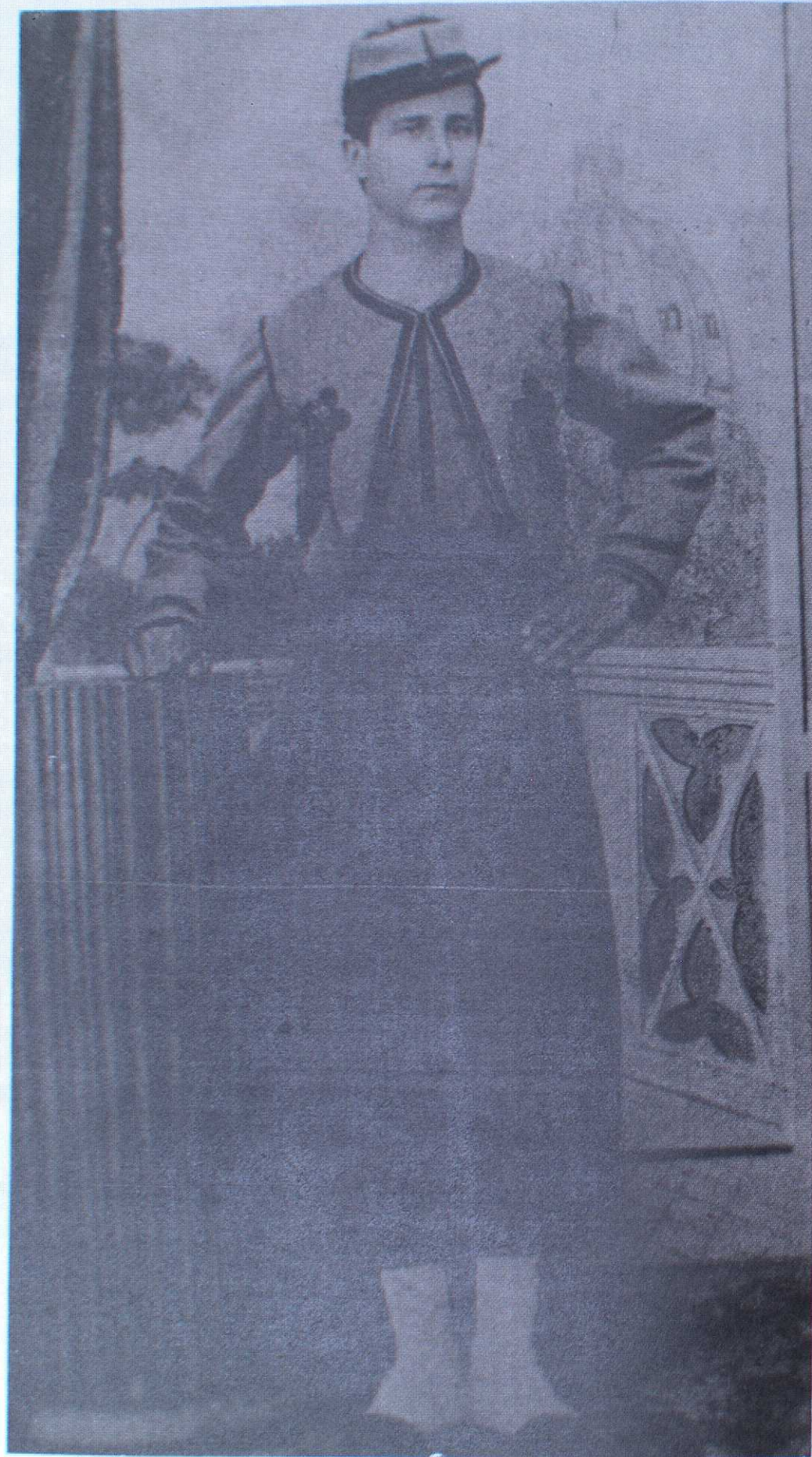
In his youth he joined the Papal Zouave unit raised in Québec in response to an appeal from the Pope for help to defend the Papal territories, after the unsuccessful attempt by Garibaldi and the Italian Nationalists to capture Rome in 1867. Great interest was aroused in French Canada where the Pope's appeal was read from every pulpit. Sponsored by Mgr. Bourget, Bishop of Montréal a citizens committee raised money and enlisted recruits. In February 1868 the first detachment of 137 men, including Moise Cormier left for Rome taking 200,000 francs for the Holy Father.

The amount of fighting done by the Québec volunteers is in some dispute. M. Cormier's Journal, now in the Manitoba Museum of Man & Nature (together with his pay book, badge and Benemerenti Medal) mentions the suppression of bandit activity and eight Canadian Zouaves are buried in the Cemetery of San Lorenzo. However, no mention is made whether they died in combat or from disease.

Mme. S. Cormier, daughter-in-law of Moise Cormier stated in a taped interview in 1972 that she recalled him saying the the Pope never allowed "his Canadians" to take part in actual fighting. Moise Cormier, promoted to Corporal, himself returned safe and sound after his discharge on March 11th 1870.

M. Cormier is shown in the photograph opposite (MMMN neg #1960) wearing his Zouave uniform, probably before departure since he has no corporal's chevrons. The jacket, cap and pantaloons were of bluish grey wool cloth, trimmed with dark red braid. The sash was dark red. The vest was either grey or a yellowish white. The cap badge is the French light infantry bugle. The gaiters were white worn over black shoes. The badge on the right breast consists of the Papal Tiara over the crossed keys of St Peter.

Sources: ROSS, David. The Journal of Moise Cormier: Zouave Pontificaux 1868-70. Manitoba Museum of Man & Nature, Winnipeg, 1975.



## The 2nd Regiment of Canadian Cavalry 1892. <sup>27.</sup>

By **W.Y. Carman F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S.**

In the Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Providence, Rhode Island is a watercolour which is named as "The 2nd Regiment of Canadian Cavalry" (See colour plate on p. ) and although not signed or dated is undoubtedly the work of Richard Simkin. As to date, that may be found by studying the uniform.

In 1855 two volunteer militia troops of cavalry were formed in York County, Ontario, the first being from St Catherine's, the other in York (Toronto). These troops increased in size and in number so that larger formations could be considered. The 1st Troop of York became a troop of the Governor General's Body Guard for Upper Canada in April 1866, and over the years 1872-1879 troops were re-organized into six numbered regiments of cavalry in Upper Canada.

In May 1872 Military District No.2 was authorized and the 2nd Cavalry was formed, consisting of eight troops:

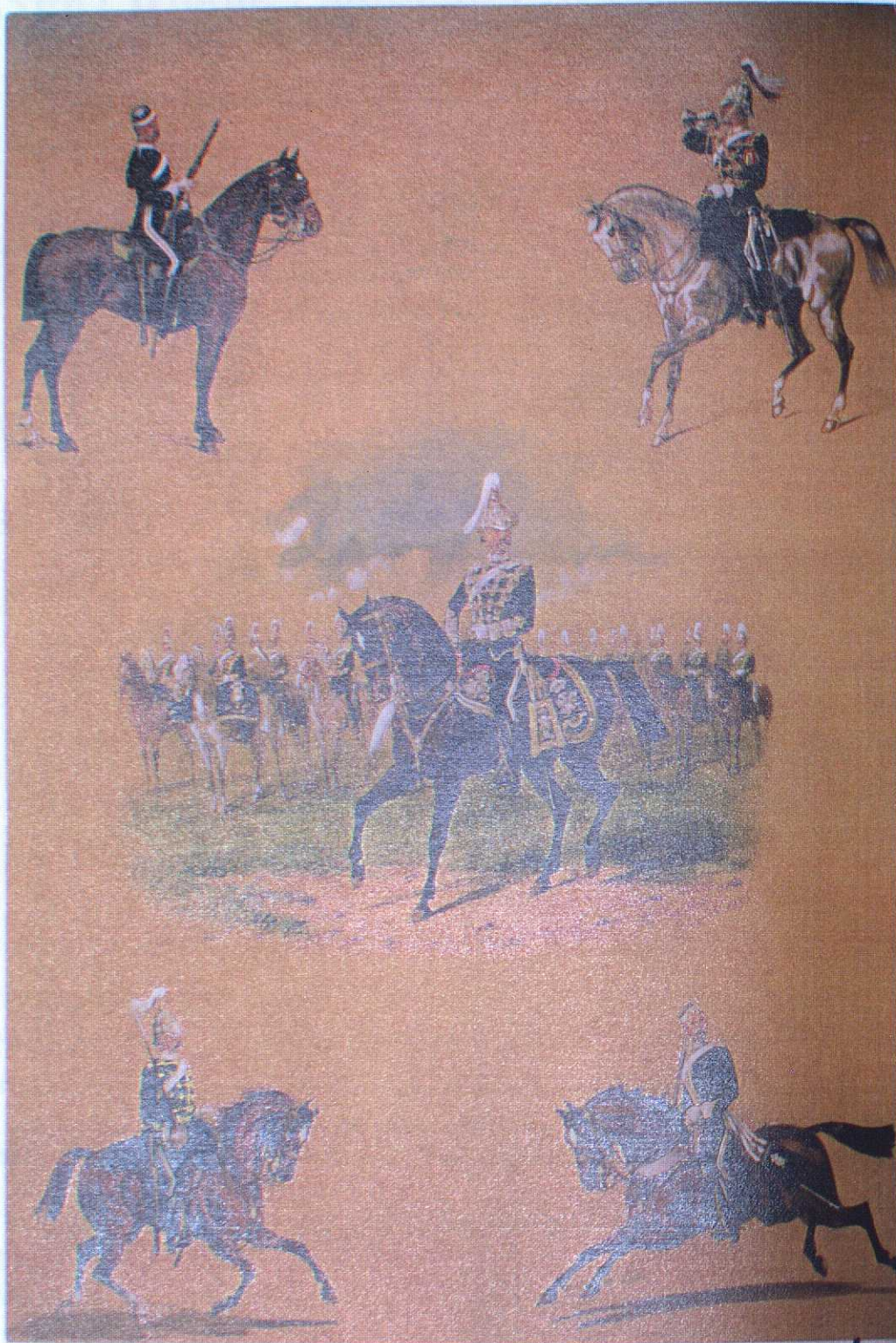
- No.1 St Catherine's
- No.2 Oak Ridges
- No.3 Markham
- No.4 Grimsby
- No.5 Burford
- No.6 Queenston (formerly the Mounted Infantry Troop)
- No.7 Barrie
- No.8 Welland

