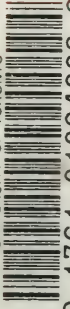



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Le Livre D'or

(The Golden Book)
of the
Canadian
Contingents
in South
Africa



By
Gaston P. Labat.





LE LIVRE D'OR

(THE GOLDEN BOOK)

OF THE

Canadian Contingents in South Africa

WITH AN APPENDIX ON

CANADIAN LOYALTY

CONTAINING LETTERS, DOCUMENTS, PHOTOGRAPHS

Portraits of Queen Victoria ; King Edward VII ;
and the Queen of England.

By *GASTON P. LABAT*

*Author of "Les Voyageurs Canadiens à l'Expédition du
Soudan en 1885."*



MONTREAL

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Presenté au

Rev. Mr Forbes

Cure-

Petite reconnaissance
pour toutes vos bontés!

L. A. M.



“ I WILL BE GOOD.” — THE QUEEN.

The glorious past.

“ I have already declared it would be my constant endeavor to follow the great example which has been bequeathed to me.” — EDWARD REX.

The glorious present.



HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE EARL OF MINTO, G. C. M. G.,
GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

DEDICATED

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, LORD MINTO,

Governor General of Canada.

Your Excellency :

WHEN I took the liberty of requesting Your Excellency's permission to dedicate to you my book, I was already aware of the deep interest Your Excellency felt towards Canadians.

In fact, on the occasion of Your Excellency's return to this country, while referring to one of your charming daughters, born in this Dominion, you remarked : « She is a Canadian that I am happy to bring back to you. »

Hence it is, Your Excellency, that I desired to place this work — entitled « *Le livre d'or des Contingents Canadiens en Afrique,* » under your distinguished auspices, convinced, as I am, that the Canadians will be proud and happy to conserve one of the brightest pages of their history under Your Excellency's high and distinguished patronage.

May Your Excellency accept the humble expression of the sincere gratitude

Of Your Excellency's

Obedient and respectful servant,

GASTON P. LABAT.

AN INTRODUCTORY LETTER

My dear confrère :

BEFORE becoming a *littérateur* you have been a soldier, and before being a soldier, you were a Frenchman.

In other words, your race, your character and your professional inclinations have naturally inspired you with a passion for all that is noble and chivalrous.

Even more than this, your very passion is guided by reason. Whilst French in blood and at heart, as faithful as ever to the memory of the grand old motherland, from the day upon which your foot first rested upon our soil, with the intention of making this your future home, you became a Canadian, and a Canadian both loyal to the country's existing flag and sincerely devoted toward the institutions under which we live.

You have proven these attachments under the military cloak, whether in distant expeditions, or within our citadel-barracks; you have proven them since, at the official desk, and not unfrequently with the journalist's pen in hand. None other, then, has a better right to sign the little volume which you now present to the public, and for which you have asked me to write a few lines of preface.

This small book is a precious gem; it adds to our national wealth, for it supplies our glorious annals of the by-gone with another page of heroism. I will not infringe upon the political domain by the discussion of the more or less opportuneness that existed for Canada to send troops into South Africa to make war on the Boers. For the moment, I would fain behold merely the spontaneous outburst of a young nation, proud to contribute its share of sacrifices in the cause of an Empire of which, under circumstances loyally accepted, it forms a portion.

No more can there arise any question as to the justice or injustice of that war. Even as, by a legal fiction, the highest tribunal and the sovereign of a country, are considered as infallible, on the same principle, the standard that waves over a people's vanguard can never be raised in the wrong. I wish only to admire the bright side of the picture, and to appreciate the happy results that cannot fail in consequence to be produced.

And, after all, is it not touching to behold a valiant and vigorous young people rising up, arms in hand, in answer to an appeal from the other end of the world, and crossing from one hemisphere to the other, there to march to the rescue of their imperiled national standard!

Is it not sufficient to fill our hearts with legitimate pride to witness those young heroes emulating the traditional heroism of our race, even to the extent of challenging the undivided admiration of the vastest Empire upon which the sun has ever shone!

And, considering the results, is it not something to have won the confidence and respect of our English fellow-countrymen, who, in certain sections, are only too prone to suspect our loyalty towards the British Crown? That confidence and that respect constitute the first condition of harmony between the various elements of our

population, a harmony indispensable to our people's happiness as well as to the development of our national prosperity.

From this stand point, more than from any other, the part taken by our volunteers in Africa is both eminently patriotic and civilizing. They deserve well of the country ; they have a right to public recognition ; and it is only just that their memory should be perpetuated, by the conservation of their names and their deeds-of-arms, in our archives and our libraries.

How often has not the devotedness of our soldiers, in 1812, served as a triumphant argument against the prejudices raised against us in ultra-loyal circles ! Those patriots of other days were blamed by some of their contemporaries, yet their achievements were fruitful in benefactions.

Their memory was dying out ; it is revived to-day by our valiant ones, who, in renewing history, have succeeded in crushing the last head of that hydra of suspicion.

Henceforth we can only be a homogenous people, both in our aspirations and in our interests, and, which, while being composed of different races, faithful to their respective traditions and origins, should prosper and grow in the bonds of an indissoluble fraternity.

Suppose, for an instant, a refusal on our part to correspond with that national desire, and the crisis growing acute, the French-Canadians would have been cast half a century backwards.

Therefore, my dear *confrère*, with both hands in yours, accept my congratulations.

LOUIS FRÉCHETTE.

MONTREAL, October 16th, 1900.

PREFACE

THIS book is not ours. It is written by the soldiers of the Canadian Contingents, whose remarkable heroism has astonished the entire world, and whose blood has bedewed the death-dealing soil of South Africa.

That their names, and a faithful record of their brave and chivalrous deeds may be transmitted to posterity, constitutes our aim in publishing this volume. The question may be asked ; why is this book partly in French and partly in English? Because, having taken up arms together, irrespective of race or creed, hand in hand, and shoulder to shoulder ; having shed their blood on the same battle-fields ; having sunk to their last rest beneath the same sod, and wrapped in the folds of the same flag, it is meet that they should live on in the same book, and together repose in all the libraries of the land - those sanctuaries of immortality wherein every nation enshrines its national glories.

We say that this work is written by our brave. And truly is it so : for, apart from a few incidental articles, for which we have to thank their authors, the book consists entirely of letters from members of the contingents ; some of them heretofore unpublished, but which, through the kindness of the respective families, we secured ; others,

which appeared in the newspapers, and for the careful collection and gathering into one volume of which, we feel confident none will reproach us, since thereby we leave to Canadian history a compact and tangible record of the noble, heroic and glorious achievements of our young soldiers.

With them, and through them, Canada is more favorably known the world over than all that has been said, written, or done during one hundred years back could have accomplished — so true is it that creeds and races draw their strength from the blood that is shed in their cause.

To-day, Canada is a nation, and one that, henceforth, all the other nations of the world must take into consideration.

Hence is it that in presence of the blood sacrificed by our brave sons, in presence of such remarkable heroism, in presence of a sacred and mad determination to triumph, we should bend the knee over the graves of those that have vanished, and receive with open arms, like on the day of the Prodigal's return, those who come back to us covered with glory.

GASTON P. LABAT,
Montreal.



A WORD OF EXPLANATION

THE work we now publish might easily consist of ten volumes were we to relate all the feats-of-arms performed by our brave, and to insert all their letters.

As such is neither our aim nor our pretension, we have been content to gather in this modest volume, letters and documents from all the Canadian Provinces, and therewith to pay a patriotic tribute to our young heroes. Consequently, let not any, whose letters are not included, but whose names are given — for all the names are to be found herein — feel hurt : this work, like unto a monument erected to the memory of a general, reflects upon all his companions in the struggle and his associates in the victory.

Finally, we deemed it well to insert the portraits of certain personages who interested themselves in the formation of the contingents, and, in an *Appendix*, those of Canadians — none the less heroic — who spread a knowledge of Canada's military worth, throughout Egypt, India, China, the Philippines, and over the entire globe : for Canadians are everywhere to be found.

For myself, in 1885, I have met with them in the Soudan, singing : *Un Canadien errant*.

And if history is to be believed we are told that, at the time of the deluge, a man trying to escape from the rising waters, reached a mountain-top. The Ark passed by, and the man called Noah to take him on board. . . The latter replied that there was no room for him.

— «Go to Old Nick with your barge,» shouted the man, «it is only going to be a shower, after all.»

The man on the mountain was a Canadian. . . Apart from this grave statement, which appears to have originated in Marseille, we will deal only with what we can authenticate as being historical.

G. P. L.



CANADIAN LOYALTY

TO show that loyalty is a sentiment that exists throughout the whole of Canada, even as it does in the breasts of our gallant volunteers, we deemed it well to introduce their letters with the following documents.

To begin with ; it is thus Mgr. Bégin, in his admirable letter to Mgr. Bruchési, under date the 15th January, 1900, gives expression to his feelings : —

« The loyalty of our French-Canadian Bishops and priests, is written in letters of gold, in characters of fire, upon the tablets of history, and all the sovereigns, and all their representatives that have succeeded each other here since the ceeding of Canada to England — even those amongst the latter against whom it was necessary to wage a legal struggle in defense of our most legitimate rights — have all borne the most solemn and most cordial testimony to its existence.

« Need I here recall a Mgr. Briand who, occupying the see of Quebec at the turning-point of history in New France, living successively under the lily-flag and under the British standard, loyal, in the first instance, to the former until, on the plains of Abraham, all, save honor,

was lost, and then generously transferring to the latter his entire loyalty, made use, during the terrible days of 1775, of his sacred influence, to keep French Canada faithful to the new masters? And yet, God knows how great must have been the temptation for the sons of France in America to unite their destiny with that of those sons of Britain, less scrupulous, less loyal than they — and we might add less vilified and more excusable for a real and effective revolt than we of to-day are for a fanciful disloyalty? If the Catholic envoys of the United States, if the warm appeals of those French officers serving in the cause of American Independence, could not overcome the resistance of the Canadian people, it is because the grand voice of the head of the Church in Quebec, invoking the sacred principle of respect due to the existing authority, and branding as *rebels* all who allowed themselves to be carried away, raised an unsurmountable barrier to the idea of revolution. And England, already deprived of the richest portion of her heritage in America, owed to a French Bishop the preservation of this Canadian land — now one of the brightest gems in her imperial crown.

« What could I not say — were it not that I wish to be brief — about a Mgr. Denaut, whose devotedness to England was expressed in deeds of heroic generosity, and of a Mgr. Plessis, recalling to the faithful of his diocese, in 1807, « that it is impossible to be a good Christian without first being a loyal and faithful subject, » and « that they would be unworthy of the name of Catholics and of Canadians, if they showed disloyalty, or even indifference when it is a question of fulfilling their duties as subjects devoted to the interests of their sovereign, or in the defence of the country. » It was this illustrious prelate, who, in 1812, devoted his whole being and succeeded in maintaining the Canadians faithful to their British allegiance. The

same course was followed by Mgr. Panet, the maternal uncle of the late lamented Cardinal Taschereau.

« Then, again, in the regrettable days of 1837-38, it was Mgr. Signay, in Quebec, and one of your predecessors, Mgr. Lartigue, in Montreal, who interfered in the name of religion, to quiet the fratricidal struggles of the hour ; an act of loyalty which frequently brought down upon them the censure of a number of their fellow-countrymen : a sacred duty which they had to perform, notwithstanding the voice of their blood-ties and of their paternal solicitude. Later on, we find Mgr. Bailiargeon, indicating for all who listened to him, a similar line of conduct, in regard to the invading Fenians, and Mgr. Taché, who at a critical moment, calmed the Metis and kept them attached to England.

« And, if I would make bold to refer to myself, I might repeat that which I stated in the heart of France, in the Cathedral of Rheims — on the occasion of the grand celebration of the XIVth centenary of the baptism of Clovis and of the Franks—that, while ever preserving our affection for the olden motherland, we are happy to live under the shadow of the British flag, and that we inhabit one of the most free countries on earth. »

And further on he adds : —

« If ever — and please God never ! — the question of annexation to the United States should be seriously agitated, it would be curious to note the respective attitudes of the two races—Anglo-Canadians and French-Canadians — in presence of such an eventuality. I am confident that we would not have to blush for our people on such an occasion, for they would again know how to fulfil their duty as loyal subjects of Her Britannic Majesty. »

Such is the noble language of Mgr. Bégin.

After the clergy, let us hear our public men.

We commence with Sir Wilfrid :

« To Her Majesty, the Queen,

« Most Gracious Sovereign.

« We, loyal and submissive subjects of Your Majesty, the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, in Parliament assembled, desire to offer Your Majesty, our cordial congratulations on the occasion of the approaching end of the war in South Africa, an end foreseen by the recent successes of British arms, crowned by the fall of Pretoria.

« The sentiment of pride and satisfaction with which we hail every fresh addition to the already lengthy and glorious list of deeds of English valor and resourcefulness is even still more intensified by the knowledge that we possess that Canada, thanks to the active co-operation of her sons on the battle-field, has, in a new and special manner, a right to participate in the joy of the present triumph.

« We rejoice that the struggle, which happily is about to close, shall have the effect of causing to disappear the embarrassments from which, during such a long time, many of our fellow-citizens suffered, and we doubt not that the extension of Your Majesty's beneficent dominion over the whole of South Africa will bring to these lands the blessings that flow from a wise and happy administration of just and equitable laws.

« We pray that Your Majesty's reign may continue for long years to come for the happiness of your people.»

(Parliamentary session of 1900.)

Turn we now to Sir Charles Tupper :

« It is with great pleasure that I second the address which the Honorable the Prime Minister has just moved



SIR WILFRID LAURIER.

" May Providence watch over you, may He protect you on the fields of battle where, perhaps, you will shed your blood for the flag that protect our liberties."

in such eloquent terms, and that I join in the sentiments so nobly expressed.

« Sir Charles then spoke of the noble conduct of the French-Canadians since the fortunes of war, caused their country to pass under British rule, and it is from the bottom of his heart, he said, that he declares that the British Crown has no more loyal subjects than the two millions of French-Canadians, who inhabit this Canadian land. » (*Parliamentary session of 1900.*)

Let us now hear Honorable Mr. Evanturel, Speaker of the Ontario Legislative Assembly :

« I feel that I can add nothing to the sentiments of perfect loyalty and contentment which this entire Province has just expressed, by the voice of its First Minister, and that of the leader of the Conservative Party. The Speaker of this House, is not, in a certain sense, in a position to add anything to that which has been already said by men of much greater importance and authority ; but, the House will allow me, I hope, to forget that I occupy an official position, and to declare that there is no people in Canada, that has learned, with more exuberant joy, the glad tidings that come to us from South Africa, than the French-Canadian race, to which I belong. (Applause.) I address an educated audience, possibly the most highly educated audience in this grand Province of Ontario, and I will take the liberty of quoting a page of our history, certain as I am, beforehand, that I will not be denied that privilege.