This flourishing regiment suffered losses in 1889 when the 2nd Oak Ridges Troop left and joined the Governor General's Body Guard as "C" Troop. Later the 3rd Markham Troop also left to join the GGBG as "D" Troop. It may be at this time when the 2nd Regiment was about to be reduced that the water colour was made. One may wonder if the band also left to join the Governor General's Body Guard.

The reduced 2nd Regiment of Cavalry continued as the 2nd Dragoons from 1892 until 1936 when they were amalgamated with the 10th Brantford Dragoons to become the 2nd/10th Dragoons. In 1946 the regiment was converted to artillery, as the 57th Light Anti-Aircraft Regt. (2nd/10th Dragoons).

### The Uniforms of the 2nd Canadian Cavalry Regiment.

Before the Volunteer Militia Act was approved in 1866 the old Cavalry troops had been wearing uniforms of their own choice. Blue was the most often chosen colour for the body garment with various colours for the facings (collars & cuffs). However the presence of the British 13th Light Dragoons in Canada who wore blue with white facings



*"The 2nd Regiment of Canadian Cavalry" by Richard Simpink.  
Original watercolour, 1892 from the Anne S.K. Brown Military  
Collection, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.*

proved popular and cheap enough. This regiment became hussars in 1861 and some uniforms changed to the hussar pattern. In November 1866 the Burford Troop had an issue of clothing which was definitely "hussar pattern", even to the fur busbies.

When the 2nd Regiment was formed in 1872 there had been a change in the official mind and the dress of the British 6th Dragoon Guards had been advocated. This was also of blue with white facings but the tunic of the plain dragoon pattern without the elaborate silver or yellow braid and lace was cheaper and more welcome. However the fur busby was slightly out of fashion and it was decided that helmets should be worn. At this time the British overseas helmet was of white material and worn by many soldiers in the Canadian Militia. But officers who had to appear at special functions, or with officers of other nations wearing full dress, opted for a metal helmet, the 1871 British pattern usually. The Governor General's Body Guard followed these changes, and even more, but the 2nd Canadian Cavalry retained the hussar tunic worn with the incongruous metal helmet. This is the uniform to be seen in the water-colour by Richard Simpink.

So the 2nd Canadian Cavalry, now recognized as dragoons and heavy cavalry wore the metal helmet with a white horsehair plume. The officers wearing the blue tunic have five rows of gold cord down the front, and the troopers have yellow cord. The pointed cuffs have ornamentation of gold or yellow. The Governor General's Body Guard wore silver for officers and white cords for other ranks. Blue cavalry breeches and high black boots were now worn by both units and the white of the facings were repeated on the double trouser stripes.

Other Ranks in undress are shown in short blue jackets with white collars and cuffs, buttoned down the front, while the officer's undress gold lace on the collar & cuffs and down the front of the jacket. White shoulder belts were worn in undress by all ranks, and a mounted officer may be seen wearing a black undress sabretache with a metal badge in the centre. For full dress purposes the troopers had a black lamb or sheepskin saddle cloth. The officers full dress saddlecloth was dark blue edged with gold lace, this was embroidered with a crown over a cypher, a "2" and a label, the same appeared on the sabretache.

The trumpeter is distinctive even though he wears the basic uniform, he rides a white horse, has a red and white helmet plume and his trumpet has red, yellow and blue cords as in Royal regiments.

Most attractive in the picture is the mounted band in the center left background. The bandsmen appear to wear the basic dragoon guard uniform. Seven figures are shown which might be the exact number of the band and they ride horses of varying colours. Apart from the kettle-drummer all the instruments are brass wind. The banners on the kettle-drums are special, being blue with apparently silver lace and embroidery. The latter is somewhat unclear, including a circular central device, the number "2" below, and presumably the regimental title on a tri-partite scroll. As the governor general's Body Guard is known to have later had a band, it seems possible that these men may have helped to form it.

## From the Minutes of the Militia Council 1905-1913. Part 2.

### Ed. René Chartrand.

#### Khaki Service Dress.

*The introduction of Khaki Service Dress throughout the Canadian Militia and the Permanent Force was a slow process, marked by steps forward and back, as well as changes of detail, as can be seen from the following extracts. It should be remembered that these are decisions only. Dates of actual implementation will differ. (Ed.)*

#### December 28th 1905. Service Dress, Rural Corps, No. 7 Military District. 7-1-7.

2017. The Chief of the General Staff brought up the question of the advisability of adopting service uniform of khaki for rural corps of military district No.7 as advocated by Lieut. Colonel Roy, Commandant of the last Lévis camp, an extract from which ran:

"There appears to exist a common desire on the part of commanding officers in the district for a different uniform than the red infantry frock and blue trousers. The khaki uniform seems to be the favourite, and is understood to be very popular amongst the men in the various communities. The issue of such uniform to rural corps, with minor changes to differ from the permanent corps, might be considered by French-speaking troops as of a national character whilst keeping within the British uniform absolutely. From my own experience, I can safely vouch that the adoption of this would have a most favourable effect, and be of great benefit, particularly to this district".

2018. The Quartermaster-General said he was not in favour of adopting any additional patterns of uniform.

2019. The Master-General of the Ordnance said he concurred in that view; that he was absolutely opposed to the adoption of khaki; that he was satisfied the wearing of stetson hats and the khaki uniform to the extent they had been worn, had been most detrimental to the discipline of the militia.

2020. It was decided that it was inadvisable to adopt the uniform proposed. The C.G.S to take action.

*[The 1907 Dress Regulations for the officers of the Canadian Militia specify Khaki Service Dress for the Permanent Force.] (Ed.)*

#### December 15th 1909. Changes in Uniforms. 96-13-14.

1165a. To introduce light khaki serge or drill in addition to the present issue.  
Decision: This was approved.

#### November 28th 1911. City Units - Issue to of Service Dress. 96-121-3.

661. The Quartermaster-General reported having received from the District Officer Commanding Military District No.13 a recommendation for the issue of service dress to city units within his command.

662. The Quartermaster-General said that by Clothing Regulations, Part II, only units which train in camp were provided with this uniform. The District Officer Commanding Military District No.13 recommended the extension of the issues to city units for wear at tactical exercises and drills, and as a means of saving wear and tear of the other uniforms. The directors to whom the question had been referred recommended that the issue be made to city units which trained in camp for not less than six days. The expense would be \$8,500.

663. Decision: It was decided to issue the service dress to any units that go into camp for periods of not less than six days, the period of wear to be six years. The Q.M.G. to take action.

#### December 19th 1911. Clothing - Khaki Jakets. 96-38-19.

759. The Quartermaster-General, in recommending that all khaki jackets be fitted with plain shoulder straps instead of the "removable" strap, and that metal titles be worn to distinguish corps, said that the present shoulder strap was ill-fitting and in some cases hard to keep the edge of the strap clean; also, that the "removable" strap had become obsolete in the Imperial Service and had been replaced by plain straps with metal titles. The Directors recommended this change.  
This was approved. The Q.M.G. to take action.

#### March 6th 1912. 38th Regiment "Dufferin Rifles of Canada" - Uniform. 740-11

170. The Quartermaster General in adverting to the decision of the Council of the 30th ultimo to issue an allowance to the Officer Commanding the 38th Regiment "Dufferin Rifles of Canada" "in lieu of serge clothing (Article 145), requested a decision as to whether the Regiment would be permitted to wear the Khaki uniform with coloured collar and cuffs.

Decision; It was decided that there would be no objection to their so doing. The Q.M.G. to take action.

#### February 11th 1913. Clothing - Officers' Dress generally, modification of. 305-3-8.

128. The Quartermaster-General brought up the question of officers' dress, and said that on December 20th 1911, the Council approved the alteration of drab jacket to open at the throat with step collar - a khaki collar with black sailor knot tie on parades, and a white collar off parades (Article 754, '11). At that time no change was approved for the blue serge jacket, but since then the following had been approved for the Army:-

- a. Serge jacket, drab jacket and khaki drill jacket, all cut to the same pattern, open



at the throat, step collar, skirt slightly longer with slit at back.

b. White collar and black corded silk sailor knot tie to be worn with blue serge jackets, and may be worn with others when not on parade. On parade, drab flannel shirt, drab collar and drab tie will be worn with drab or khaki drill.

c. Collar badges will be worn on collars of drab and khaki drill jackets except for officers authorized to wear gorget patches..

129. The Quartermaster-General inquired if the changes as above could be adopted for the Militia.

130. It was decided to amend the regulations in accordance with Army Orders 55/Gen., No. /302.

#### Straw Hats.

#### April 12th 1910. Camps of Instruction - Straw Hats for Troops in Camp. 96-9-11.

492. The Quartermaster-General brought before the Council the question of providing a Mexican hat made in like manner to the Panama hat..... that can be rolled up and placed in a haversack without injuring its shape. It is indestructible by rain or water. It would last for three years. Price \$250 per thousand, or 25 cents per hat.

493. The adoption of this hat for Camps of Instruction was approved. The Q.M.G. to take action.

#### Web & Oliver Equipment.

#### March 23rd 1911. Active Militia - Equipment of. 130-23-2.

270. The Quartermaster General brought up the question of equipment for the Militia, and said that this Council had already decided not to make any further purchases of the Oliver Equipment; that 2,000 sets of the Mills Burrows Web equipment had been purchased and issued to permanent units. This latter equipment had proved satisfactory to the Army Council. In Canada however, the trials did not prove entirely so at first, but later reports showed it to be generally satisfactory, the probable trouble being caused by sufficient care not being exercised in the proper fitting of the equipment.

271. The Quartermaster-General said that it was now necessary to provide, roughly 5,000 sets of equipment for new units and to replace unserviceable and deficient equipment; that the cost of the Oliver equipment was about \$8 per set and the Web equipment about \$5.50 per set, not including duty.

272. Decision: It was decided: (a) Not to order any more Oliver equipment; (b) To make as many sets of that equipment as complete as possible and issue them, the spare parts not required at the several stations to be sent to some central station to be made into complete sets.; (c) To inquire as to what arrangements could be made for the

manufacture of the Web equipment in Canada in pursuance of the policy of having as much of the equipment required for the Militia manufactured in Canada as possible. The Q.M.G. to take action.

#### June 3rd 1913. Web Equipment - Distribution of. 130-23-2.

272. The Quartermaster-General, in submitting the question of the distribution of the 1913 (new pattern) Web Equipment for dismounted units, said that 7,000 sets of the 1908 pattern were now in use, a little more than one third being on issue to the Permanent Force, and the remainder to the corps of the Non-Permanent Militia, a list of which he submitted.

273. The Quartermaster-General said that 5,000 of the 1913 pattern were now due from the contractors, and inquired whether the Permanent Force should be issued with this pattern in exchange for the old, and the latter returned to store and issued to non-permanent units; also, whether the non-permanent regiments having the 1908 pattern on charge should be similarly treated.

274. Decision: It was decided to issue the new equipment in the manner indicated in the Quartermaster-General's report. The Q.M.G. to take action.

#### 12th Manitoba Dragoons.

#### June 12th 1912. Dress Regulations - 12th Manitoba Dragoons. 2-17-42.

387. The Quartermaster-General recommended a request of the Officer Commanding the 12th Manitoba Dragoons that his command be permitted to wear the uniform of Dragoons wearing scarlet.

388. The Quartermaster-General said that this was already authorized by Dress Regulations, except as follows:-

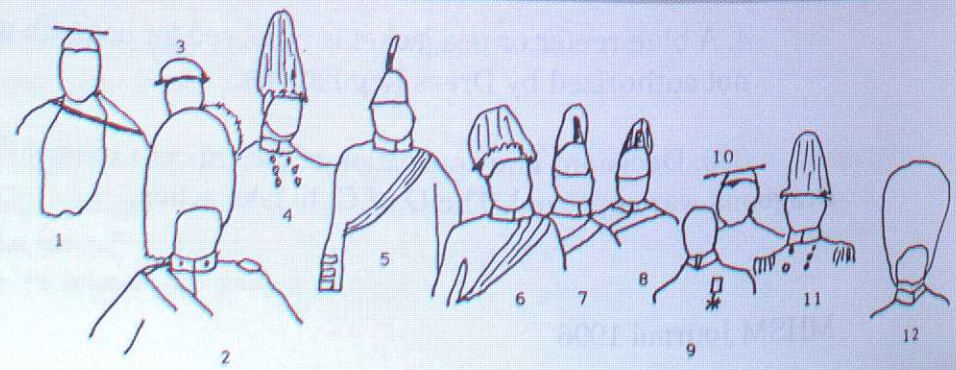
1. White metal helmet is required instead of "gilt" as authorized in para. 328, Dress Regulations.
2. Both red and blue patrol jackets asked for instead of red only as authorized by para. 53, Dress Regulations.
3. White collar for use with drab clothing requested instead of khaki, as authorized by para. 30, Dress Regulations, as amended by General Order 54 of 1912.
4. A blue reefer or pea jacket is proposed for use with winter dress. This article is not authorized by Dress Regulations.

389. Decision: The application of the Officer Commanding the 12th Manitoba Dragoons was approved. The Q.M.G. to take action.

# A Vice-Regal Miscellany, The Earl of Aberdeen and his Suite, 1894.

By David Ross.

John Campbell Gordon, 7th Earl of Aberdeen KP. GCMG , shown here with members of his official household and the officers of his escort, was Governor General of Canada 1893-1898. He is wearing the rarely seen uniform prescribed for the G.G. on military occasions. A variety of military and civil uniforms can be seen, as well as academic and even clerical full dress. This photo from the National Archives of Canada (PA 27368) is interesting evidence of the importance of outward signs of status in late Victorian Canada.



1.) Mr Heriot: Wearing an academic gown and hood over the special pattern black tail coat with gilt buttons and light blue lapels, prescribed for the household of the Governor General.

2.) Captain Beauchamp Urquhart: Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders (British Army), Senior ADC to the Governor General, wearing the Levée Uniform of his regiment. His medals are the Egypt Medal and the Khedive's Star.

3.) Rev. Wingfield: Although this gentleman is hardly visible, his round hat with a flat brim is part of the clerical outfit worn by some Protestant denominations at this date and would be appropriate for a chaplain to the G.G..

4.) Robert Munro-Fergusson: Wearing the Court Dress of H.M. Body Guard for Scotland, the Royal Company of Archers. Black cocked hat with black feather plume. Dark green coatee with gold lace, embroidery and epaulettes. Gilt buttons and crimson sash. Special pattern court sword.

5.) Colonel Sir Casimir Gzowski KCMG. Staff Officer to the Engineer Force, Hon. Aide-de-Camp to Queen Victoria. Wearing the full dress uniform of a British Army ADC to the Sovereign. Black cocked hat with white over red upright feather plume. Scarlet tunic with gold embroidery, shoulder straps and aiguillettes. Crimson and gold sash. Waist belt crimson leather embroidered with three gold stripes, gilt plate. Dark blue trousers with wide gold lace seam stripes. He is wearing the star and neck badge of a Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George, and the Jubilee Medal of 1887. This complete uniform with medal and decorations is now in the collection of the Toronto Historical Board.

6.) The Governor General, Lord Aberdeen KP. GCMG: The uniform usually worn by the G.G was the First Class Civil Uniform, (sometimes, wrongly, called the Windsor Uniform,) which is still worn today by some Provincial Lieutenant Governors, but on military occasions the G.G. at this time was permitted to wear the uniform of a British County Lord-Lieutenant, an office with military origins. Aberdeen had been Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire since 1880, thus he would have been in possession of this uniform, and the silver embroidery pattern on the dark blue collar and cuffs of the scarlet tunic would have been the Scottish national symbol, the thistle. By the 1920's the Governor General was clothed in the uniform of a British Colonial Governor.

Lord Aberdeen is wearing the insignia of the Order of St Patrick, awarded to him when Lord Lieutenant. of Ireland for a short period in 1886. This consists of the breast star and collar badge. The Order of St Patrick was the only one of the senior orders where the collar badge was allowed to be worn around the neck on a riband

7 & 8) Two Officers of the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards. Members of the Governor General's mounted escort. Brass helmet with white horsehair plume; dark blue tunic with white facings, gold lace and braid; gilt buttons; gold lavalie belts; dark blue breeches with double white seam stripes.