« At one time, upon this very soil which we to-day occupy — and what a magnificent page of our history it recalls to my mind — when as yet not a single Englishman had come here, when not one of our Irish friends, who have taken such a large share in the shaping of our destinies, had crossed the seas, at that time, then, the

French-Canadians stood alone, and had to resist, from the American side, the most serious temptation that had ever assailed them.

« The temptation was such as is not to be found in the entire history of the world. The Americans had gone to France for General Lafayette, the same one who unfolded, at the frontier that bounds us to the South, the flag of my race, the flag beneath whose folds we were born, as he thus appealed to my fellow-countrymen : « Why do you not return to your old flag? After all, that flag which they call the *Union Jack*, or the *Royal Standard* of England, you have never beheld upon your shores. I, Lafayette, speaking in the name of your neighbors, of that people now at my side, I represent liberty, equality and fraternity.»

« Then another voice was heard; it addressed the French-Canadian troops. It was the voice of the good Bishop of Quebec. The worthy prelate stood in front of the ranks of soldiers and spoke to them in these words : « That flag may tempt you; the laws of nature may also tempt you; you could take refuge under the folds of that flag; but, do not forget one thing, that only yesterday you swore fidelity to the flag that must be the flag of this country. If you are to deny your allegiance to that flag, from this day Divine Providence will deny you those blessings that you might rightfully expect from that source.»

« That appeal was heard, and the French-Canadians shouldered their muskets and drove before them the soldiers of Benedict Arnold and Montgomery. (Applause.)

« I have no desire to retard this House in its labors; but, allow me to say that there are no more loyal subjects of Her Majesty, in all the country, than the French-Canadians.

« Sons of my race are to-day fighting under the British flag in South Africa. I am proud of the fact, although I



L'HONORABLE EVANTUREL.

"I have no desire to retard this House in its labors ; but allow me to say that there are no more loyal subjects of Her Majesty, in all the country, than the French-Canadians."

(Parliamentary session of 1900.)

regret that there are some of them who have been wounded ; even amongst the latter I see the name of one brave fellow who was born in the same street and in the same city as myself.

« Yes ; yonder, stretched in the trenches of Paardeberg, or in a British ambulance waggon, you will find the son of the Speaker of our highest Parliamentary Chamber — Sir Alphonse Pelletier — who is one of the first officers of the Canadian regiment. (Applause.)

« Permit me to say, in closing, that there is no race, represented in the precincts of this Legislature, to which the victory announced to-day appeals more strongly, or causes more satisfaction, than that race to which belongs the one who presides over the legislative debates of this Province. »

This, without doubt, is the most noble and grandest profession of loyalty that has ever been pronounced by a French-Canadian in an English Parliament.

Now listen to Benjamin Sulte : —

« Our wars have proven that we wished to defend Canada and keep it under the British flag. Three times, in 1765, 1775 and 1812, when we formed, as it were, the only white population in the country, and when England, engaged elsewhere, could not assist us, the French-Canadian militia, performed miracles of valor and saved the position. These facts should suffice in answer to the attacks, the suspicions, the innuendos that are showered upon us. Happily truth triumphs over all injuries even as of yore did our arms in the conflict. » (*Lecture at the Château de Ramezay.*)

In one of his lectures, delivered in Quebec, Ulric Barthe, expresses himself as follows : —

« And in this new nation, the French-Canadians have

one of the leading roles to play, which consists, not in the perpetuation in America, on this soil of America, the hatreds that date from the period of Joan of Arc, and which have no meaning here, but rather to serve as a hyphen between the two greatest races of the world, and to prove how much they can do together for civilization.»

In fine that loyalty is confirmed and established by the following extracts : —

« Mr. de Lery Macdonald, Mayor of Rigaud, pronounced a few warm expressions on the subject of the success of our soldiers in Africa, and gave vent to the opinion, that under the circumstances, it would not be out of place to affirm our loyalty.

« In consequence, he moved, seconded by Mr. William Brown, Mayor of Pointe Fortune, the following resolution which was unanimously adopted : —

« That the Mayors of the County of Vaudreuil, assembled, desire to express to Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, their lively satisfaction on learning the success of her arms in Africa, and to profit of the occasion to reiterate their loyalty to the British Crown ; and as an evidence of their sympathy they offer, as a personal contribution, the sum of twenty-five dollars to the Patriotic Fund of the Dominion. »

The Resolution was adopted by the Mayors of the County of Vaudreuil.

The Acadians, in convention met, at Arichat, decided to hold their next assembly at Caraquette, N. B., and adopted the following resolution which was cabled to London : —

« We, the French-Acadians, in general convention assembled at Arichat, Cape-Breton, make profession of our

unchangeable loyalty to the British Crown, and in proof of our love for Her Majesty we tender Her our sympathies on the occasion of the recent death of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Saxe-Cobourg. »

A Resolution adopted by the Acadians.

In order to conclude this subject of *French-Canadian Loyalty*, we will finally quote the lofty and patriotic sentiments expressed by Mr. J. M. Tellier, M. P. P., by His Honor Judge Baby, by Mr. Dugas, Q. C., and by Rev. Father C. Beaudry, C. S. V., of Joliette, on the occasion of the distribution of medals to the veterans of 1870 : —

« May this day's demonstration, gentlemen, be for all of us a salutary lesson, above all may it be so for the young ; may this demonstration, in a special manner, remind us all that each one should love his country, faithfully serve it, and, in case of necessity, be prepared to even sacrifice his life for it.

« TELLIER. »

« After this harangue, by the president, which, vibrating with patriotism, was frequently interrupted by the long and hearty applause of the audience, Honorable Judge Baby was called upon to speak.

« The learned judge said that he was happy to address the great concourse of the day. He is a child of Joliette. He feels growing somewhat older now, and this reminds him that he, as well as many of his contemporaries will soon disappear, and that then the weight of the affairs and the interests of the country must fall upon the strong shoulders of the brilliant young men that he has now before his eyes.

« He recalled an event, during the Fenian Campaign which serves well to illustrate the patriotism of the

French-Canadians. He remembered how in the company from Sainte-Mélanie, there was a private, named Perreault, a brave farmer, accompanied by his two sons. He is happy to notice that both of these sons received the medals of that occasion ; the father, however, has gone to his reward on high. Who dare say that these French-Canadians were not loyal ; they were more loyal than are the men who say that they are not. Only, the French-Canadians make no parade of their loyalty ; but when called upon to defend their country, there is no race on earth that could withstand them. At this moment England is engaged in a fearful war ; after one of the victories, the commanding general sent a message to England to the effect that the victory was due to the Canadian Artillery ; and that corps is commanded by Major Hudon, of Quebec, a French-Canadian like ourselves.

« He begged to ask one favor of the young men. It is to be ever loyal to England, to the British flag that shields us. Without England's support what would we be ? Nothing ; a small tribe of adventurers destined to become the prey of the great nations. . . Let us ever love France, our motherland, but let us venerate and respect Great Britain our adopted country. »

« Mr. F. O. Dugas, Q. C., advocate, of Joliette, was the next speaker. His warm, ardent and patriotic language found an echo in every heart. He was most heartily applauded by the audience. He said, that, during the period of danger in question, the district of Joliette contributed a large share to the defence of the country. He paid due compliment to each company of volunteers, but in an especial manner did he praise the Irish of Rawdon who formed, of themselves alone, two full companies. The speaker then sketched the story of the two Fenian invasions

— in 1866 and 1870. He mentioned the loyalty of the French-Canadians. He said that the troubles of 1870 afforded the French-Canadians an opportunity of proving to the whole universe that they were loyal subjects ; that their patriotic conduct had shown them worthy of their ancestors. He is a native of the parish of Saint-Jacques-de-l'Achigan. He desired specially to congratulate his fellow-parishioners on having furnished a company of their own. He recalled the fact, that when the trumpet call was heard the captain of that company, Mr. Euclide Dugas, was in Chicago. That valiant soldier hurried back to his parish, at Saint-Jacques, and placed himself at the head of his company to rush to the defence of his threatened country. »

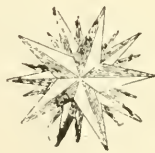
« The Rev. M. Prosper Beaudry, pastor of the town of Joliette, was then invited by the president to address the assembly.

« Religion and patriotism, » said he, « have buried their roots deep'y in our hearts, and on many occasions, the French-Canadians have given proof of their devotedness to both their faith and their country. Each time that Canada was threatened, arms were found to defend her. We are French in sentiment, in origin, in affections, but we are faithful British subjects, nor is it necessary to speak English in order that we be loyal men, and I do not believe, that, in all her vast Empire, Great Britain can find more loyal and devoted subjects, than are the French-Canadians — even when speaking the French language. . . As an orator once said, the French-Canadian gives his heart to France and his arms to England. If ever our country should be in danger, England will again find many strong arms amongst us to defend her, and priests to bless her banners. »

« The superior of Joliette College, Rev. C. Beaudry, C. S. V., was the next to speak. The first men of the Joliette regiment who left to engage the Fenian invaders were three students of the Joliette College, Dr. Sheppard, the late Arthur McConville and Mr. J. U. Foucher. In our educational institutions, he said, we cultivate the faith, but also do we cultivate the love of country. »

We might add to all those whom we have cited the names of the Mayors Payment, of Ottawa, Préfontaine, of Montreal, and Parent, of Quebec, whose speeches, on the occasions of the departure and of the return of the contingents, bear the impress of the purest loyalty, as well as the names of many others; but we feel the necessity of stopping here, for, were we to continue on the theme of *Canadian Loyalty*, our volume would not suffice to contain all we might write.

In fine, and to close, we will merely recall the fact that on the occasion of the Queen's Jubilee, the Church was happy to receive in her sanctuaries, all who were desirous of chanting with us, the loyal and sacred canticle: *Domine, salvam fac reginam !*





HIS HONOR MAYOR PRÉFONTAINE.

FORMATION OF THE CONTINGENTS

IT was in accord with the evident desire of a large number of Canadians that the Government offered the services of our troops to England. After all, it was not a forced, nor obligatory enlistment, rather was it a free and enthusiastic wish of the majority. So much so was this the case, that had they been accepted, ten thousand additional volunteers could have been found, all of whom would even to-day be glad to walk in the glorious footsteps of their illustrious predecessors.

Moreover, this is not the first essay of Canadians upon the soil of Africa, for, when, in 1885, an appeal was made to them to go to the relief of Kartoum, and of the heroic Gordon, volunteers started away amidst the enthusiastic plaudits of all Canada; and, on that occasion, Lord Wolseley thus referred to them:

« Cairo, 13th April, 1885.

« To the Governor General of Canada,

« The Marquis of Lansdowne.

« My Lord :

« The *Canadian Voyageurs*, employed in the Egyptian campaign have all returned to Canada. I heartily desire

to express, to Your Excellency, my deep appreciation of their services, and of the assistance they have been in the expedition.

« With few exceptions, they have proven their perfect capacity as boatmen. They worked admirably well, and they endured the fatigues of that rough campaign without ever allowing a single murmur to escape them.

« On several occasions they displayed not only much skill, but also great courage in the difficult and dangerous navigation of the Nile. I feel a deep regret that, in the execution of their duty, some of them fell victims under the difficulties which they had to surmount.

« The officers, and Colonel Denison in particular, gave evidence of great energy and good will ; their services were of great value. Permit me to request of Your Excellency to communicate this letter to the officers and to all the other members of the *Canadian Voyageurs'* detachment, as well as to the Canadian authorities. Certain papers have published unfounded reports to the effect that the services of the Canadian boatmen were productive of unpleasant results.

« I desire to register not only my opinion, but also that of all the officers engaged in the leading of the troops, and all of whom agree in saying that the services of the *Voyageurs* were of the greatest importance, and, moreover that their conduct was excellent. They made a fine reputation for themselves amongst the troops engaged on the Nile. The latter felt a lively satisfaction on beholding Canadians participating in the expedition and sharing with them the privations and dangers of the campaign. The presence of Canadians at the moment when English, Scotch and Irish soldiers came together, brought into evidence the ties that bind all parts of our grand Empire together.

« In closing, I wish to express to Your Excellency.

personally, my sincere thanks for all the trouble you have taken in the enlisting of those *Voyageurs* and in the arrangements arising therefrom.

« I have the honor to be, etc.,

« WOLSELEY,

« General. »

Add to the above the following despatch : —

« Downing Street, 19th August, 1885.

« My Lord :

« I am very pleased to forward you, in order that they may be communicated to Your Lordship's Government, the votes of thanks unanimously adopted, on the 12th instant, by the House of Lords and by the House of Commons, to the troops of the Soudan expedition (1884-85) ; these votes recognize the bravery, discipline and good conduct of the *Canadian Voyageurs* and of their officers, and the services which they rendered the expedition.

« I hope that the ordinary means will be taken to make public the action of Parliament on this occasion.

« I have the honor to be, etc.,

« FRED. STANLEY (1). »

Whence, therefore, that divergence of opinion, amongst some people, concerning the expeditions of 1885 and those of 1899?

1885! 1899!

These two dates shall long remain memorable in the history of Canada!

So Great Britain had accepted the voluntary offer made

(1) *The Canadian Voyageurs* in the Soudan expedition, or ninety days with the crocodiles, by GASTON P. LABAT.

by Canadians, and, after the exchange of messages between the two Governments, three contingents departed (1).

The following is the tenor of the despatches that passed between the Ottawa Government, Lord Minto and Mr. Chamberlain.

« According to the promise given by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, at the opening of the session, the correspondence concerning the sending of Canadian troops to South Africa, was laid to-day upon the table of the House. It is now clear from the information that Sir Wilfrid asked of Lord Strathcona in regard to what the other colonies paid for the sending of contingents, that the Government had not intended paying of itself all the expenses occasioned by the transportation of the troops.

« The correspondence reads thus : —

« A despatch dated the 3rd October, 1899, and coming from the Hon. Mr. Chamberlain, had been submitted for the consideration of the committee of the Privy Council ; it reads as follows : —

« The Secretary of State for War, and the General-in-Chief desire that you should express your deep appreciation of the patriotism of the Canadian people, in offering to send contingents into South Africa, and that you give the following instructions which will aid in the organization of the troops, in such a manner as to form units which may accord with military requirements : 1st. One hundred and twenty-five men should constitute each unit ; 2nd. they may be either infantry, or mounted infantry, or else cavalry ; 3rd. all should be armed with guns of 203 decimals, which can be supplied by the Imperial Government, if necessary ; 4th. each one should supply his own equipment,

(1) At the end of this volume we give an account of the departure of each contingent, as well as the names of all who formed part thereof.

and the horse soldiers their mounts ; 5th. not more than one captain and three subalterns to each unit. An officer of a grade not higher than that of major can command the whole division. As to the number that we might employ, the War Secretary will take the nature of the offers as a basis, but he desires that each colony be represented in a just and equitable manner ; but, at the same time he adds that he could not go beyond the necessary requirements should the State make use of all the troops that form part of the Imperial forces. He will, with pleasure, accept the units, on the following conditions : the troops will be disembarked at the port of arrival, in Africa, fully equipped at the expense of the Colonial Government, or of the volunteers, themselves. From the day of landing, the Imperial Government will see to their payment according to the tariff of the Empire, will furnish the equipment and munitions, will pay all expenses for the return of the troops to Canada, will give pensions to the wounded, and will be answerable for compensations, according to the rates allowed by the Imperial Government.

« The contingents should not sail after the 31st October, and should be ordered to Cape-Town where they will receive the necessary orders. Please give informations according to the above-mentioned instructions, to all who have offered to enlist volunteers.

« Signed, CHAMBERLAIN. »

« The Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, to whom this despatch was sent, remarked that the Colonial Secretary, in reply to the offers received from different parts of Canada, expressing the desires of the militiamen to fight for Her Majesty, said that units of one hundred and twenty-five men and a few officers would be accepted, on their arrival in South Africa ; provided their expenses be paid by themselves, or by the Colonial Government.

« The Prime Minister, in view of the well-known desire of a great number of Canadians, anxious to enlist on these conditions, is of opinion that the moderate expenses of the equipment and of the transportation of the volunteers should be paid by the Government of Canada, without calling the House, above all it being understood, that a like expenditure, under such circumstances, would not be looked upon as a departure from the well-known principle of Constitutional Government, and of the customs prevailing in colonies, nor as establishing a precedent.

« New Zealand had already sent two companies on the same conditions and under similar circumstances ; Queensland will send two hundred and fifty men ; Australia and Tasmania are sending one hundred and twenty-five each.

« Consequently, the Prime Minister, recommends that the Government take from the storehouses of the Militia Department what is needed to equip a certain number of volunteers, not exceeding one thousand men and provide for their transportation from this country to South Africa, and that the Minister of Militia, take all the necessary steps towards this end.

« The committee begs of Your Excellency to transmit a certified copy of this minute to the Right Honorable the Colonial Secretary.

« The whole respectfully submitted for Your Excellency's approval.

« JOHN J. MCGEE,
« Secretary of the Privy Council. »

TELEGRAM FROM MR. CHAMBERLAIN TO LORD MINTO.

« 16th October, 1899.

« Her Majesty's Government has received with great pleasure your telegram of the 13th October transmitting

me Canada's generous offer to send 1,000 men, which is accepted with gratitude.

« CHAMBERLAIN. »

LORD MINTO TO MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

« Ottawa, 2nd November, 1899.

« The news of the South Africa reverses has caused deep emotion in Canada; but everywhere there is found the strain of hope that no reason for alarm exists. My ministers are, however, ready to act in accordance with the statements of your last despatch, and to immediately send another contingent, if Her Majesty's Government deems it well.

« Signed, MINTO. »

MR. CHAMBERLAIN TO LORD MINTO.

« London, 2nd November, 1899.

« I communicated, to the War Secretary, your Government's generous and patriotic offer to send another contingent. His answer will be wired you as early as possible; I desire to express to you my thankfulness.

« Signed, CHAMBERLAIN. »

MR. CHAMBERLAIN TO LORD MINTO.

« London, 7th November, 1899.

« The generous offer of your ministers to send without delay a second contingent for service in South Africa has been taken into serious consideration by the War Secretary

and his military advisers ; but he regrets not being able, under the circumstances, to accept it.

« Her Majesty's Government, however, takes note of that offer, and will not hesitate to take advantage of it, should events render the thing necessary.

« Her Majesty's Government attaches great importance to this fresh proof of sympathy and good will on the part of Canada, and desires to express its grateful appreciation thereof.

« Signed, CHAMBERLAIN. »

MR. CHAMBERLAIN TO LORD MINTO.

« London, 16th December, 1899.

« Referring to my despatch of the 7th November, following another despatch received from New South Wales asking : ' Does Her Majesty's Government desire that the British colonies should send more troops to South Africa ? ' the following despatch was sent in reply : ' Ready to accept fresh offers from the colonies. If such offers be made, it would be preferable to have mounted troops. The soldiers should be trained, be good shots, and be provided with their own horses.' Communicate this to your ministers for their guidance in regard to their offer of a second contingent which Her Majesty's Government accepts with pleasure.

« Signed, CHAMBERLAIN. »

If, after all this, there is anyone to blame, let us only blame all those who were carried away by sentiments of enthusiasm, patriotism and loyalty ; all of whom heartily joined « La Marseillaise » to « God Save the Queen. »

DEPARTURE OF THE CONTINGENTS

ALTHOUGH many have already witnessed a departure of troops, we scarcely believe that they ever experienced a sentiment such as at this moment takes possession of all hearts. In reality it was the first step taken by our soldiers in the direction of glory. . . or of death, and each one felt that indescribable anxiety of a mother who notes her child's first attempts to walk. Will he fall before he reaches the goal? . . . Yes, our brave lads did reach the goal, and if some of them fell, at least they fell gloriously.

All honor to them! . . . And how could it be otherwise? So numerous were the prayers and good wishes, from the sincerest hearts, that followed them, that the God of battles and of victory must have taken them under His protection. Those prayers, those wishes, and the hearts whence they emanated constituting the *Mascotte*, the talisman of the expedition, arose on all sides and were manifest from Atlantic to Pacific. Behold the picture! Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto, Kingston, Hamilton, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, in a word, the entire Dominion unfolding its standard over our soldiers, to bless them, even as Christ, before His departure from earth, blessed those whom He sent forth to do battle.

We will not linger to tell and to depict all that was said and done on that occasion, rather will we quote from the public utterances of the leading personages, who, in the name of the entire population, bade « God speed » to the heroes.

Not pretending to give in full all that was said and done concerning the *Departure of the Contingents*, we will merely trace in large lines what took place; for, whether it was the first, or the second contingent that left, the manifestation was the same all around on both occasions, the patriotic display of feeling was identical.

We will, however, dwell somewhat more fully upon the departure of the *Strathconas*, because the generosity of the one who established that troop deserves a special mention.

Therefore, it is amidst flags flying from all public edifices, streets brilliant with decorations, the joyous and grand strains of military music, and the cheers of a whole people, that we will accompany our young soldiers.

After Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto, Hamilton, where the send off was royal, let us come to Ottawa, and there listen to the language in which Sir Wilfrid Laurier interpreted the universal sentiment of the Dominion : —

« May Providence watch over you, » he said, « may He protect you on the field of battle where, perhaps, you will shed your blood for the flag that protects your liberties. Be faithful to that flag. March in the footsteps of your fellow-countrymen, who have already done honor to Canada, upon the soil of Africa. Remember that yonder you will be the custodians of our national honor; recollect, above all that you are Canadians. »

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's peroration was drowned in the applause and cheers of the vast concourse.



HIS HONOR MAYOR PRÉFONTAINE GIVING SOUVENIR TO THE CONTINGENT.

After Sir Wilfrid, Sir Charles Tupper spoke for three quarters of an hour.

In Montreal, Mayor Préfontaine made use of the following expressions : —

« The people of Montreal, and of all Canada, estimate at its true value the liberty which the British flag guarantees, because they enjoy the blessings thereof. They trust that God will bless your undertaking and will favor you with an early and triumphant return to the distant fields of the West. We honor the grand principle in defence of which you are going to struggle ; we love and respect that glorious flag, our flag, under the folds of which you will fight ; we are proud to witness Canada contributing so many valiant and brave soldiers to fight the battles of the Empire.

« May your trip across the ocean be a pleasant one, and may each one of you show, under the enemy's fire, what sort of heart beats in his breast ! May your patriotism, your loyalty, your heroism be an everlasting example for the generations that the future will behold growing up under the folds of the glorious standard of the Empire. »

At Quebec, it was Mayor Parent who gave expression to the patriotic note that ever rings in that good old French City : —

« The Mayor and citizens of Quebec, offer you the city's congratulations, on the eve of your departure for the seat of war in South Africa. We desire, once more, to express as strongly as is possible, the hope, which we entertain that you will maintain in Africa the proverbial reputation of the old city of Quebec, for loyalty to the Empire and to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

« We express now to you, in the most cordial manner

possible, the hope that you may land in South Africa in time to celebrate the triumph of British arms and that you will assist in restoring the prestige and supremacy of the Empire in those far off lands.

« We are confident that you are worthy to represent the valor and enterprising spirit of our country, and we treasure the hope that you, as your fellow-countrymen who have preceded you, may be able before long to bring back fresh laurels to your Canadian homes. »

Finally, Halifax shakes off its British coldness to welcome our brave.

« . . . Never before, as to-day, have the citizens of this old military town cheered on the departure of the *Mounted Rifles* for South Africa. It is an event that can never be forgotten. They could not have been more demonstrative even were all the soldiers who left by the *Milwaukee* citizens of Halifax. The populace applauded, sang, shouted and cheered from the departure of the transport vessel from the wharf, until it had passed beyond the city and had taken the high seas. Enthusiasm was at its height.

« To a certainty, the fact is that the volunteers, while here, had made many friends. They had been welcomed by the best families, and all that is possible was done to prove to them how much their patriotic zeal was appreciated. During the march several ladies entered the ranks to say a word of farewell to the boys. As the volunteers reached the gate of the marine arsenal, Hon. Dr. Borden requested Colonel Steele to call a halt, and going up to the top of a high snow-drift, the Minister of Militia read a cablegram from Mr. Chamberlain to the Governor-General, in which it is stated that «The Queen fully appreciates the great zeal of Canada, and wishes the troops a good trip and a safe return. »

« This gave rise to fresh cheers. The different military bands played patriotic airs while the troops embarked. There were over three thousand people at the marine citadel. »

Here are a few scattered extracts from accounts of the manifestations that took place in several cities : —

« Calgary. — The Mounted Rifles of Calgary left at five o'clock, last evening. They received a hearty send off. »

« St. John, N. B. — The artillery men of Woodstock, on their way to Halifax, had a fine reception at the St. John depot. All the city was assembled at the station. The Bank of New-Brunswick voted five hundred dollars for the Transvaal relief fund. »

« Galt, Ont. — The subscription fund for the five young volunteers of Galt, amounted, in less than three days, to three hundred and twenty-five dollars. »

« At Ottawa, the train carrying three hundred soldiers arrived. At forty minutes past noon, the regiment, dressed in bear, astracan and buffalo skins ; with footwear of beef-skin mocassins, with all manner of head gear, carrying red handkerchiefs around their necks, as well as other kinds of ties, and presenting a very nightmare appearance, reached the Parliament square on foot, preceded by Colonel Herchmer, on a beautiful bay horse, and Captain Winter, of Ottawa, the adjutant of the day, and followed by two bands of music.

« There were at least twenty-five thousand people present. The soldiers formed three wings, at the foot of the stair way in front of the central tower. The Governor arrived at a quarter past one, with Lady Minto and two aides-de-camp, preceded by the dragoons under the command of Lieutenant Powell.

« The cheers awakened the most distant echoes. Lord Minto, surrounded by twelve officers, inspected the soldiers, the cadets and veterans of 1876, stopping here and there to speak to the most remarkable types among them. Then, Colonel Cotton, coming out from amongst all the officers of the Ottawa regiments, in full uniform, called to the front the four commanding officers, as well as Colonel Foster, of the engineers; having drawn them up in presence of Lady Minto, the latter, after a very neat little speech, presented each one with a lance with a deep green oriflamme, white bordered, bearing the words « *Canadian Mounted Rifles* » in red letters, and the arms of Canada in the corner. Lady Minto made a reference to the services of her husband in the West, and said that she placed these bannerettes in good hands. She closed by wishing all a happy trip. The Governor and Sir Wilfrid delivered addresses.

« The municipal council and several of the ministers were present. »

Before proceeding we feel bound to devote a page to Colonel Gordon, the kindly commander in the district of Montreal: —

« Saturday evening, about two hundred officers, in gala attire, assembled in the banquet hall of the Place Viger Hotel, to pay a tribute to Colonel Gordon, commander of the military district of Montreal, on the occasion of his departure for South Africa.

« The enthusiasm with which all the officers of military district No. 5, of Montreal, answered the invitation of the organizers, and the tact and zeal of these latter turned that demonstration into an unprecedented military success.

« Colonel Cole acted as chairman, leaving on his right Colonel Gordon. The musical portion of the programme

had been confided to one of Montreal's best orchestras.

« After the health of the Queen, which was toasted amidst indescribable enthusiasm, Lieutenant-Colonel Cole, in appropriate language, proposed that of Colonel Gordon. In a few well-chosen words he recalled the kindly commander's successful career. His expressions concerning Canada's loyalty created universal applause.

« Colonel Gordon was heartily received when he arose to reply. He thanked the officers for such a mark of esteem and fellow-feeling. Too much moved to deliver a lengthy address, he begged of the guests to believe in the sincerity of his friendship and gratitude. The health of Mrs. Gordon was proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel Labelle with all that gallantry peculiar to the French. The popular commander of the 65th spoke of Mrs. Gordon's good qualities and her devotedness to the patriotic fund. After having referred to her courage, and the grief which she felt at his departure, he spoke of the great void that the colonel's absence would cause. »

As we stated before, we owe a special mention to the *Strathconas*, both in praise of *their martial bearing* and as a tribute to Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, the distinguished patriot who is at once the father and the colonel of that regiment.

If the words *their martial bearing* are italicized, we certainly do not wish to take from the valor of the other troops, but having nearly all lived on the prairies, they showed by their appearance that in going to the Transvaal, they went into a well-known country. In fact we might say that, by the rugged life they both lead, the man of the prairies and he of the *Veldt* must be akin.