36.  
9.) Arthur J.L. Gordon CMG. Secretary to the Governor General, wearing the 5th Class Civil Uniform. This consists of a black tail coat with black velvet collar and cuffs edged with gold braid; gilt buttons; black trousers with gold lace seam stripes; black cocked hat with gold lace.

10.) Dr Shirres, wearing a civilian tail coat and academic gown.

11.) David Erskine, Comptroller of the Governor General's Household, in the uniform of H.M. Body Guard for Scotland. Same as #4, Robert Fergusson.

12.) Captain Kindersley, ADC to the Governor General, in the full dress uniform of the Coldstream Guards. Black bearskin cap; scarlet tunic with dark blue collar and cuffs, gold lace, braid and aiguillettes; gilt buttons; crimson sash; gold lace levée belt; dark blue trousers with broad scarlet seam stripes.

## Trench Feet, the care and prevention of, by the Canadian Corps 1914-18.

By Bruce Tascona.

Although a long time student of the history of the Canadian Expeditionary Force the writer had never realized the dangerous effects that the malady of trench feet(\*) had on the soldier in the First World War. The area of conflict in which the Canadians soldiered was in Flanders and Northern France. Much of the area was low-lying, and trench warfare had disrupted the natural drainage patterns to the point that the zone was nothing more than a muddy morass of waterlogged fields. This added danger to the soldier took on a new dimension with casualties rising rapidly as a result of chilled and frostbitten feet. It was not uncommon for soldiers to develop trench feet within 24 hours of arriving in the trenches. This caused many cases of toes and feet being amputated.

Many commonsense solutions were applied to minimize this threat to the physical and morale well-being of the front line soldier.

### Change of socks.

"I remember very well the first casualty train I saw in France..... There were 300 casualties on the train and nearly 90% were suffering from trench feet ..... When the winter of 1915-16 approached our medical authorities

(\*) "Trench feet" was an omnibus term which covered a number of medical conditions. These had in common, interference with blood circulation in the extremities and infection due to insanitary conditions, the most prevalent being frostbite. The principal causes were the cold wet conditions in the trenches, often combined with lack of muscular exercise. For example, men on watch would stay almost motionless for hours at a stretch. Excessive marching on hard, uneven surfaces behind the lines was also a pre-disposing factor.

37.  
gave every attention and suggested what proved to be an infallible remedy.

It was made a matter of discipline, that before a unit proceeded to the trenches the feet of all men were thoroughly washed, dried and a certain form of grease rubbed in. A clean dry pair of socks were put on and another pair was carried in the knapsack to the trenches. The next day it was a matter of discipline that socks worn were removed and the other clean pair put on..... The Quartermaster bringing up the rations would provide another clean pair for the next day and the wet ones would be collected to be washed and dried..... To enable us to do this required four pairs of socks..... The government supply was only two pairs..... those thousands and thousands of pairs of socks from the women of Canada..... proved an infallible remedy, for it is a matter of record that some units had not a single case of trench feet..... (1)

(Speech by General Sir A.W. Currie to the Women's Canadian Club, Montreal)

### Gum Boots and Waders.

Apart from the nocturnal change of socks on a routine basis, the authorities quickly realized that this would not be enough. Gum boots and waders became part of trench stores, and approximately 4000 pairs of gum boots were allotted to each of the Canadian Divisions. This greatly enhanced the efficiency of those manning the front line. The transfer of gum boots to relieving battalions was made at a point in the rear, as many communication trenches were wetter than the fire trenches..... the waders were for the use of the men only and were not issued to, or worn by officers. It was an offence to wear them out of the trenches." (2)

Eventually a complete routine was established and published under the Canadian Corps trench standing orders:

### Prevention of Chilled Feet & Frostbite.

- a. Before marching to trenches, feet and legs will be washed, then thoroughly dried and rubbed with anti-frostbite grease or whale oil, under platoon supervision. Boots should be large enough for two pairs of socks, and puttees must be put on loosely.
- b. The march to the trenches will be in ankle boots. Every man will carry two pairs of spare socks, spare grease and towel.
- c. On arrival at the trenches, take off ankle boots and wet socks, dry and grease feet, put on dry socks, gum boots (trench stores) or paper socks and ankle boots.
- d. During the tour of the trenches, circulation must be kept up by movement: the

restriction of the circulation of the lower limbs is the principal cause of chilled feet.

e. Boots and puttees will be removed at least once in every 24 hours, feet and legs will be dried, rubbed and greased, and dry socks put on.

f. Gum boots will be taken off before troops march out to relief and will be handed over as trench stores to relieving unit.

g. On arrival in billets, feet will be washed and rubbed; dry socks, hot drinks and food will be provided under Battalion arrangement.

h. Warming braziers made from 3 and 5 gallon oil drums will be provided, and a daily allowance of 2lbs coke and 1/2lb charcoal per man in trenches. An extra peasoup, tea and sugar ration will also be issued.

i. C.O.'s are responsible that all trench pumps are kept in good repair and made use of to the fullest extent. The drier the trenches are, the fewer will be the cases of chilled feet.

j. A daily foot inspection under the supervision of an officer will be carried out while in the line. (3)

#### Footnotes:

(1) National Archives of Canada RG24 Vol 6991. "Davidson Survey, Official History of the Canadian Forces 1914-1919, Material compiled for Vol 2, p.20.

(2) Ibid pp. 109-110.

(3) Canadian Corps Trench Standing Orders, Army Printing and Stationery Services, July 1917. pp. 24-24.

#### Bibliography:

Eye Deep in Hell-Trench Warfare in World War One. John Ellis, Panteon Books, New York, 1976.

Canadian corps Trench Standing Orders. Army Printing and Stationery Services, July 1917.

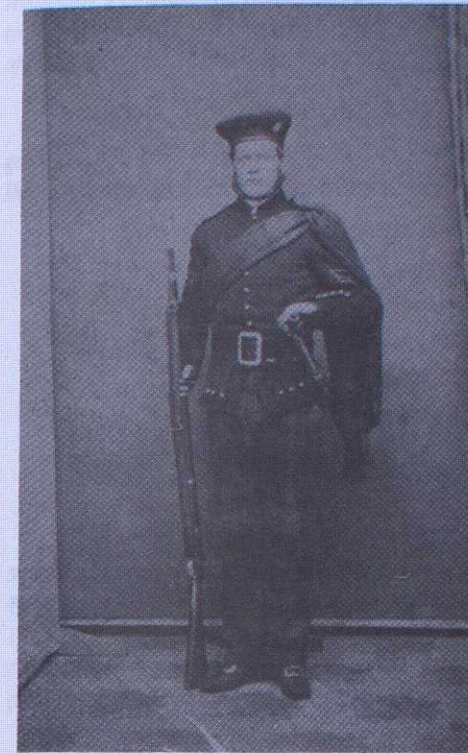
Davidson Survey, Official History of the Canadian Forces 1914-19, Material Compiled for Volume II. NAC RG24 Volume 6991, File Davidson Survey.

## Notes

### The Dalrymple Clark Chest/Cupboard - An up-date from 1994 Journal.

Virginia Lockett reports that the third owner of this chest, "E.J. Tett" who had not previously been identified, is now known to be Mrs Edmund Tett, daughter of Assistant Commissioner & Mrs W.M. Herchmer, the previous owners of the chest. Ref: Saskatchewan Archives, MSS C555/2/10.6d, letter from Mr H.E. Ross to Mrs Edmund Tett.

### Highland Company, 13th Regiment Canadian Volunteer Militia, 1869.



This interesting carte de visite photograph of "A Corporal of Lieutenant Colonel J.A. Skinner's Highland Coy, 13 Regiment Canadian Volunteer Militia, New Year 1869", is contributed by Mr R.G. Harris of Southsea, England, a noted collector of military photos. This unit is listed as the "Hamilton Highland Rifle Coy." in "Commanding Officers' Reports concerning clothing" of Oct 13th 1862. The Report notes "Rifles tunics green, kilt plaid and trousers of Hunting Stewart Tartan, Bonnet." The 13th eventually became the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry. Col. James Aitcheson Skinner was appointed to command the 13th Battalion 10 Aug 1866 & remained C.O. until 1886 Highland Companies were popular, but often short-lived, and photos of their uniforms are correspondingly rare.

### Dates of British Army Uniform changes.

The following notes are designed to assist in dating pictures of uniforms, as well as being of general interest. They have been extracted by René Chartrand from a notebook, now in the possession of Mr W.Y. Carman, which belonged to the late Rev. Percy Sumner, the author of many articles in the *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research* in the 1920's and 1930's.

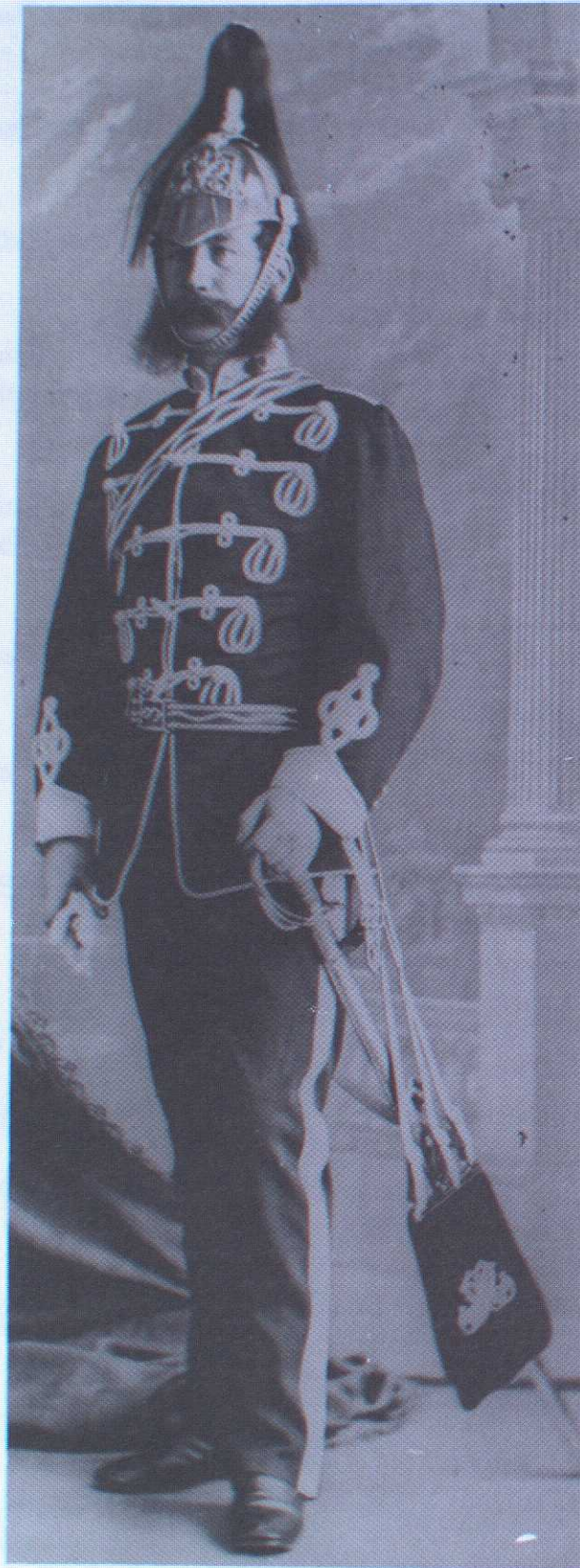
1830, G.O. 2nd August: "The gorget to be abolished"

1843, Circular 31st January: "Boots for Infantry to be made right and left" (Prior to this both boots of a pair were the same shape. Ed.)

1855, Circular 22nd August: "The mark 'W.D.' with the Broad Arrow, to be substituted for 'B.O.' which has hitherto been used for stores. (W.D. = War Department. B.O. = Board of Ordnance. Ed.)

1856, Circular 28 March: "Single breasted tunics instead of double breasted for all ranks in the Army to take effect from April 1st 1857".

1859, 8th June: "Shell Jacket permitted at MESS for Officers".



The Royal Guides, a Montreal cavalry unit raised in 1862, took part in a successful cavalry charge on 9 June 1866 against the Fenians at Pigeon Hill. But for unstated reasons they were disbanded 10 September 1869. Because of their short life and small numbers none of their uniforms were known to have survived, until this helmet (below) turned up. It is of German (nickel) silver with a silver plume holder, rosettes and chin strap. Black horsehair plume. The badge, reversed "R", is gilt. A Notman Collection photo (5240 I) of Lieut. John Pinner, Royal Guides, 1862 shows the full dress uniform. Dark blue tunic with white collar & cuffs & silver braid. Belts & slings are scarlet with silver stripes. Black sabretache with gilt reversed "R" device. Dark blue trousers with silver lace seam stripes.



This handwritten address of thanks to Inspector Morris was recently donated to Parks Canada by the Inspector's grandson, Mr Hugh S.O. Morris for display at Fort Battleford National Historic Site. It had passed to him from his father, Lieut. Col. William Otter Morris who was born on May 24th 1885, during the last days of the siege (In WWI Col. Morris raised the 234th Bn. CEF).

The document measures 44cm x 59cm and the text is written in black and embellished with a red and gold border. By comparing the calligraphy of the opening paragraphs with the signatures it seems possible that the address was prepared by Lieut. Frederick Marigold.

The wording of the address is as follows:

To  
Lieut. Col. William S. Morris  
Inspector North West Mounted Police.

Sir,

The suppression of the Half-breed Rebellion, the arrival of General Middleton and surrender of Indians in this District practically relieves Battleford for the present, and affords the undersigned an opportunity of expressing to you as the Officer Commanding the Fort, their high appreciation of the able manner in which you discharged your very important and responsible duties. VIZ, the defence of the Fort and the protection of the women and children placed there under your charge.

Your judicious arrangements for defence, personal coolness, and careful supervision, almost night and day for a critical period of nearly two months, inspired the men with confidence, and enabled them to perform the arduous military duties required of them, cheerfully, and to feel satisfied of your ability to hold out until relieved. They would also express the hope that your able conduct throughout will receive its well merited recognition at the hands of the proper authorities, and their best wishes for your future success in life.

Battleford North West Territories 27 May 1885

Then follows 126 names, which are listed alphabetically below and the unit and occupation of each man has been added.

Inspector Morris' role in the Rebellion has often been glossed over or ignored, so it is interesting and refreshing to know that the people under his care and command, who knew him best, thought very highly of his conduct.

The siege of Fort Battleford may be said to have begun on March 29th when the men of the newly formed Home Guard performed night duty for the first time. About 400 women and children together with their menfolk had moved within the stockade from the surrounding district, on the approach of Indians under Poundmaker. The siege was raised by the arrival of Lieut. Col. William Otter's Column on April 24th, but the district was still unsettled and remained so until Poundmaker surrendered to General Middleton on May 26th.

William S. Morris was born on 6 September 1847, probably in Fredericton. He served in the Militia in the 71st York Battalion of Infantry, being promoted Major 10 Dec 1869, and appointed Paymaster in 1877, he retired as Lieutenant Colonel in 1880. He was appointed to be an Inspector in the North West Mounted Police 1 May 1884, promoted Superintendent 1 July 1901. He died while serving in the Force on 4 April 1905.

The list of men who signed the address follows on the next four pages. The major source of information about them and the events of the Rebellion has been Douglas W. Light's "Footprints in the Dust", published by Turner-Warwick Ltd, North Battleford, 1987.

## APPENDIX

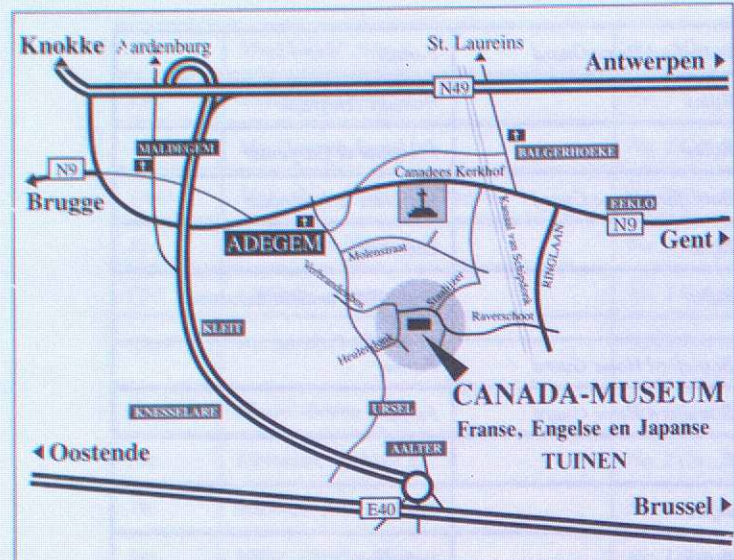
Rank	Name	Company	Occupation
Pte.	Applegarth, Herbert Alfred	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Rancher
Pte.	Arcand, Aurelle	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer & Prince Brothers Mill
Pte.	Arcand, Damase	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Hotel & Farmer
Pte.	Arcand, Eucher	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Arcand, Joseph	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer & Sawyer
Pte.	Atkinson, James	Battleford Rifles	Freighter & Farmer at Bresaylor
Pte.	Autherson, Charles	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Labourer
2nd Lt.	Baker, Lewis C.	Battleford Rifles	Rancher & Freighter - U.S. Civil War Veteran
Pte.	Ballendine, Adam	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Freighter
Pte.	Ballendine, Samuel	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Freighter
Pte.	Bannerman, Alexander 'Sandy'	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Freighter
	Bell, T. C.		
Pte.	Bernier, Joseph	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	
Pte.	Bourassa, Emile	Battleford Rifles	Farmer
Sgt.	Bourke, Frederick A. D.	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Rancher - ex NWMP No. 263
Pte.	Bourre, Louis	Battleford Rifles	Farmer
Cst.	Brown, Richard Jebb [?]	NWMP	
Pte.	Cameron, Charles H.	Battleford Rifles	Industrial School
	Cameron, Rev. J. H.		Presbyterian Minister
Pte.	Cardinal, John	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Freighter
Pte.	Carney, John	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Carpenter
Pte.	Cinnamon, Hugh Sr.	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer & Rancher
Pte.	Cinnamon, Hugh Jr.	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Cinnamon, John	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Cinnamon, Thomas	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer & Contractor
Pte.	Cinnamon, William	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Clink, Daniel Livingston	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farm Instructor
Pte.	Clinkskill, James	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Merchant, Mahaffy & Clinkskill
Pte.	Clouston, George Henty Byron	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Carpenter & Saloon Prop.
	Cooper, David		Scout
Pte.	Cote, Michel	Battleford Rifles	Farmer
Pte.	Craig, John	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer

Pte.	Cummings, William	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer & Carpenter
Pte.	Dufresne, Joseph	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Labourer
Pte.	Donovan, George G.	Battleford Rifles	Store Clerk
Pte.	Finlayson, Donald Matheson 'Dan'	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer & Rancher
Sgt.	Finlayson, John D.	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer & Rancher - ex NWMP No. 269
	Finlayson, Roderick (Rory)		Scout
Pte.	Flamond, Louis or Pierre [?]	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Freighter
Pte.	Flamond, Moise	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Freighter
Pte.	Forest, Alphonse	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	worked for Prince Bros.
Pte.	Forest, Joseph	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Forget, Adelard Paul	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer, Auctioneer, Deputy Sheriff
Pte.	Forsyth, Thomas	Battleford Rifles	Farmer
Pte.	Gaudaire, Honore (Edmond)	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Gaudaire, Julien	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Gaudaire, Napoleon	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Sgt.	Gagne, Jules Stanislas	Battleford Rifles	Carpenter
Lieut.	Gopsell, George Drew	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer - ex NWMP No. 393
Bugler	Gilbert, Ernest	Battleford Rifles	Baker & Carpenter
Pte.	Green, Seth [?]	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Freighter
Pte.	Head, Harry A.	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer - ex NWMP No. 688
Pte.	Hourie, John	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
	Hourie, Peter		
Pte.	Hutchings, Thomas	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Hebert, Joseph	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Jefferson, Harry S.	Battleford Rifles	Trader & Farmer
Pte.	Lajoie, Solyme	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Latimer, William Robert Sr. [?]	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Dominion Telegraph - ex NWMP No. 145
	Laurie, P. G.		Editor, Saskatchewan Herald
Pte.	Lauzon, Ulderic	Battleford Rifles	Clerk
Pte.	L'Heureux, Henri	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	L'Heureux, Onesime	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Baker & Farmer
Cpl.	Macrae, James Ansdell	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Indian Department Clerk
Pte.	MacDonald, Alfred	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	HBC Clerk
Pte.	MacDonald, Cuthbert P. [?]	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer at Bresaylor

Pte.	MacDonald, John S.	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	MacDonald's Store Mgr.
Pte.	McDonald, Norman	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	MacDonald, Ronald C.	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Contractor
Lieut.	McFarlane, James McDougall	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Rancher
Sgt.	McFarlane, Thomas F.	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Rancher
Cpl.	MaHaffy, Thomas E.	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Merchant, Mahaffy & Clinkskill
Lieut.	Marigold, Frederick	Battleford Rifles	Accountant, Lieut. 22nd B.N. Oxford Rifles-1869
Pte.	Masse, Arsene	Battleford Rifles	Farmer
Pte.	Matheson, Richard R.	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Michaud, Julien	Battleford Rifles	Labourer
Sgt.	Millie, Charles Thomas	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Clerk, Mahaffy & Clinkskill
Pte.	McGregor, James M.	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Clerk at A. MacDonald's Store
Pte.	McBeth, William	Battleford Rifles	Freighter from Bresaylor
Pte.	McKenzie, Alexander R.	Battleford Rifles	Blacksmith
Pte.	McKenzie, Duncan Donald	Battleford Rifles	Freighter & Farmer
Pte.	McKenzie, Malcolm	Battleford Rifles	Freighter & Farmer
Pte.	McKinney, William H.	Battleford Rifles	Prince Bros. Mill employee
Capt.	Nash, Edward A.	Battleford Rifles(C.O.)	Indian Industrial School & Farmer, Capt. Queen's Own Rifles 1876-82
Lieut.	Oliver, John Grieve [?]	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Mill Owner & Contractor
Sgt.	O'Neill, James Daniel	Battleford Rifles	Farmer - ex NWMP No. 276
Sgt.	Otten, Frank	Battleford Rifles	Hotel Keeper - ex 1st Battalion Rifles - Wolseley Exped. 1870
Pte.	Pambrun, John C.	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Pambrun, Peter	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Peterson, William	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Clerk, Mahaffy & Clinkskill
Pte.	Prevost, Regis	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Company Baker, Farmer & Horse Dealer
	Price, J. H.	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	
Pte.	Prince, Joseph G.	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Sgt.	Prongua, Anthony Jefferson	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer & Rancher - ex NWMP No. 278
Sgt.	Richard, Phillippe R.	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Rivard, Victor	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
	Rourk, E.		
	Roy, J.		
Pte.	St. Denis, Joseph	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer & Freighter

Pte.	St. George, George	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Salsbury, Walter J.	Battleford Rifles	Domion Telegraph
Pte.	Schmidt, Modeste	Battleford Rifles	Freighter & Carpenter
Cpl.	Schneider, Arthur C. [?]	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Freighter & Insurance
Pte.	Skelton, William	Battleford Rifles	Labourer
S/Maj.	Smith, Charles A.	Battleford Rifles	Night Watchman at Industrial School
Pte.	Speers, Robert G.	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Spence, Archibald	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
	Stante, Magloire		
Pte.	Stevenson, James H.	Battleford Rifles	Farmer
Pte.	Stevenson, Thomas	Battleford Rifles	Labourer
Pte.	Strang, James F.	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Orderly Rm. Clerk, Labourer at Prince's Mill
Pte.	Suffern, Andrew	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Sully, John H.	Battleford Rifles	Contractor & Blacksmith
	Sutter, Alexander		
Pte.	Taylor, Alexander	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Taylor, Herbert C.	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
	Taylor, Isaac John		Chaplain Minister
Pte.	Taylor, Peter	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer
Pte.	Todd, John	No. 2 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Scout, Trader, Freighter, Mail Carrier
Pte.	Turner, William	No. 1 Co., Battleford Home Guard	Farmer & Labourer at Prince's Mill
Pte.	White, Charles	Battleford Rifles	
Pte.	Williamson, Charles R.	Battleford Rifles	Mgr. at A. MacDonald's Store
Sgt.	Young, Malcolm	Battleford Rifles	Clerk at A. MacDonald's Store

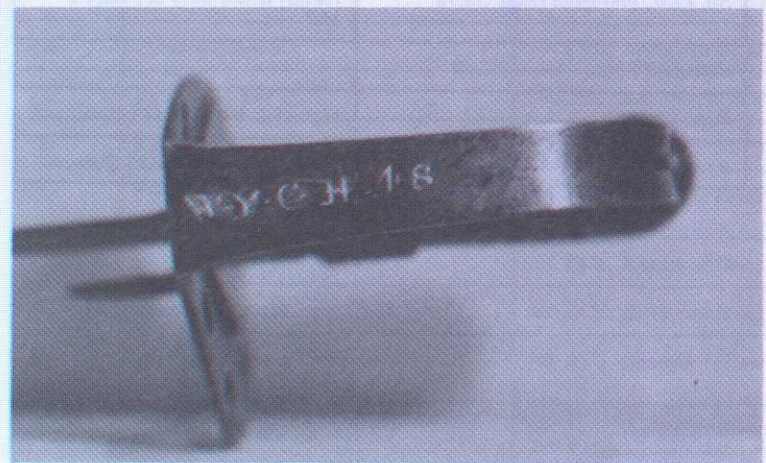
The Canada Museum,



The Canada Museum at Adegem-Maldegem, Belgium was opened in 1995 to portray the liberation of this area by the Canadian Army in 1945. The museum is seeking donations of Canadian uniforms, badges, photographs, recruiting posters etc 1939-1945. One item in particular the curator is hoping to find is a flame thrower, a weapon which was of crucial importance in the Battle for the Leopold Canal at Adegem during "Operation Switchback". If you would like to assist the museum write to Gilbert Van Landschoot, Curator & Owner, Heulendonk 21, 9991 Adegem-Maldegem, Belgium. If you are ever in the area here is a map.

Notes on a British 1796 pattern Heavy Cavalry Trooper's Sword. By Grant Tyler.