« The *Strathcona's Horse* was inspected yesterday after-

noon by His Excellency the Governor-General. There were very many spectators and several members of Parliament present, amongst others, the Hon. Dr. Borden, Minister of Militia, Sir Charles Tupper, and Messrs. Monk, Davin, Clarke, Cargill, and the Marquis and Marchioness of Hertford.

« After the inspection, an address, from the citizens of Sudbury, was presented to Colonel Steele and his men, as well as a rich silk-bordered, silver-fringed banner, with a polished oak staff decorated in nickel and with golden cords. In the centre of the standard are the words: *Strathcona's Horse*.

« The banner was made by the ladies of Sudbury and had been sent to Mr. Klock, the member for Nipissing in the Federal House. It was the latter gentleman who read the address to Colonel Steele, the answer to which evoked hearty applause.

« The Hon. Dr. Borden, Sir Charles Tupper and Mr. Davin, M. P., then addressed the soldiers, congratulating them on their bravery and their fine appearance.

« The assembly dispersed with shouts of « Long Live the Queen » and cheers for the *Strathcona Cavalry*.

« This morning the contingent paraded in front of the Parliament Buildings, and Madam Borden handed the guidons to each of the soldiers. Lord and Lady Minto were also present. On Sunday there will be a Church parade. The officers of the Governor-General's Foot Guards and of the 43rd batallion will form the guard of honor.

« At least ten thousand people assisted this morning, on the Parliament Square, at the parade of Lord Strathcona's regiment.

« After having passed through the principal streets of the city, the batallion drew up in front of the Central



HONORABLE BORDEN,
MINISTER OF MILITIA.

Block to receive, from the hands of Madam Borden, four banners presented by the wives of the Civil Service Employees.

« The ceremony took place in presence of the Governor-General and Lady Minto, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and the Hon. Messrs. Mulock, Tarte, Borden, Blair, Mills and Scott. There were also present Sir Louis Davis, Sir Henri Joly, Sir Charles Tupper, Sir Alphonse Pelletier, and a great number of the members and senators.

« After the presentation of the flags, the Governor-General spoke to the volunteers. Sir Wilfrid Laurier was the next speaker, and he received an ovation. He highly eulogized the commander of the regiment, Colonel Steele. This military officer, as commander of the North-West Mounted Police, had rendered signal services to the country, and it would be difficult to have selected a better soldier to place at the head of the brave lads whom Lord Strathcona was sending, at his own expense, to defend the Empire's flag in South Africa.

« Sir Wilfrid then referring to Lord Strathcona, said that the High Commissioner seems to consider that he merely holds the wealth that he has amassed as a *deposit*. Already has he given a large portion of that fortune to the cause of education. To-day he generously opens his purse to aid in defending the Empire and in bringing honor upon the name of Canadian.

« Sir Wilfrid closed by wishing the volunteers a successful journey. »

« The holiday which the City of Montreal held yesterday, in honor of the four hundred brave Canadians, who go to South Africa to defend the British flag, will long remain engraven in the memory of the people of Canada's commercial metropolis.

« Young and old, men, women and children, will well remember the 12th March, 1900. It was a day of special glory to be recorded in our history, when the British flag was hailed most frantically. Never in the history of our city was such enthusiasm known, as that which took possession of the citizens of Montreal as they greeted the four hundred warriors that left, last evening, to represent Canada and to join in the struggle by the sides of their Canadian comrades who had gone before them. Mayor Préfontaine declared a civic half holiday yesterday. All the population of Montreal, irrespective of creed or race, responded to the Mayor's invitation. The number of persons who witnessed yesterday's procession is estimated at no less than fifty thousand. As much as fifty dollars was paid for a suitable position to witness the passage of the *Strathcona Horse*. The mayor, the city council, and a large concourse of citizens met the regiment at the railway station.

« As soon as the crowd perceived the volunteers, there was a regular outburst of applause. The scene that then took place is indescribable; the shouts and the cheers, mingled with the harmony of patriotic airs executed by the different bands, were beyond all description. When the head of the procession reached the corner of St. Denis and St. Catherine streets, it passed before the magnificent structure of Laval University, covered with the banners of all nations as well as British standards. The University authorities did things in grand style, and all cheered in frantic joy the appearance of the *Strathcona Horse*.

« The students of Laval were grouped upon the steps and under the portico of their *Alma Mater*. Each of them held a British flag, and again and again they cheered the troops as they marched past. On the facade of the building was the following inscription, in French: *Pour Dieu*

et l'Empire (For God and the Empire), and this other one : *Dieu sauve la reine ! (God Save the Queen !)*

« It would not be easy to describe the ovation on the part of the McGill students, who formed portion of the procession, in honor of the Laval students ; as the former passed the doors of the University, the McGill boys shouted, in their enthusiasm, « *What is the matter with Laval ? She's all right, you bet,* » and the Laval students returned the cheers with wild and prolonged hurrahs.

« Six hundred people attended the banquet at the Windsor Hotel, over which Mayor Préfontaine presided. On his right were seated Colonel Steele, commander of the *Strathcona* regiment ; Mgr. Racicot ; Hon. Judge Tait ; Hon. Judge Davidson ; Principal Peterson of McGill University ; Hon. Senator A. W. Ogilvie ; Hon. J. J. Guerin ; and Alderman Faucher : on his left were Hon. Mr. Forget, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Territories, Sir Alexander Lacoste, Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench ; Colonel Roy, commander of the 5th military district ; Hon. Alphonse Desjardins ; Ex-Mayor Wilson-Smith ; and Colonel Ibbotson, commander of the Royal Scots.

« After the health of the Queen, letters of excuse were read from Mgr. Bruchési, Bishop Bond, Lieutenant-Governor Jetté, and others.

« Speeches were then delivered by Mayor Préfontaine, Principal Peterson, of McGill, Mgr. Racicot, Hon. Judge Lacoste, Hon. Judge Davidson, Ex-Mayor Wilson-Smith, Hon. Mr. Forget and Colonel Steele. »

We will have to be content with a few extracts from the address delivered by the Mayor, which contained the substance of the noble sentiments expressed by all the others : —

« Permit me, at this moment, as a French-Canadian, to

declare that no portion of our cosmopolitan community experiences a greater pleasure in your visit nor wishes you more sincerely success and a complete and crowning triumph in your South African campaign, than do the French-Canadians of Montreal. We wish you good fortune and victory, because the Queen and the flag for which you are to fight, are equally our Queen and our flag. The French-Canadians have, themselves, fought for the *Union Jack* at St. Johns, at Plattsburg, at Bennington, at Saratoga, at Chateauguay, at Butte-aux-Français, in Egypt, in the Soudan, in South Africa and elsewhere, and they are ready to do the same again as often as their services may be required.

« More than that, Colonel Steele, officers and soldiers, the citizens of Montreal are proud of you on account of the enterprise you have so nobly undertaken, and because they believe you are the very men to accomplish it.

« We count upon you, as we do upon your comrades of the mounted infantry, the field artillery, and of the infantry, who have gone before you, to sustain the honor and name of Canada ; and judging by your condition for service, we know that we will not be disappointed.

« This country, thanks to the heroism of her sons, who are serving in the first contingent, has already gleaned a rich and imperishable harvest of glory on the fields of the present unfortunate war in South Africa ; we feel, that with entire confidence we can depend upon the *Strathcona* regiment to sustain that reputation for bravery and other military virtues, which the brave Canadians, who belong to the detachment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Otter, have established.

« We will follow you with interest and pride, as we have done the various corps recruited in this city. Rest assured that the Canadian people will follow you with a sympa-

thetic eye, through all the vast expanses of the dark continent, that they will be proud of your sacrifices and your bravery, that they will remember the sufferings that you shall have endured in the accomplishment of your duty. In spirit we will follow you in your long marches ; we will stand sentinel with you upon the desert sands of Africa, and under the marvellous and serene brilliancy of the Southern stars. We will follow you through the ravines and over the kopjes, upon the red fields of battle, where the sense of danger imparts a fresh energy to the valiant ones who learned, beneath the folds of the *Union Jack* to fight like heroes ; where the grandeur of the situation imparts an energy of iron and nerves of steel to the glorious soldiers, who, from England, from Ireland, from Scotland, from Wales, from South Africa, from Australia, from New-Zealand, from India, and from Canada, have gone forth to do battle for our noble and beloved Sovereign.

« Our thoughts will be with you, when, scorning danger, you shall march to victory, over rocks, plains and rugged mountains, and when each step of your glorious advance shall chime in with our prayer, as it ascends, ardent and persistent, to the God of armies and of justice, begging that He spare your lives and accord to your courage and devotedness the success that they so well deserve. »

We must not omit a few of Colonel Steele's remarks :—

« As he arose to speak he found himself face to face with his two little grand-daughters, standing on the table, and presenting him with a splendid bouquet. He kissed them affectionately, and then turned from that enjoyment to the duty of eulogizing his soldiers.

« And to begin, » said he, « he was very far from expecting such a demonstration when he left Ottawa ; he could find no words to thank the people of our city. In any

case, he felt proud, far more so than he could express ; he, an obscure Canadian (cries of no ! no !) to be honored with the command of the *Strathcona Horse*.

« He could never enumerate the fine qualities of the soldiers composing that regiment. There are amongst them men from the Yukon, from Peace River, who traveled six hundred miles to enlist. The recruiting was done with extraordinary rapidity. The colonel closed by saying that we should remember that he was only a soldier and that a soldier's duty is action rather than speech.»

« The Mayor read a cablegram from Lord Strathcona, expressing his regret at not being able to be in the midst of his men on this occasion, and thanking the people of Montreal for the reception given to them. *God Save the Queen* closed the event, and the guests took their departure. The day had been a splendid one from every standpoint. Montreal rarely ever witnessed a more successful demonstration.

« The *Strathcona Horse* started again, at eight o'clock, for Halifax, thence for South Africa, and (who knows?) possibly for eternity. Let us hope, however, that some day soon they will come back to us, happy after their distant expedition, and bearing with them, under a mass of laurels, a ray of Africa's sun as a souvenir.»

Now they are at Halifax : —

« Halifax. — The *Strathcona* regiment embarked about five o'clock, yesterday afternoon, on board the *Monterey*, which started for the African coast this morning, at five o'clock. The embarkation took place amidst the greatest enthusiasm. Immediately before leaving the barracks, the cablegrams sent by Lord Strathcona were read to the soldiers. Messrs. Elder-Dempster had the *Monterey* grandly decorated. Speeches were delivered by General



GOOD BYE MY BOY, AND GOD BLESS YOU.

Lord William Seymour, Lieutenant-Governor Daly, and Colonel Steele. Then Hon. Dr. Borden read the following cablegram : —

« London, to Borden, Minister of Militia, Halifax.

« Please read for my regiment, the following note, which I received from Her Majesty's private secretary, and to which you will give fitting publicity.

« Her Majesty is happy to express her confidence in the regiment, before its departure, and sincerely believes that the soldiers will equal their Canadian comrades, who are fighting so valiantly, at the present moment, for the Empire. The Queen wishes them all success and an early return to their homes.

« In my reply to Her Majesty's secretary, I stated that the officers and soldiers considered it a privilege to have the honor to serve both their Sovereign and the Empire ; that they will be ever ready to perform their duty as Canadians and as loyal British subjects, in order to justify the confidence so graciously reposed in them by Her Majesty.

« Signed, STRATHCONA. »

« Borden, Minister of Militia, Halifax.

« Please convey to Colonel Steele, to his officers and soldiers, the expression of the great disappointment I feel in not being able to assist at their departure. I am none the less happy to personally wish them a good journey and an early return, absolutely certain as I am that they will bravely fulfil their service, thus doing honor to the Dominion and to our well-beloved Sovereign.

« STRATHCONA. »

« All along the route of procession the streets, stores and houses were filled with great crowds. The Legislature had adjourned, and the members of the House, as well as those of the municipal council, preceded the soldiers in carriages. The *Strathconas* were immediately preceded by the 66th Princess Louise Fusiliers, with band. Then came : Lieutenant-Colonel Irving and the band of the Leinster regiment ; one hundred soldiers of the 63rd Rifles with band closed the line of march, followed by thousands of citizens and a few members of the Leinster regiment.

« The contingent of one hundred men, destined to take the places, over there, of the Canadians who had fallen on the field of honor, attracted the special attention of the spectators, and were most enthusiastically greeted for their imposing and proud bearing.

« At five o'clock, the embarking, which took place at the Government wharf, was over and the *Monterey* slowly moved out, the stem pointing seaward. The bands, in vibrating notes, pealed forth the national anthem, and the enthusiasm of the people did not subside until the anchor was weighed and the vessel beyond range of the eye. »

AT CAPE-TOWN !

« Toronto. — A London despatch to the *Evening Telegram* says : —

« A cablegram from Cape-Town, states that the transport *Sardinian*, bearing the Canadian contingent has reached here. At Cape-Town, the Canadian troops will march through the principal streets of the city, and the Governor will proclaim the day a legal holiday. »

« Cape-Town. — Sir Alfred Milner has issued a proclamation to the people of Cape Colony, in which he draws

their attention to the many proofs that the Queen does not favor any one nation at the expense of another one.

« That proclamation was read in the schools, the churches, and all the public places. »

« Ottawa. — The following despatch has been received from Sir Alfred Milner, Governor of British South Africa.

« The Cape.—Have just wished 'God speed' to the Canadian contingent ; all well and pleased to go to the front. The people here showed in a most undeniable manner their deep appreciation of the help coming from Canada.

« MILNER. »

Finally ; they have all arrived, hale and hearty, from first to last, upon the scene of their glorious exploits, and we now make room for their letters, written in their blood and with the sword point.

NOTICE.

We desire to inform the reader that we have eliminated from the letters aught that might not be of public interest, and that the extracts which we give have not been arranged according to dates, rather have they been classified, and without any preference as far as our braves are concerned — for from first to last they equally participate in the glory.

Montreal, April 24th, 1900.

MY DEAR MR. LABAT,

I don't think I can do better than give you the enclosed as my contribution to your work. « *Strathcona's Horse* » certainly could not have a better setting than in a book

dedicated to the memories of our brave soldiers on the South African Veldt. Hoping this will meet with your approval and wishing you all success.

Believe me faithfully yours,

W. H. DRUMMOND.

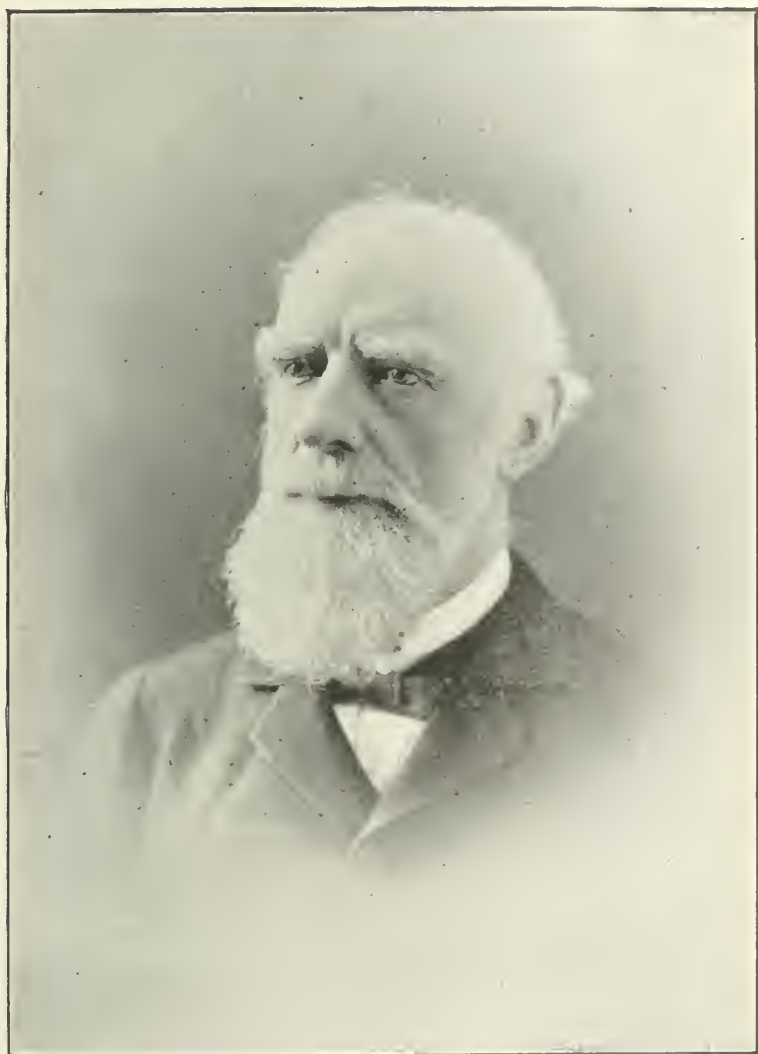
STRATHCONA'S HORSE

“A tout seigneur tout honneur.”

O, I was thine, and thou wert mine, and ours the boundless plain
 Where the winds of the north, my gallant steed, ruffled thy tawny mane,
 But the summons hath come with roll of drum, and bugles ringing shrill
 Startling the prairie antelope ; the grizzly of the hill,
 'Tis the voice of Empire calling, and the children gather fast
 From every land where the cross bar floats out from the quivering mast.
 So into the saddle I leap, my own, with bridle swinging free,
 And thy hoof beats shall answer the trumpets blowing across the sea !
 Then proudly toss thy head aloft, nor think of the foe to-morrow,
 For he who dares to stay our course, drinks deep of the Cup of Sorrow !

Thy form hath pressed the meadow's breast where the sullen grey-
 wolf hides,
 The great red river of the north hath cooled thy burning sides,
 Together we've slept while the tempest swept the Rockies' glittering
 chain,
 And many a day the bronze centaur hath galloped behind in vain !
 But the sweet wild grass of mountain pass, the shimmering summer
 streams,
 Must vanish forever more, perchance, into the land of dreams ;
 For the strong young North hath sent us forth to battlefields far away,
 And the trail that ends where Empire trends, is the trail we ride to-day !
 But proudly toss thy head aloft, nor think of the foe to-morrow,
 For he who bars Strathcona's Horse drinks deep of the Cup of Sorrow !

WILLIAM HENRY DRUMMOND.



LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL.

A LETTER FROM COLONEL STEELE

THE COMMANDER OF STRATHCONA'S HORSE SENDS GOOD
NEWS OF HIS MEN.

« THE following very interesting letter was received
by Mr. John A. Kerr, Town Clerk, of Perth, Ont.,
from Colonel Steele, of Strathcona's Horse :

« Standerton, June 25th, 1900.

« My Dear Jack,

« I am with the third Mounted Brigade, General Buller's advance, under Lord Dundonald, who is a very fine soldier and a perfect nobleman. We lay at the Cape for some time under orders for very important work, and were then sent to Zululand and Kosi Bay. The A and C Squadrons to the former country and B Squadron to the latter, a bay in the Indian Ocean, to land and make a rapid march through Tongaland, almost unknown, and destroy the railway and bridge at Komati Poort, which supplies the Boers from the Portuguese territory. The scheme had, when I arrived at Kosi Bay, leaked out through some fool at the Cape, and the Boers had put in

an enormously superior force, which rendered our extremely risky business still more risky. I had to change my way of going about it, and join my other Squadrons. I did this at Durham and marched to Estcourt, Zululand, and then was on the point of advancing the 250 miles through Zululand and Tongaland, when Lord Roberts again changed the plan and sent us here. I had to make a forced march to Durban, 110 miles, in three days, with a big outfit, and from thence come by rail to Newcastle to join General Buller. I did so, and after arranging my transports made two days of forced marches to Volksrust in the Transvaal, and there joined the Brigade, with which we now are. I marched with it to Paardekop, where opposition was expected, but we found none. Then marched here, 28 miles, where we have remained while General Buller is concentrating for an important movement. We saw the tremendous strong position of the enemy forced by General Buller to relieve Ladysmith, and the other positions of Laing's Nek which he skilfully turned. It is no use for any one to abuse General Buller in this army. I consider, and so does every one else, that the difficulties with which he had to contend were greater than any yet met with in South Africa, and could not be accomplished except by an extremely able commander. The position was almost, if not quite, impregnable and the troops that would face them are certainly of a high character as soldiers.

« The regiment is splendid, but it has taken constant attention to get it into shape.

« Hoping you are well, I am

« Yours truly,

« S. B. STEELE. »



LIEUTENANT COLONEL S. B. STEELE.

APPOINTED TO FOURTH CLASS OF VICTORIAN ORDER.

In reply to the King's speech, Colonel Steele said: — "The Strathconas are always ready to defend the flag, the King and the rights of the British Empire."

THE KING'S COLOURS

PRESENTED BY

His Most Gracious Majesty Edward VII.

KING AND EMPEROR TO

LORD STRATHCONA'S CORPS

In recognition of services rendered to the Empire in South Africa in 1000.

STRATHCONA HORSE COVERED THEMSELVES WITH GLORY

« Pretoria, June 25th, 1900.

« Strathcona's Horse has done one of the great deeds of the war.

« Leaving Cape-Town a month ago, they went to Durban by water, and then proceeded up country, reaching General Buller's forces in time to do splendid service in the advance from Newcastle on towards Standerton and Pretoria, service for which they received special mention in General Buller's despatches to the War Office, approved by Lord Roberts.

« Now they have done a deed which will live in history.

« They have blown up the railway bridge at Komati Poort, on the railway between Pretoria and Komati Poort, and have cut off all communication of the Boers with the sea.

« All the Delagoa Bay Railway rolling stock, the Boer artillery, the whole Boer army, including the gold taken by President Kruger from the mint here, are west of that break, and must now inevitably fall into our hands.

« Strathcona's Horse has effectually bottled up the Boers.

« W. RICHMOND SMITH,

« Special Correspondent of the *Star* in South Africa.»

WITH STRATHCONA'S HORSE

« Mrs. Fraser, of Esquimalt, B. C., has received the following letter from her sons, Harry and Wilfrid Fraser, serving with Strathcona's Horse in South Africa :

« Standerton, June 24th, 1900.

« We have just got here. Buller is here with his army, and it makes quite a large camp. For one night we

camped at the foot of Majuba Hill, and then just missed the Boers at Laing's Nek. Now they don't expect any more fighting, so the generals say. One of the sentries here was shot last night. He was not one of our men. He was shot in two places — in the head and shoulder — and died in ten minutes. Our men don't do the outpost duty, this being left for the regulars.

« Dundonald's and Clery's men are camped here. Yesterday, Sunday, we had Divine service, and the old clergyman who conducted the service said he had been here for 27 years, and for 21 years had known that the Boers have been preparing for this war. He also spoke as though the war was entirely over, so you may expect to hear any day of our coming home.

« Standerton is about 100 miles in the Transvaal, on the Vaal river. We are camped about half a mile from the town. The country itself is just like the prairie. At night there is about 5 degrees of frost, and the day is very warm, just like we had in Calgary.

« Just before the Boers left here they blew up the railway bridge and burnt down the work shops. They were still burning when we got in, so they could not have been very far ahead of us. There are a few British families here, and you may be sure they were very glad to see us.

« This is the place they expected the Boers to make their final stand, but they have left the railway and gone across country, right between Buller and Roberts, so the whole thing will soon be over.

« Standerton, June 28th, 1900.

« I will add a few more lines. We got some mail last night, only one letter from you, of May 8th. We also see by the paper that war is about to be declared between

Japan and Russia. They are practising the farewell march every day to play when we leave South Africa. We can't have too many letters from here, as the trains have only run twice since the Boers blew up the bridges. There is an arm inspection at 10 o'clock, so I must stop. We have taken two or three prisoners, including one old man of 80. He said they would stop fighting, but if they did they would be shot by their own men.»

STRATHCONA'S HORSE ON THE SEA

«The *Cape Times*, of April 11th, published a lengthy account of the arrival of Strathcona's Horse on the *Monterey*. According to this account, the Western men suffered severely from sea-sickness.

«The quarter-deck was turned into a deck-chair hospital for invalided officers, suffering from a very painful and unpleasant, but non-infectious complaint. The lower decks seemed strewn with corpses. A lyddite shell might have exploded over the forward decks, killing all around merely by its deadly fumes. From personal observation during those days I am convinced that more than one would have welcomed a shower of grape shot. All things come to those who wait, however, if they live long enough; and with very few exceptions the fourth day out saw men with good appetites, if not quite certain in their strides. The troopers gained their sea-legs much quicker, on the average, than did the officers.

«One short week (seven days after leaving Halifax), and we were in a groove — might have been born on a transport, and lived all our lives there. Drills were in full swing, both with Strathcona's Horse and the contingent of the Royal Canadian Regiment, and we had settled down to work and enjoy ourselves.

FROM SNOW TO SUN.

« We soon left the ice and snow, and cold winds, and ran into warm, balmy air. It was glorious. Men off duty lay full length on anything soft, and drank in the soft-tempered air, until sleep carried them and their thoughts to realms of imagination.

« From this genial atmosphere to still warmer, and from this to hot weather, till the pitch in the deck seams sizzled in the sunshine.

« It was then that we fully appreciated the thoughtfulness of the owners of the *Monterey* for having such a splendid store of ice on board. We at once realized that we were specially favoured; therefore, as a transport, the *Monterey* stands out in successful prominence.

« Naturally, with this abundance of ice on board, our food and water were exceptionally good, both in quality and condition. Indeed, the fare provided was so good that several had to do many arduous sentry-goes in the cool of the evening in order to obviate any tendency to an increase in *avoir du poids*.

« Once the deck awnings were stretched, there was a rush to stake claims for sleeping berths above, for despite all artificial means to induce the air to cool the staterooms, they more resembled upholstered ovens.

EPIDEMIC AMONGST THE HORSES.

« About this time an epidemic that had broken out among the horses became very much worse. Our veterinary surgeon diagnosed it as a bad form of pneumonia, and whatever the cause, the poor animals died in half-dozens. Up to the time of writing this (April 8th) we have lost over a hundred, and although the worst is over, we still continue to lose a few. I asked Colonel Steele if he could

in any way account for the loss — for the epidemic — and he admitted that he could not. The only reason he could think at all probable was their having left a particularly dry and high region to come down to the damp and moist airs that they were unaccustomed to. Everything that human ingenuity could devise, or skilled labour, or careful watching and attention do, was done ; but it was in vain, though the mortality might have been greater had not this great attention been shown. Of this latter I am convinced, although I practically know nothing of the ailments of horses, and of bronchos in particular.

« As I said before, we got into a groove. I suppose it is so on every vessel on a long voyage. Groove, or no groove, we managed to put in a good time. Officers fraternized, and so did the men, and there appeared to be some instinctive feeling that personal matters and feelings were to be under subjection, and that one and all must act for the common weal. With ideas like these prevalent, it may be taken for granted that our leisure moments were ones that can be looked back upon with feelings of satisfaction. Little edges of friction arose at times (especially in the very great heat), but these only go to show that men can, if they like, easily control their tempers ; or, if an occasional outburst does come, or a hasty word slips out (and repented of next moment, of course) it proves we are human beings and not angels, and it leaves the opportunity of showing vindictiveness, or otherwise. On board the *Monterey* it has been the otherwise throughout, and I am pleased to be able to make this statement public.

AN ALARM OF FIRE.

« The evening of the 27th March produced the one bit of real excitement of the voyage, and it was excitement of a kind few people desire a repetition of.

« It was just eight o'clock. Eight bells had gone, and we in the officers' mess-room were loitering over the final stages of dinner. Loitering, for a refreshing breeze had sprung up, and coming through the open portholes of the saloon, sent a glorious cool wave of air through the room, a much appreciated change from the hitherto stifling heat.

« Suddenly we were all startled by hearing the bugles ringing out the fire call.

« There was a rush from the saloon. Some made for the quarter-deck to try and find out at once where the fire was. Others dashed to their squadron's quarters, and yet, although it was a rush, it was an orderly one, a mere hurried movement, just a natural desire to get somewhere quickly, but knowing where that somewhere was. Of panic there was no sign. It might have been a daily occurrence, having a fire on board. I saw one, or two even, stop to finish their coffee. It only occupied a second or so, but it showed nerves, or want of them.

« As smoke generally means fire, so does fire usually mean water. Hence, as I had only a thin pair of slippers on, I made a hasty movement to my stateroom for a pair of boots, I was not many minutes away, but when I reached the quarter-deck some of the troops were standing in line handing along buckets of water, while others were drawn up at either side of the vessel, or were watching calmly and orderly aft.

« Colonel Steele was standing by the bridge. I saw him lean over the rails towards his men, who were watching the second officer of the *Monterey*, and some sailors smashing down the temporary bakehouse that was the scene of the fire.

« 'Steady, there, men. No talking. Keep silent there,' were the only words the commanding officer uttered, and they acted like magic. Not a sound was audible but the

crashing of the axes against the wood, and the swish and splutter of water.