The Governor General's Horse Guards traces its origin to 1822, and the West York Militia Cavalry Troop. The Provincial Militia Act provided for one Troop of Cavalry per Regimental District. Thus Col. Cherrett, commanding officer of the 1st West York Regt. of Militia, asked Capt. G.T. Denison to raise and command a Troop of cavalry for his regiment.



The West York Troop of Cavalry later assumed the name "York Dragoons", and following service during the 1837 Rebellion, was honoured with the title, "Queen's Light Dragoons". (1) The West York Troop of Cavalry received its first issue of weapons in 1831. This issue included 50 cavalry swords, sword belts and pairs of pistols (2). The document authorizing this issue (Adjutant General's office, York, Upper Canada 4 May 1831) does not specify the pattern of sword.

Sometime ago I encountered a 1796 pattern British heavy cavalry trooper's sword. The weapon, manufactured by Woolley, has the modified disc guard (ground on the left side; left languet removed) and spear point modification. The markings on the guard (see photo) are most interesting: "W-Y-C-H-48". The West York Cavalry immediately came to mind. However, if "H" designates the Troop we run into the difficulty that the W.Y.C. was only one troop in strength. If however, the W.Y.C. was considered to be the 8th Troop or "Company" of the infantry regiment to which it was attached (1st West York) then the "H" designation becomes more of a possibility.

We must also consider the possibility that the sword was issued to a British Yeomanry Cavalry regiment, such as the Worcestershire Yeomanry Cavalry (also W.Y.C.). However, R.J. Smith believes that the Worcestershires were issued with light cavalry pattern swords by about 1800-1810. (3).

As for the other yeomanry regiments, it would seem that the normal issue was the 1796 pattern light cavalry sabre, some of which remained in use as late as the 1850's. (4).

Even though the West Yorks were clothed as Light Dragoons(5), and one would expect them to be armed as such, it does also seem possible that they were issued heavy cavalry swords. In further support of this position it is to be noted that the initial order of 2,000 of new British 1821 heavy cavalry swords was completed in 1827, and there were some 34,000 old 1796 heavy cavalry swords in British stocks. While the light cavalry sword (which had also been replaced by a new pattern) had found an outlet with the Yeomanry (6), certainly 50 1796 pattern heavy cavalry swords would have been available for issue to the West Yorks by 1831.

We must also consider that the W.Y.C. appear to have been without swords for their first nine years, and therefore may not have been too particular with regard to the pattern issued, gladly taking whatever was available, even if it was the "wrong" pattern. In any case, neither the West Yorks nor the British Yeomanry should have been issued with the sword in question, according to regulations. Regardless, it would seem that some of these 1796 pattern heavy cavalry swords did find their way into the ranks of one or the other.

Anyone who can provide further information about this interesting weapon is invited to write, c/o the Society.

References:

1. SUMMERS,J.L. & Chartrand, R.. Military Uniforms in Canada 1665-1970. Canadian War Museum Historical Publication No.16. Nat. Museums of Canada, Ottawa, 1981, p.107.
2. CHARTRAND, René, Additional Documents on the Governor General's Body Guard Uniform. Journal of the Military Collectors Club of Canada, Vol. 3, p.28.
3. SMITH, R.J. The Uniforms of the British Yeomanry Force 1794-1914. II Worcestershire Yeomanry. Picton Publishing Ltd, Chipenham, Wiltshire. 1990. p.3.
4. The Yeomanry 1794-1994. Regiment Magazine, issue 5, Dec 1994/Jan 1995. p.37.
5. CHARTRAND, Ibid p.28.
6. ROBSON, Brian. Swords of the British Army, the Regulation Patterns 1798-1914. Arms & Armour Press, London 1975. pp.29-30.



## BOOKS by MEMBERS.

GRODZINSKI, Captain J.R. Operational Handbook for the First Canadian Army 1944-1945: Formation Organization, Staff Technique and Administration. 1996. Spiral binding, 123 pp. ISBN 0-9680946-0-0. Can\$15. The Regimental Historian, 175 Skyridge Ave. Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia, B4C 1R8.

Captain Grodzinski has written and compiled this work detailing how the First Canadian Army actually functioned. Students of military material culture will find it a welcome addition to their bookshelves. The author takes a very dry subject and makes it very readable, making the reader actually look forward to the next chapter. With the rise of interest in the Second World War this book helps to provide a broader picture of the Canadian operations in North West Europe 1944-1945. **Bruce Tascona.**

## BOOK REVIEWS.

CARMAN, William Y. FSA. FRHistS. Light Horse and Mounted Rifle Volunteers 1860-1901. 186 pp., 20 colour illustrations, 76 B&W illustrations and many line drawings. Available from: A&J Partnership, Plum Tree Cottage, Royston Place, Barton-on-Sea, Hampshire, England, BH25 7AJ. 1995. ISBN 0 95116065 1 4. £30 plus £2.70 post and packing for UK, £4 for overseas.

This book on British mounted volunteers is bound to be a very useful blessing to anyone interested in British militaria. Why? because of the exceptional quality of research brought into this volume, which presents masses of hitherto unknown, or very scarce information. Many times has this reviewer, a curator by profession, been frustrated in trying to identify fine looking buttons and badges bearing obscure initials and insignia, a feeling shared by many collectors, dealers and historians not only in Britain, but also in Canada and the U.S.A.

When faced with buttons and badges bearing a crown and "HLH" one might correctly guess that it one belonged to the Hertfordshire Light Horse, and "LLH" indeed stands for Lincolnshire Light Horse. But some badges seem to be an incredible Victorian mish-mash of letters and numbers. For instance it takes a while to figure out the "MLVC" in the fancy scrolls of what is revealed to be the Middlesex Light Horse, which also called itself the Metropolitan Light Horse, to confuse everyone further. But with something like "1st MV", no one but the owners of this book are likely to know that it is in fact the Huntingdon Light Horse, and that the "M" stands for the Duke of Manchester!

Not only is this study replete with information on hitherto mysterious buttons and badges but the whole uniform of the many units are described and often illustrated. Anyone believing that the only difference in British uniforms was silver buttons and lace for militia and volunteers and gold for regulars is in for a shock. Also, lots of accoutrements, the sort with those obscure badges that one sees on gun show tables, are illustrated, described and identified.

There is a great deal of detail on the organization of each unit and the progress and fate of the light horse volunteers in Britain, so that this book forms a complete study.

Mr Carman, who has previously published many many excellent and now unfindable landmark books on British and Indian Army uniforms, has done it again with this book which is, be advised, limited to a printing of 300 copies. **René Chartrand.**

POUCHOT, Pierre, Memoirs of the Late War in North America Between France and England. Translated by Michael Cardy, edited and annotated by Brian Leigh Dunnigan, ISBN 0-9411967-14-X. Old Fort Niagara, N.Y. 1994, 568 pp., ill. index. [This book was mentioned briefly in the 1994 Journal, here is a detailed review].

Captain Pierre Pouchot was a talented French Army officer who played an important role in the western part of New France during the French and Indian War. An infantry officer in the Béarn Regiment, he was also an accomplished engineer, erected Vauban-style fortifications on the frontier and ably commanded the French garrisons during the sieges of Fort Niagara and Fort Lévis. From his experiences in Canada, he wrote a fine three volume account published during 1781, the only complete history of the war in North America published in French during the 18th century. An English translation was published in 1866. Now very rare and difficult to find in any version, this excellent account has been translated again by Professor Michael Cardy in a version that does better justice to Pouchot's lively pen. The historical editing and annotations by Brian Leigh Dunnigan are truly remarkable and enrich considerably the understanding of the main text. The 1600 footnotes conveniently placed at the bottom of each page are often so interesting by themselves that it can be a struggle to keep reading the main text, at least on the first reading.

Pouchot wrote about many things he saw, often very strange to his 18th century eyes and now lost to us at the end of the 20th, and his text is replete with descriptions of Indians, settlements and forts and many other things besides the historical memoirs, which he writes in the third person when referring to himself. Of course, his accounts of the sieges of Fort Niagara, in 1759, and that of Fort Lévis, the following year, are especially important and tell of the amazing resilience and resourcefulness of the small French and Canadian forces defending the frontier against greatly superior British and American colonial forces.

Quite apart from following the war from the French side, guided by one of its best chroniclers, the British reader will also find descriptions of the British forces. This intelligence came from various sources but especially from Indian and Canadian scouts. This gives a good idea of the type of information the French obtained upon which they had to base their tactical and strategic choices. The editor's footnotes are very valuable as he provides, in counterpart, the most accurate information from British sources. One gets the impression that, while some of the general information obtained by the French about the entire British forces in America may be a bit off, the scouts were obviously keen and exact observers of British forts and camps they actually saw. Thus, until the last phases of the war, the French commanders in the field seem to generally have had better information about their foes than the celebrated Rangers could provide about the French to their British commanders. Naturally the work is replete with information on the French forces, not only from Pouchot's account but also from a massive amount of supporting data that often fills up to half a page, the sort of thing that will delight the many who love

to read footnotes.