« Fifteen minutes of waiting, and then we heard the ship's officer call out that all was over. Men went back to their quarters, but before going gave a ringing cheer, a cheer that meant victory, and a cheer that will be raised again and again for still greater victories. That cheer on the *Monterey* was the pioneer.

STOWAWAYS TURN UP.

« The next thing in sequence was the remarkable daily increase in the transport's company. First one stowaway came to light, then a couple would come upon the scene, and finally a batch of five put in their appearance. How some of these men got to Halifax is, and possibly will remain, a mystery. I believe that three of these gentry were medically examined and accepted for the Canadian Regiment, but afterwards for some reason not explained they were rejected and left behind at Montreal. Now Montreal is not far short of a thousand miles from Halifax, and the fare is accordingly high. The question is, did these men pay their fare, or did they travel free by freight train *à la Winston Churchill*? The authorities at Cape-Town will find out something, no doubt, and the other stowaways will find out something also, probably not to their liking.

CROSSING THE LINE.

« As we neared the Equator the heat became very oppressive, but notwithstanding great preparations were made for Father Neptune to initiate the novices, and as the day approached excitement ran really high. The ceremonies commenced on the night of March 30th. when

Father Neptune boarded the *Monterey* somewhere near the bow, and in a stentorian voice (through a megaphone) asked several questions concerning the health and details of those on board, finally departing with a promise to return at two p. m. the following day. At the appointed hour Neptune and his motley suite duly put in an appearance — a huge canvas tank full of water, and a kind of flag-covered dais for Father Neptune being in preparation. The weird-looking contingent paraded the deck to the accompaniment of much beating of empty meat tins, and other and several sounds outside the chromatic scale. Their appearance was supposed to be awe-inspiring, it was superbly ridiculous, and was capitally done. Neptune and his suite then took up their positions, and the great ceremonial began. Impetuous troopers, glad of the chance of a few minutes' cooling and a respite from the sweltering heat, plunged into the tank, without waiting for being formally introduced to Neptune and his missus. Then a few reluctant bathers were unceremoniously plunged into the tank, and thoroughly ducked. Officers and men were then introduced to the great sea-god — duly lathered with a mixture of soap and glue — shaved and shampooed.

«Matters were progressing gaily and comparatively smoothly when an enterprising Strathcona Horseman gained possession of a neighbouring kopje with a hose, which he promptly used as a Maxim. The deluged spectators hastily beat a retreat, but quickly reforming, a hot engagement ensued for the possession of the kopje, or rather the hose. The attacking force, although outnumbering the defenders considerably, made the mistake of approaching in close formation. The attacking party wavered, and were on the point of retreating, when another contingent making a clever flank movement, the contest was renewed with double vigour, and finally the kopje was taken.

« This little episode was the beginning of the end. Instead of their ardour being cooled by the copious draughts of water poured on them, it was just the opposite. An immediate rush was made for Neptune and his gorgeous pavilion. Father Neptune was immediately dethroned and his robes of office stripped off him. His attendants were one and all duly ducked in the bath arranged for the benefit of others, and Neptune himself narrowly escaped a similar fate, a brass curtain-rod being his salvation. The novices of the day were later on presented with a certificate of membership to the Neptune Lodge.

CHARACTERS OF THE CORPS.

« Although there has been much fun on board it must not be assumed that there has been no work. Drills have been going on morning and noon, the aft upper decks never being free from one, or an other squadron. Considering that these men when they left the North-West of Canada practically knew nothing of military work, their progress has been simply marvellous. I ascribe this efficiency not only to perpetual drilling and a keen intelligence, but more to that *esprit de corps* that has permeated all ranks. Everyone appeared by instinct to understand that their future success depended upon individual as well as collective efforts, and every praise is due for the manner in which this prevailing idea has been put into execution, and Colonel Steele may well be proud, as he is, of the fine body of men he commands, and it will be pleasing to Lord Strathcona to know that his anticipations have been more than verified. »

« The Rev. Canon Bland has received the following most interesting letter from his son, E. Maltby Bland, of

Strathcona's Horse, which was published in the *Hamilton Times* of October 30th : —

« Spitkop, September 15th, 1900.

« Since I last wrote to you we have been under fire every day, and have had lots of hard work and no rest. For over a week we did not get into camp till after dark, and were off again at daylight. We used to get a cup of tea as soon as we got in, and then tumble into bed. It was hard on the poor horses, and we have lost a great many, nearly a hundred having to walk. My steed, fortunately, is as well as ever, and looking fine. We had a big fight the other day, though the Strathconas were not actually in it, being some distance off protecting the left flank. However, we could see the whole battle quite plainly. First of all the Boers took up a position on the top of a kopje, with their big guns and pom-poms. The big guns opened the ball, and there was an artillery duel for several hours, our guns just pouring the shrapnel and lyddite into them, bursting just right every time. Then the Rifle Brigade charged and the Boers turned pom-poms and machine guns on them at close range, knocking out 116 of them. However, they took the hill just about dusk, the Boers going out on the run with the Lancers in full pursuit.

« Next morning I went over the place and there were dead Boers lying all around, and we buried 70 of them in one big trench.

« The country which we are in at present is the roughest I ever saw, something like the north shore of Lake Superior, perhaps, on a little larger scale, with almost impassable roads. One thing is certain that we can never go back the way we came with any load, as it will be all the cattle can do to pull back the empty waggons. We

struck a town the other day called Lydenburg. You will find it on the map north of Delagoa Bay Railway. It is a very pretty little place, with lots of trees, which are a scarce article in this country as a rule. The Boers had their big guns on some hills surrounding the town, and they made things pretty lively for two days till we got them out. I saw a Long Tom shell knock out fourteen of the Gordons one day. The whole battalion was marching across an open place which the Boers were shelling, when bang! went a shrapnel just thirty feet above Company I, who were the last. The whole company were knocked flat on their faces and when the dust had cleared they got up, but fourteen lay on the ground, one killed and the rest wounded. The remainder of them went right on, never looking behind, and I declare some of them never even got out of step, I was standing within a hundred yards of them when it happened, and I rushed up at once to see if I could be of any help, and they told me to help carry the wounded off the field under cover. So another fellow and I carried two of them over to an ambulance near by. One chap, a sergeant, and a magnificent fellow, with legs like an ox, got a piece of shell in the upper part of the leg which severed the main artery and broke the bone. Oh! how he did suffer! In carrying him off we had to lay him down, as he was so heavy, and he just begged us not to, as it hurt him so in spreading out his legs when the stretcher touched the ground. I heard afterwards at the hospital that he will pull through all right, though he may lose his leg. Such a pity! The other chap, a piece of shell had come down the right side of his head and laid open his cheek and broke his jaw, and he actually tried to go on with his regiment, but had to drop out from sheer weakness. That shows you what stuff the British soldier is made of. . . I must say after seeing that, I would rather

be hit with a rifle bullet than with a sharpnel; and it is not a very pleasant thing to hear those big shells come whistling towards you for ten seconds or so before they explode. You always imagine every shell is coming straight for you and nowhere else, and you duck your head when it gets close.

« The other day we were in a valley back of here, and there were 320 shells fired at us, and only 13 men hit. I got so used to them that in the afternoon I went to sleep for a couple of hours. We were lying under cover at the time in the bed of a creek, where the Boers could not hit us very well, though some of the shells came a little too close to be comfortable. The mail closes to-night at 8.15, and as it is already dark I must close.

« Your loving son,

« E. MALTRY BLAND. »

TWO BROTHERS IN ARMS

SONS OF THE HONORABLE WM. MACDOUGALL, C. B., Q. C., P. C.

John Gladwyn Macdougall was born in Toronto in 1876, received his primary education at Trinity School, Port Hope, after which he matriculated at the parent institution — Trinity College, Toronto. He graduated from there in 1898, taking his B. A. degree, and for a time studied law in the office of John Abbott, Esq., Q. C., Montreal, at the same time following the law course at McGill University. Ill health compelled his removal to Vancouver, B. C., where he continued his legal studies in the office of Tupper, Peters & Gilmour. When the reserve company of the Strathcona Horse was being raised, he was one of the first to volunteer for service in it under Captain Adamson. He was wounded at the battle of Standerton, and after a



DENISON ENG MONTREAL

THE TWO BROTHERS IN ARMS.

TROOPER H. V. MACDOUGALL,
Canadian Mounted Rifles.

TROOPER J. G. MACDOUGALL,
Of Strathconas.

long and tedious period of confinement to hospital at Howick, Natal, was, in October, invalided to England, to enable him to recuperate, having manifested great pluck and endurance throughout his trying experience.

Harold Macdougall, was educated at Trinity School, Port Hope, and subsequently held a position in the service of the Dominion Bank. Resigning therefrom, he was appointed to a place on the staff of the Library of Parliament at Ottawa, where he remained but a short time, owing to the *Klondyke fever*, which seized so many of our adventurous young men at the opening of the Gold fields, in that region, and just returned from Dawson City on his way home, when the call to arms, was made in Canada, for a second Service Corps, to proceed to South Africa, and enlisted in the Canadian Mounted Rifles, at McLeod, N. W. T. From the time of his arrival at the seat of war, he served with his regiment continuously. He is a man of splendid physique, and strong and hardy nature, which is proven by the fact, that during his long service in South Africa, he has never been off duty a day, from any cause whatever.

In April, he was given charge of a Maxim gun, and promoted to the rank of Corporal.

« Toronto, July 7th, 1900.

« The *Evening Telegram's* special cable from London, says : —

« A despatch from Vlakfontein, in the south-eastern portion of the Transvaal, reports that some sections of Strathcona's Horse, after seeing a convoy safely through Rustfontein Defile, near Greyslingstadt, left eighteen Strathconas watering their horses on this side of the defile. One hundred Boers concealed in the long grass on a

kopje, opened fire. Reinforcements hurried to the scene, and the Strathconas brought a Maxim up into play and knocked several Boers off their horses as they were retiring. The enemy decamped. »

MORE PRAISE FOR CANADA

MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND LORD STRATHCONA PLEASED WITH
THE PART SHE HAS PLAYED.

« Ottawa, July 9th, 1900.

« The following letter from the Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, to the Rev. Mr. Walkley, Minister of the Church of Our Father (Unitarian), has been received : —

« Colonial Office, London, June 25th. 1900.

« Dear Sir,

« I have received your letter of June 11th, saying that the Church of Our Father will hold a special service on Sunday, July 1st, being Dominion Day.

« The voluntary and spontaneous resolution of Her Majesty's Canadian subjects to support with their blood and treasure their fellow-subjects in South Africa in their struggle for political freedom and equity, has made the past year a memorable one in the history of Canada and the Empire. The revelation which has thus been given of the strength and unity of the Empire must tend to promote the cause of liberty and progress, with which the British rule is identified.

« I am, yours, very faithfully,

« J. CHAMBERLAIN. »

« Lord Strathcona also writes to a prominent member of the same Church as follows : —

« I think that Canada has reason to be proud of the success of Confederation, and every anniversary must strengthen the feeling of pride which we feel for our country, the great resources which it contains, and the rapidity with which they are being developed. Canada is no longer a colony, but a Dominion, and an important integral part of the British Empire. The events of the past few months have done more than anything that has happened for years past to bring the different parts of the Empire closer together, and to show the world the feeling of kindship that exists among Her Majesty's subjects, no matter where they may reside. This community of interest and the closer union that is sure, sooner or later to follow, is bound to have results of the highest national and Imperial importance.

« Believe me, yours very truly,

« STRATHCONA. »

LORD STRATHCONA MEMORIAL

« Ottawa, April 20th, 1900.

« Subscriptions have been opened to raise a fund to commemorate the patriotic action of Lord Strathcona in equipping the splendid regiment of horse for service to the Empire in South Africa, and his many munificent gifts to Canada. It is proposed to have executed a bust of Lord Strathcona in white marble for the capital of the Dominion. The Government has given permission to place the bust, when complete, in the library of Parliament.

« The work is in progress by Mr. Hamilton MacCarthy, R. C. A., sculptor, Ottawa. »

HOW STRATHCONAS DIED

« London, October 11th, 1900.

« A special despatch from Lydenburg says : —

« A Boer prisoner tells the story of the way in which a patrol of five troopers of Strathcona's Horse, under Sergeant Brothers, met death.

« It appears that they were suddenly surrounded by a strong force of Boers.

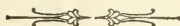
« The Canadians indignantly refused to surrender and a murderous fire was exchanged at short range, until every man in the party was riddled with bullets, but not before each Canadian had accounted for three Boers. »

PRAISED BY BULLER

« London, October 11th, 1900.

« Sir Redvers Buller, while passing through Machado-dorp and bidding farewell to the troops, said he should be greatly pleased to tell Lord Strathcona of the magnificent work of his troopers. »

After this just and valuable compliment we leave, not with our heart, but with our pen, the Strathconas at their noble and arduous work.





COLONEL W. D. OTTER.

COLONEL W. D. OTTER, D. O. C.

Commanding Officer 2nd (Special Service) Battalion, Canadian Staff,
A. D. C. to His Excellency the Governor-General. Fenian
Raid, 1866. North-West, 1885. Wounded Israel's
Pourt. April 25th, 1900, since promoted
Colonel for his brilliant conduct.

PAARDEBERG was the Waterloo of the Boers through the heroic conduct of the Canadians. I leave the explanation of that memorable day to Colonel Otter's report.

THE COLONEL TELLS OF THE CANADIANS AT PAARDEBERG.
LAY ADVANCE POST. LAY WITHIN 65 YARDS
OF THE MAIN BOER TRENCH.

« Ottawa, April 6th, 1900.

« In the House of Commons to-day Dr. Borden, Minister of Militia, read the following report from Lieutenant-Colonel Otter, the officer commanding the Second Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment, addressed to the chief staff officer of militia, Canada: —

« Paardeberg Drift, February 26th, 1900.

« Sir,

« I have the honor to report upon the part taken by the battalion under my command in the engagement at Paardeberg on the 18th instant.

« The battalion arrived near Paardeberg Drift with the 19th brigade, at 6 a. m., of the 18th instant, having formed the rear guard to the brigade in its march during the night from Klip Drift ; a distance of 21 miles.

« Within half an hour of the arrival of the battalion orders were received to be ready to parade at 7 a. m., and at 7.20 a. m. the battalion moved out to support the artillery about a mile away. The men in the meantime had a biscuit and a cup of tea.

« Hardly had the battalion reached the place designated than it was ordered to move to the drift and cross the river. This was done and the crossing began at about 8.30 a. m. The current ran nine miles an hour while the water was sufficiently deep to reach up to the men's armpits. Two crossings were used about 50 yards apart, over one of which a rope was stretched, by which the men passed across by holding on to it, and at the other the men passed over in fours with linked arms.

IN THE FIRING LINE.

« The companies as they crossed were pushed forward, and at 9.30 a. m. A and C companies were in the firing line at about 500 yards from the enemy, who occupied the woods along the near edge of the river, but were totally hidden from view. They also occupied a series of dongas enfilading our left flank, but this was not discovered until towards afternoon, when they disclosed themselves, although they were quietly 'sniping' from that direction all day. D and E companies formed the support, while, as B, F, G and H came up, they formed the reserve.

« The remainder of the brigade was disposed of as under : —

« The D. of C. L. I., on our right, the Gordons and

Shropshires were on our left, in the order named, but on the other side of the hill, on our left, and behind the artillery. The battalion, however, was practically alone, and during the whole day received no orders, or instructions from any one until about 4 p. m., as noted later on.

« In addition to the 19th brigade the 3rd Highland brigade was engaged on the south side of the river, besides artillery and mounted infantry.

« Firing began at about 9.30 a. m., from the enemy's right and continued along their front towards the centre. The advance of the battalion took place over perfectly open ground somewhat undulating, and with no cover save the inequalities of the ground, and a few ant hills. The firing line attained a position from the enemy varying from 400 yards on the right to 800 yards on the left, where it remained until late in the afternoon.

« After the establishment of the firing line, the enemy's fire was for some time very severe, and Captain Arnold, who at the time was doing most excellent service, was mortally wounded, and many others hit.

« During this time three or four men in the reserve (H company) were wounded at a distance of over 1,600 yards.

DOES EXCELLENT SERVICE.

« At about noon D company reinforced the firing line and shortly afterwards E and part of B companies also reinforced, the remainder of B, F and G companies becoming supports, with H still in reserve. Only one maxim gun could be crossed, and that was soon got into position by Captain Bell, on the rising ground to the left, at a distance of some 1,000 yards, where it did most excellent service during the day, being in a position to keep down the fire of the enemy who occupied the dongas on our left.

« A battery of the field artillery occupied the hill on our left rear and shelled the enemy's lines at intervals during the day.

« The fire discipline of the several companies engaged was excellent and perfect coolness as well as accurate shooting was maintained throughout.

« Throughout the day the fire was maintained, at times being comparatively slack and then severe. The enemy evidently had the ranges marked, as their fire at certain prominent places was so accurate as to render them almost untenable by us. Interruption to our fire was occasioned several times during the day by the cry from beyond the right of our line to 'stop firing on the left,' as men in that part were being hit from the fire from our left. The fire complained of was, I am satisfied, from the dongas occupied by the enemy on our left, and not from our own men.

« At about 4 p. m., three companies of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry under Lieutenant-Colonel Allworth, came up and this officer informed me that 'he had been sent to finish this business,' and 'proposed doing so with the bayonet.' He then asked for information respecting our own position and that of the enemy, which I gave him.

« One company of the Cornwalls was at once sent into the firing line, followed in half an hour by the other two, this reinforcement being received by a heavy fire from the whole length of the enemy's front.

FORWARD WITH A RUSH.

« At 5 p. m., Lieutenant-Colonel Allworth notified that a general advance would take place, and about 5.15 p. m. the whole force, with the exception of parts of G and H companies, which I held in reserve, went forward with a

rush. The fire of the enemy became intense and, after an advance of about 200 yards, effectively stopped our men, and no further progress could be made. The loss to both the corps taking part in the charge was very severe. Lieutenant-Colonel Allworth was killed. The position gained was, however, held and a continuous heavy fire maintained until darkness set in about 7 p. m., when I gave the order to collect the dead and wounded and withdraw to the bivouac at the drift. The enemy also withdrew from their position at the same time to the Boer laager, some two miles up the river, leaving a few men in the dongas on our left, who continued 'sniping' our collecting parties until 10 p. m.

« Many instances of individual bravery were displayed, as for example, the case of (No. 8,110), Private Kennedy, who led one of the ammunition mules right up to the firing line, where it was instantly killed. The company stretcher-bearers exhibited great pluck, and five of them were among the wounded. Three were wounded in conveying Captain Arnold from the firing line, the stretcher, upon which he was, being made a special object of attention by the Boer marksmen. In connection with this incident I must note the courage displayed by Surgeon-Captain Fiset, who, when the stretcher upon which Captain Arnold was being brought to the rear, was stopped a short distance from the firing line, by the wounding of one of the bearers, went forward, and attended to Captain Arnold, and subsequently assisted as a bearer in bringing him to the rear. Captain Fiset also attended to many others wounded, under fire during the day.

WORK IS EFFECTIVE.

« Lieutenant-Colonel Buchan was in charge of the firing line, which he directed and controlled in the coolest and

most effective manner, while my acting adjutant, Lieutenant Ogilvy, rendered excellent service in carrying my orders about the field.

« The following N. C. officers and men distinguished themselves during the day, viz.: No. (6,559), Sergeant Utton; (No. 7,117), Private Andrews; (No. 7,040), Private Dickson; (No. 7,043), Private Duncafe; (No. 7,376), Private Page; and (No. 7,806), Private Curphy.

« The collection of the dead and wounded of both our own battalion and those of the D. C. L. I. was made by parties of the Royal Canadians and continued all night. The duty was a most onerous one, and too much credit cannot be given to those who were engaged in it. By 7 a. m., of the 19th instant, all the dead of the battalion were buried, beside many of those of D. C. L. I. and the wounded sent to the rear.

« I must here place on record the great services rendered by the Roman Catholic chaplain of the battalion, the Rev. Father O'Leary, who was present in the field all day, and towards the end in the firing line, while during the night he was prominent in the search for the wounded, as well as officiating in the burial of the dead. Several of the officers accompanied these parties up to midnight, while (No. 685), Q. M. Sergeant Reading; (No. 7,304), Sergeant Ramage; (No. 7,302), Sergeant Middleton; and (No. 7,258), Private Whingate, were out all night on this duty.

« Another incident of coolness and pluck was that of (No. 7,347), Private Hornibrook, who at daylight in the morning of the 19th instant, was down into the extreme right of the lines occupied by the enemy the previous day. He was unarmed, and came suddenly upon an armed Boer, looking for a stray horse. With great presence of mind Hornibrook pretended to be armed with a revolver,

and called upon imaginary assistance at the same time demanding the man's surrender. The Boer at once submitted and on being brought in proved to be one of General Cronje's adjutants and a most important officer.

« I have the honor to be, Sir,

« Your obedient servant,

« W. D. OTTER,

« Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding Royal Canadian
« Regiment, 2nd Battalion.»

OTTER'S SECOND REPORT

« Paardeberg, February 27th, 1900.

« Sir,

« I have the honor to report upon the operations upon which the battalion under my command was engaged upon the 20th instant, on which occasion four men of the corps were wounded.

« Following the retirement of the enemy from the position which he withdrew from on the evening of the 18th instant, the battalion was at 6 a. m. of the 20th instant, detailed for the outpost line and advanced to within 1,000 yards of the trenches in front of the Boer laager. The Shropshire Light Infantry, being on our right, the Gordon Highlanders on our left.

« The ground occupied by the battalion was quite open, and slightly rolling, but fairly covered with ant-hills. The men were served with tea and biscuits about 10 a. m., the cook waggon and water cart being brought up to within 200 yards in rear of the reserve.

« An intermittent rifle fire was kept up all day until about 4 p. m., when that of the enemy increased, and their celebrated Vickers-Maxim gun (Pom-Pom), was

turned upon us no less than five different times, but fortunately without loss to us. The moral effect of the gun, however, is very great, and infinitely more disastrous in that direction than any other arm we have experienced.

« The wounds received were entirely among men in the reserve, and from long range rifle fire, about 1,700 yards. The day was a trying one, being very hot, while owing to the enemy's fire it was almost impossible to get water forward to the men, it was the attempt to bring the water cart forward that first brought the Pom-Pom to bear upon us.

« At 6 p. m. the battalion was withdrawn to its bivouac thoroughly done out. The position occupied I have denoted on the sketch accompanying my report of the action of the 18th instant, and a list of the wounded included in the general list.

« I have the honor to be, Sir,

« Your obedient servant,

« W. D. OTTER,

« Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding Royal Canadian
« Regiment, 2nd Battalion. »

CANADIANS IN ACTION

« The following reports were also received to-day : —

« Paardeberg, March 2nd, 1900.

« Sir,

« I have the honor to report on the action of the 27th ultimo, in which the battalion under my command was engaged.

« In accordance with instructions received from the general officers commanding the 19th Brigade, 9th division,

on the previous evening, the following disposition of the battalion was made by 10 p. m., of the 26th instant :

« In the main trench, running north and south from the river, and beginning on the left, were placed C, D, E, F, G and H Companies, while on the extreme right was a party of thirty engineers. This trench was about 240 yards long, the right of it resting within twenty-five yards of the river, and 500 yards from the nearest Boer trench. The force placed in this trench numbered 500 officers and men of the battalion. A Company remained on the south side of the river, where it had been detailed for special duty on the morning of the 26th, and was posted just opposite the line of the main trench continued southwards, while B company and a few details formed a reserve at the bivouac some 300 yards to the rear, and the waggons were fully 1,000 yards to the rear again. The continuation of the main trench from where it turned to the northeast, was occupied by 200 of the Gordon Highlanders, and about 1,500 yards on our left was the Shropshire Light Infantry.

« The plan of attack was that our six companies on the main trench should advance on the Boer trenches at 2 a. m., the front rank of each company to move with fixed bayonets, with orders not to fire until fired upon by the enemy, while the rear rank carried shovels and picks, with which to entrench, when the advance could go no further, the Engineers on the right to give a base.

« At 2.15 a. m. the six companies, with the Engineers, moved forward, a distance of fifteen paces being placed between the ranks, and an interval of one pace between men. The brigadier was on the right, Lieutenant-Colonel Buchan and Major Pelletier being in charge of the attack, the former on the left, the latter on the right, the officer commanding in rear on the left.

MEET TERRIFIC FIRE.

« The line advanced without interruption for about 400 yards, when it was met by a terrific fire from the enemy. The premature discharge of a couple of shots just before the general fusilade served as a warning to many of our men, who instantly threw themselves on the ground; but the effect of the fire was disastrous to us. H Company being in the wood on the river bank did not suffer, but G and F Companies, being on the open, lost heavily, the former having 4 killed and 12 wounded, the latter 2 killed and 9 wounded. G Company was within 65 yards, actual measurement, of the advanced trench of the enemy when the fire was opened on them; the companies on the left, E, D and C being from 75 to 100 yards distant from a subsidiary trench in prolongation of the enemy's line. On receiving the enemy's fire, the line at once laid down and returned it, while the rear rank generally began to entrench. The time was about 3 a. m. A trench on the right began by the part of the R. E. was 100 yards from the enemy's nearest trench, and covered by G and H Companies made rapid progress, but those begun by the other companies did not advance very rapidly, and after the battalion had been for some 20 minutes under fire, some one unknown called in an authoritative tone, 'to retire and bring back your wounded,' in consequence of which the left company failed to establish themselves in the new trenches and retired on the old ones, leaving G and H holding the ground on the right, Lieutenant-Colonel Buchan being the last to retire, which he did by the right.

« Daylight found G and H Companies well entrenched, with the R. E. still pushing the work on.

« Firing continued on the right till about 5.15 a. m., when the enemy in the advanced trench made proposals

to surrender. Our men being doubtful of the genuineness of the proposition — continued their work and firing for nearly an hour. At about 6 a. m. one of the enemy advanced with a white flag, when firing ceased, and the enemy began to come in by batches to the number of 200.

« General Sir Henry Colville, commanding division, had come up about 6.15 and directed the disposal of the prisoners, sending forward an officer into the nearest part of the Boer laager to make terms of surrender, the result of which was the unconditional capitulation of General Cronje and his whole force, numbering upwards of 4,000.

DESERVE GREAT CREDIT.

« Captains Stairs and Macdonell deserve great credit for their pertinacity in holding out as they did, the result of which undoubtedly had a material effect in hastening the final result achieved.

« The supporting companies of the Gordon Highlanders were not engaged, although the trench which protected them was subjected to a fairly heavy fire from the enemy.

« The battalion of the Shropshire Light Infantry on our left fired volleys at long range for some time after our attack developed, and materially assisted us.

« All the wounded were brought in before daylight, and sent back to the collecting station by our men, and the bearers of the N. S. W. Bearer Company, and Naval Brigade Bearers, H. M. S. Barrossa, who rendered us every assistance possible in the arduous service.

« The dead were buried close to where they fell at 7 a. m., by the Rev. Father O'Leary, Roman Catholic chaplain to the battalion.

« That the duty entailed upon the Royal Canadian Regiment was most difficult and dangerous, no one will

deny, and, though the advance was not so successful at all points as was hoped for, yet the final result was a complete success and credit can fairly be claimed by the battalion for such, as it was practically acting alone.

« I attach a sketch of the positions occupied and list of those killed and wounded in the day's operations. The night was star-lit with the moon in the last quarter at 4 a. m.

« The various actions, beginning on the 18th, and concluding on the 27th February, have been denominated 'Paardeberg.'

« I have the honor to be, Sir,

« Your obedient servant,

« W. D. OTTER,

« Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding Royal Canadian
« Regiment, 2nd Battalion. »

HOW COLONEL OTTER RECEIVED HIS WOUND AT THABA N'CHU

« . . . On practically every occasion in which he has been under fire in this campaign Colonel Otter has shown himself freely to the enemy. At Paardeberg he remained erect during a considerable portion of the first Sunday's fight, and on February 20th, when the Pom-Pom disturbed the equanimity of the battalion, he strolled about the field in a very nonchalant manner. Seeing the disorder into which the left of the firing line had fallen, or was in danger of falling, Colonel Otter and Lieutenant Ogilvy, the Adjutant, hastened to the spot, steadied the men, and restored order, the Colonel taking the right of the disordered line, and the Adjutant the left. Colonel Otter was observed, and just as he was settling down he was struck.

It was a curious wound, and a narrow escape. The bullet struck him on the right side of the chin and cut along the side of the neck. The crown which formed part of his rank badge on the right shoulder was detached, the clip which goes under the strap was destroyed, and the «C» of the «R. C. R.» on the point of the shoulder was carried away. It was a singular course, and, while the wound was slight, it became painful; while, of course, it was a very narrow escape of a piercing of the jugular. When he fell, the command devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel Buchan, the senior major, and a message was sent to him to take charge of the movements of the regiment. For some reason a delay occurred in the assumption of control by Colonel Buchan, and delay occurred also in reinforcing the firing line by the second line. During this period the regiment continued the fight, the Adjutant, Lieutenant Ogilvy, especially distinguishing himself for zeal and conduct, as well as courage.» — *The Globe*.