Certainly, for those interested in the French and Indian War, this book is something of a landmark. It is also an example of documentary history at its best, copiously footnoted for better comprehension and insight, and supported by additional key documents and maps. This attractive volume comes hard bound with handsome brown leather covers stamped with gold and, perhaps the best news of all, is most reasonably priced at US\$ 24.95 plus US\$3 for the U.S. and US\$5 elsewhere. Available from: Old Fort Niagara, P.O. Box 169, Youngstown, N.Y. U.S.A. 14174-0169. Fax 716 745 9141. **René Chartrand**

NEVINS, Edward M. Forces of the British Empire - 1914. 288 pp. 383 colour illustrations, 380 line drawings, hard cover, index. ISBN 0-918339-18-9. Vandamere Press, Box 5243, Arlington, VA. U.S.A. US\$65 (plus US\$4 shipping & postage, US\$8 outside the U.S.).

This book is like a parade of all the forces in the British Empire on the eve of the First World War. As the Empire then included, in one way or another, a quarter of the globe, it involved every imaginable sort of soldier, of all races, on all five continents embracing a myriad of cultures. Each chapter of this book is devoted to a particular aspect: the Naval and Marine forces of Britain, Australia and Canada; the land forces of the United Kingdom and of the Dominions of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. This is followed by the Indian Empire (for 170 pages, the largest chapter) and finishes with the various colonies and protectorates. This includes colonial constabulary, volunteers and militia.

The text is not a narrative but rather an encyclopedic listing of entries. Generally, the entries are for each unit and give the date it was raised, where it was stationed, a description of the uniform and, if a regular unit, a line drawing of the badge. Other details such as battle honours are indicated where appropriate. This includes not only the forces under direct British control, but also the Imperial Service Forces, and what could be found on the Indian State Forces. To illustrate the truly colourful and often exotic uniforms the author and publisher have chosen an unusual medium: a collection of 54mm model soldiers, each painted in detail. Of the 383 colour illustrations, 120 are devoted to Great Britain, 12 to Canada, 9 to Australia and New Zealand, 1 to South Africa and 227 to India. To assemble all this information under one cover is a daunting enterprise. It has been well done by the author and should please the amateurs of late Victorian and Edwardian Forces. **René Chartrand**.

BLAIR, Claude and Robert Woosnam-Savage, Scottish Firearms, Historical Arms Series No.31, 52pp, 64 illustrations. From: Museum Restoration Service, Box 70, Alexandria Bay, N.Y., USA, 13607-0070, US\$4.95 or £3.50, overseas postage US\$1.50 / £0.75. Visa/Mastercard accepted.

Incredibly, for all the popularity of Scottish firearms and notably pistols, this is the first book-length study on the subject. The fine narrative starts from the first known use of firearms in Scotland during the Middle Ages and ends with the "costume" pistol of the 1820's, covering in considerable detail everything in between. Then follows a register of  
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Scottish long guns in various collections, a good bibliography and copious notes. Nearly every page is illustrated by several pictures of the best Scots firearms existing. The authors, both renowned expert curators in London and Glasgow, have assembled in this small book the makings of a "classic" which is unlikely to be surpassed for a long time. **René Chartrand**.

CHARTRAND, René, British Forces in the West Indies 1793-1815. Osprey Men at Arms Series No.294, 48pp, 8 colour plates by Paul Chappell showing 24 different uniforms, numerous B/W photos and illustrations. ISBN 1-85532-600-0.

This book, in the standard Osprey format, follows Mr Chartrand's "Louis XIV's Army" (203), "Napoleon's Overseas Army" (211) and "Napoleon's Sea Soldiers" (227), all with colour plates by Francis Back. The author's extensive research and encyclopedic knowledge of French and British uniforms has resulted in another authoritative and informative book, well supported by Mr Chappell's colour plates.

During this period the West Indies were a booming set of islands where great wealth was produced from the sugar plantations. They were naturally coveted by the French during the almost continual wars between 1793 - 1815. Their defence was a high priority for the British and some 93 line infantry regiments (listed here) served there. But the death toll from disease amongst European troops was very high indeed, between 1793 and 1801 alone an estimated 45,000 British soldiers died in the West Indies, mostly from fevers. After 1801 regiments of black soldiers who were much less susceptible to local diseases, were created and the mortality rate dropped considerably.

There are sections on the dress of the British Army units in the West Indies; units in Saint-Domingue (Haiti); Black Regular Troops; the West India Regiment; European Colonial Troops and the Militias of the different islands. An interesting survey of a once important military force, containing a great deal of otherwise not easily available information. **David Ross**.

DUNNIGAN, Brian Leigh, Siege - 1759 : The Campaign Against Niagara. Old Fort Niagara Association, Box 169, Youngstown, N.Y. 14174-0169. Revised edition of the 1986 monograph, 1996. 168pp. 135 illustrations. ISBN 0-941967-15-8. US\$14.95 plus US\$1.75 shipping.

This book covers in considerable detail the siege of Fort Niagara by the British during the Seven Years War, which resulted in the surrender of the French garrison on July 25th 1759 after a month's fighting. Fort Niagara was transformed from a post well enough fortified with a wooden stockade to repel the Iroquois into a Vauban style stone fortress during the years 1755-57. This was in response to the virtually inevitable attack by the British to gain control of the important Niagara portage. The building of the fort from its beginnings as a trading post in 1720 is told in detail until the siege of 1759, based on the memoirs of the commanding officer, Captain Pierre Pouchot (see above review).

Not only was the fort built according on Vauban's principles, but the siege and attack was carried out by the British according to the classic Vauban rules. As well as  
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giving a day by day account of the operations of both sides during July 1759, this book provides a wealth of detail about the weapons, armaments and siegecraft of both sides, complete with contemporary maps, plans and illustrations. A very readable and well documented book, it has the added advantage of a very reasonable price, US\$14.95.

David Ross.

CHARTRAND, René. Canadian Military Heritage, Volume II, 1755-1871. Art Global Inc, Montréal, 1995. ISBN 2-920718-50-9. 238 pp, lavishly illustrated with many colour plates. Hard cover. En Francais, Patrimoine Militaire Canadien D'hier à aujourd'hui, Tome II, 1755-1871. Can\$49.95.

Volume I was reviewed in the 1994 Journal, Volume II is equally informative and readable, and has the same superb quality of colour reproduction. This volume opens with the final clash between France and Great Britain in North America resulting, by 1762 in the hegemony of the latter being established. This was challenged again when the American colonies revolted successfully in 1776 and once more during the War of 1812, the campaigns and uniforms of this period are well explained and illustrated, including the struggle against the Spanish on the Pacific coast.

From then onwards, Canada (as we know it today) remained peaceful, notwithstanding the tension with the United States during the Civil War, the Fenian Raids of 1866 & 1870 and the suppression of the Red River uprising led by Louis Riel. However, peace was maintained by the presence of a large British garrison and the units of the Canadian Militia. The uniforms, way of life and social history of this time are covered in great detail as well as an explanation of the political situation which necessitated this military establishment.

The great strength of this book is that the author draws heavily not only on the documents of the period in Canadian, British, French and Spanish archives, but on contemporary pictorial material, and very importantly, on the interpretation of archaeological findings and surviving artifacts in museum and private collections. This is an approach that "documents only" historians would do well to emulate, if they wish to reach that broader public which they complain are reading fewer and fewer of their books. David Ross.

## Books of Interest.

Canadian Military Handguns 1855-1985. by Clive Law. 124 pp. 183 illustrations. Hard bound. ISBN 0-88855-008-1. \$40.00 plus \$2.50 postage and handling (plus GST) from Museum Restoration Service, Bloomfield, Ont. K0K 1G0.

Deeds of Heroism - Awards of the Victoria Cross 1940-1982. by Donald Hall. Lists 193 citations and shows 191 portraits. Hardcover octavo with dust cover. Available from the publisher, Eugene G. Ursal, Box 8096, Ottawa, Ont, K1G 3H6. Can\$55.00 (plus GST), US\$45.00 plus \$5 for postage and packing.

Our Bravest & Best - Canadian Victoria Cross Winners by Arthur Bishop. 192 pages, 60 B/W/ photos. ISBN 0-07-552619-0. Published by McGraw-Hill Ryerson Ltd, 300 Water St, Whitby, Ont. \$29.99 plus \$5 shipping and handling (plus GST).

## Available from the M.H.S.M.

### 1. M.H.S.M. Reprint Series. - World War I Training Pamphlets.

"Instructions for the Training of Platoons for Offensive Action 1917".  
26 pp, 2-colour diagrams, Can\$7.95.

"The Organization of an Infantry Battalion and the Normal Formation for the Attack". 15 pp, Can\$5.95

Both issued by the General Staff in 1917.

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b. "Canada Militia Lists". These contain the names of all officers in the Militia by unit and dates of promotion. Prices vary by list depending on the number of pages. Please contact the Archivist.

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1885   1893   1907   1914

c. Sketch Histories of CEF Units. These were compiled by the Army Historical Section in the 1920's. Write for list of units. Price: Can\$2.00 per unit.

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