THE CANADIANS THANKED

OUR BOYS' GALLANT CONDUCT RECOGNIZED BY LORD
ROBERTS AND OTHER OFFICERS.

« Lord Roberts personally thanked Colonel Otter, on behalf of the regiment, for the splendid work done and stated that he intended sending a message to the Canadian Government congratulating it upon the work done by the regiment.

« Speaking to the regiment the Brigadier General Smith-Dorrien said: —

« Colonel Otter, officers, non-commissioned officers and
« men of the Royal Canadian Regiment.

« I was proud the other day when I heard that your

regiment was placed in the brigade which I have the honor to command and I must say that I am now proud a hundred fold more of you since I saw the magnificent work you did yesterday. To my mind your advance and steadiness was simply perfect, especially under such a galling fire. I stood to the left on the hill and watched the whole advance with the greatest interest and I am proud that you belong to the same Empire as I do.

« I may say, however, that it was never intended that you should have charged the enemy. Again I congratulate you and cannot say how deeply I feel the heavy losses you sustained in your ranks. »

TORONTO'S WELCOME

COLONEL OTTER AND HIS MEN GIVEN AN ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION.

« Toronto, December 25th.

« Colonel Otter, Captain Mason, Lieutenant Temple and some forty men of C Company, R. C. R., and invalids of other corps, arrived home this morning, and were given a hearty welcome by the civil and military authorities. At the Union Station a big crowd had gathered, and the city regiments were formed up on parade to welcome the colonel and his men. Colonel Otter and Mrs. Otter, with Mayor and Aldermen, entered carriages in waiting, and the men were conveyed in two tally-hoes to the armories by way of the principal down-town streets, which were pretty well filled with spectators. On their arrival at the armories the city regiments lined the street on both sides, and amid great cheering, the gallant little band passed into the armories where the formal welcome took place.

« Replying to the civic address and that of the Queen's

Own Reserve, Colonel Otter said he had had the unique experience of having thrice been welcomed back from the front by the citizens of Toronto. In 1866, after the Fenian Raid; in 1885, after the North-West rebellion, and on the present occasion. The Colonel paid a splendid tribute to the Royal Canadians. So fully imbued he said, were they with the necessity for maintaining and upholding the honor of Canada, that there was nothing that could be imposed upon them; no work which they were asked to do, which they were not only glad, but anxious to accomplish, to meet the wishes of those in authority. The Royal Canadians were imbued with only one object, and that was to do their duty and to gain credit and honor for Canada, and that there was no one in that battalion but would freely and willingly again enroll for service against any cause that threatens the safety, honor and integrity of this country, or of any part of the British Empire.

« To-night a number of the principal buildings are illuminated in honor of the Colonel's return. The huge transparency on the Parliament buildings, 'Welcome home heroes of Paardeberg,' can be seen a mile off in the snow-storm.» — *The Gazette*.

TORONTO HONOURS COLONEL OTTER

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.

« The toast of the Governor-General given by the chairman, was prefaced by a speech, in which reference was made to the past record of Lord Minto in Canada.

« After some preliminary remarks, Lord Minto said: 'I have come to assist in doing honour to Colonel Otter, and I need not assure you how glad I am to have such an opportunity of being present at this great demonstration to him in my public capacity, and also as an old friend

and comrade. I rejoice to see him receive this well-earned appreciation from his fellow-countrymen. I first knew Colonel Otter when I was here with Lord Lansdowne, fifteen years ago. He had then made for himself a reputation as a first-rate officer and organizer, and when the rebellion broke out in the spring of 1885 he was given charge of the column destined to relieve Battleford. Though I myself served with another column, I was enabled to find opportunities of forming an opinion of the abilities of Colonel Otter, and how he conducted the long march across the prairie, and the subsequent operations around Battleford. I will say now, what I thought then, that Colonel Otter received but chary praise for the valuable services performed by him at that time.'

« Lord Minto went on to say that when the war broke out in South Africa there was no doubt as to who was Canada's best officer. It was a proud duty for Colonel Otter, and, in considering his duty, it was essential to take into account the composition of the battalion which he commanded.

A SPLENDID REGIMENT.

« Referring to the nature of Colonel Otter's command in South Africa, Lord Minto said: 'His was a magnificent regiment, composed of splendid material. It was raised in the shortest time, and under circumstances which reflected the greatest possible credit upon Canada; but it was composed of company units, raised from localities at very great distance from each other, all full of magnificent esprit de corps, and full of the very best kind of material; but, when gathered as a battalion it must have been necessarily rather deficient in that internal machinery which is the main standby of the commanding officer.'

« Lord Minto then continued: 'You all remember,

under the administration of Colonel Otter, the gallantry in the field of battle of Royal Canadians, who have so distinguished themselves. It was Colonel Otter's lot to command the first Canadian regiment that left the shores of the new world. Now that he has returned to the Dominion, I hope it will fall to his part to organize the troops of the Dominion.' (Applause.)

« . . . 'Whatever the Dominion may be able to do for Colonel Otter, out of the very deep debt of gratitude which she owes to him, I can certainly say this, that when the question of the distribution of distinctions comes to be considered by Her Majesty's Government for those who have served the Empire so well in South Africa, Colonel Otter's services there will not be forgotten.' (Loud applause.)

AN OVATION TO OTTER.

« The toast of Colonel Otter's name was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm, the cheers and singing being kept up for some minutes. When the gallant Colonel rose to respond there was another tremendous outburst. Colonel Otter replied to the toast as follows : —

« 'Your Excellency and kind friends. I feel that I am beginning one of the most trying ordeals that have fallen to my lot during the last fifteen months, viz., that of properly acknowledging this more than enthusiastic reception this evening. Your Excellency has kindly said you hoped and you have no doubt that I shall get my reward from those in authority, but I will ask you, can any man ask for more than I received to-night? Can anyone give me the respect, the confidence, the love, I may say, that is shown me this evening? No, good friends, I am satisfied. You trusted me. You had confidence in me when I left fourteen months ago. You had every confidence in me ;

and now, after fourteen months have elapsed, after I and the others have gone through many hardships, privations and troubles, you meet me here to say : ' Otter, you have done well.' I cannot ask for more. I do not. I am perfectly well satisfied that you most intimate, and my best friends, can certainly now take me by the hand and say : ' Otter, you have done well.' It is useless for me this evening to try to thank you properly for this demonstration. If I strive to do so I cannot, I feel that I shall go to bits. But, believe me, that while I thank you from the very bottom of my heart for this, that I fully appreciate its whole meaning, and that I am more than satisfied with the welcome that you have given me, I don't think it is fair or right to the regiment, that I have had the honor to command for some time past, to sit down without craving permission to say a few words in connection with their services. I don't think I need refer to the composition of the regiment. His Excellency the Governor-General has already told you how it was formed, of what it was composed ; and I can, I think, bear him out by saying that I agree with him that it was composed of the best physique and the best intelligence that our country can produce, which is saying a good deal. We were, I must admit, however, on leaving Canada, a rather fresh lot. All of us required a great deal of training. The majority of us lacked experience, but owing to that peculiar spirit that exists in Canadians, namely that of enthusiasm in whatever they may be called upon to do and the determination to carry it out, to say nothing of the deep and fervent feeling for the country that has given them birth, that feeling under which we are all so proud to serve, it became a very easy matter for the officers of that battalion to soon convert it into one of the most efficient battalions that tramped the veldt of South Africa. And we did a good deal of tramp-

ing. Our record as a marching regiment, I think, we can safely flatter ourselves, was a good one. The many privations and hardships, long marches and heavy outfits and the other incidents of warfare were always borne and always performed with the greatest possible good humour and always with the prevailing desire to do our duty. I could, if I had time, enumerate hundreds of instances of endurance on the part of officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Canadians. We saw a lot of service ; we had the good luck to form a part of the main army which moved from the west to Bloemfontein under Lord Roberts, that army of 35,000 men which cut itself adrift from all communication and virtually broke the back and broke the hearts of the Boers. We had the honor afterwards of forming a part of the same army, and marched with it from Bloemfontein to Pretoria, and it was there that after a march of 1,000 miles, the Royal Canadians swung through the streets of Pretoria singing 'The Land of the Maple.l (Great cheering.)

THOSE LEFT ON THE VELDT.

« 'All this was not done, of course, without loss. Many who left with me from Quebec in health and spirits were left on the veldt ; many others have returned with me, but not the same men, and never to be the same men again. The regiment had its full share of losses, its full share of sickness and of every other privation that falls to the lot of the soldier in active service. It may be of interest to you to hear that our deaths numbered 70, and wounded 120 and that 400 were invalided from fever. His Excellency has referred to the Royal Canadians as having been the first battalion that had the honor of rubbing shoulders with the Imperial troops. Such is the case, and I am glad

to be able to tell you that that association was one of the greatest possible pleasure. Our relations with the battalions and the corps of the Imperial service were from the beginning to the end of the campaign most pleasant, and while we bring with us the happiest recollections of the different corps in the Imperial service I feel glad that I am safe in saying that the same happy feeling exists with regard to us on the part of many of the battalions of Her Majesty's Imperial army.

« Very soon after our arrival in South Africa we came in contact with the Cornwalls, Shropshires and our fast and lasting friends, the 1st Gordons. These four battalions ultimately formed what was known for many months in the campaign as the 19th Brigade. Other corps we met in equally friendly relations, particularly the Household Brigade. We were enabled, I am glad to say, to merit the confidence of our own brigadier, the gallant Smith-Dorrien, in our own divisional battalion, the man who was the mainspring in the defence of Ladysmith, Ian Hamilton, and that great soldier and statesman, Lord Roberts.

MANY ANXIOUS MOMENTS.

« One cannot, of course, go through a campaign such as occurred in South Africa without some anxious moments, and those we had. In connection with this, I might refer to one in particular, viz., in the cold, dark morning of the 27th February last, when, at 2 a. m., we began our advance on the Boer laager at Paardeberg. We experienced then trying moments, moments that none of those who have survived will ever be likely to forget. We felt in those moments that not only the reputation of the regiment, but that of Canada and the future of the campaign rested upon us. The interval between the time in which

we left our own trenches until that when we came under the fire of the enemy, at less than 100 yards from their trenches, seemed an age; and it was almost a relief when their hellish fusilade came upon us, and, for the time, stopped our further progress. There were many more anxious minutes, I may say hours, which were to follow, and it was only at six a. m., when the white flag went up, that we could breathe freely, for we knew that, on its 19th anniversary, Majuba was avenged, and the Canadians had done it. (Loud applause.)

A RECORD OF GOOD SERVICE.

« 'This was only the beginning of the record of good service of Canadians in South Africa. Much more was to follow, for there were other Canadians who had come to join us. You all, no doubt, recollect the death grip with which the Second Canadian Mounted Rifles held on at Honing Spruit. You recollect the spirited march of the Canadian artillery to the relief of Mafeking. You recollect the glorious death of Borden and of Burch at Reitz Vlei, followed by that of Captain Chalmers, in an attempt to rescue one of his men (great applause), and only a month ago, we read, and heard of one of the pluckiest incidents of the war, in which the Royal Canadian Dragoons of Second Mounted Rifles saved a column of Smith-Dorrien's and his guns. In this, as on other occasions, several officers, who distinguished themselves, were known in Toronto. Colonels Lessard and Evans, Lieutenants Cockburn and Elmsley, and while doing homage to those officers, I feel that I should not forget another Toronton-ian, one of my own, who was the first man on the 27th February in the Boer laager, viz., Captain McDonnell.' »

MADE ARCHIE STAND UP.

« Cries of 'Stand up, Archie.' Captain McDonnell was received with great cheering.

« Colonel Otter continued: 'We have nicknamed him 'Light-house,' and he will answer to that name.' »

Special to the Star.

Toronto, December 28th, 1900.

LIEUT.-COLONEL BUCHAN'S REPORT

MARCH INTO PRETORIA

« Ottawa, August 3rd, 1900.

« **T**HE Militia Department has received a report from Lieutenant-Colonel Buchan for the period he was in command of the 2nd (Special Service) Battalion, R. C. R. It is dated Florida, near Johannesburg, May 31st, and covers the period from April 26th to May 26th, inclusive, during which Lieutenant-Colonel Otter was disabled by his wounds. On April 27th, at 9.30 p. m., the Colonel detailed B and D Companies, who proceeded on special duty with the Gordon Highlanders to rescue a body of Kitchener's Horse, reported to be surrounded on a kopje about five miles northeast of Thaba N'Chu Treck. At 11 p. m. he received orders to march with the remainder of the brigade, at 5 a. m., to support the special duty force.

« On April 28th, they marched in the dark and joined the Cornwalls and Shropshires with artillery. After a six miles march they reached a very large kopje, and were met with a good deal of firing. They gradually advanced

with the remainder of the force and cleared the kopje at 10 a. m. The enemy was in large force all about the neighboring hills and on Eden Mountain, where they had large guns playing on our force. At 4 p. m. the battalion was ordered to scale the Eden Mountain and hold it against a force of 3,000 Boers, who were reported on the far side of it, two companies of the Cornwalls doing likewise on our left. At 5 p. m. we reached, after a very hard climb, a sort of plateau, about half way up to the top. It was by that time dark, but we proceeded rapidly to build trenches and prepare to hold a position on a front of a half a mile. Whilst doing this it became dark, and very cold.

« About 7 p. m. we received orders to withdraw quietly and retire to Thaba N'Chu. This was a very difficult operation, owing to the darkness and precipitous and rugged character of the mountain. About 8.30 p. m. all were collected and formed up at the foot and after a long and circuitous march in the darkness the battalion reached the bivouac at Thaba N'Chu at 11 p. m. In arranging for and effecting the descent of the mountain and in connecting the several companies and finding the way back in the dark, I was very ably and successfully assisted by Lieutenants Hodgins and Ogilvy, and so reported to the G. O. C.

CAPTAIN BURSTALL MENTIONED.

« He specially mentioned in his report to the G. O. C. brigade, Captain Burstall, of B Company, for his plucky conduct. On May 3rd the battalion met the enemy at Welkon Nek, about 10 a. m. The action was over by 2 p. m., being mostly an artillery duel, our mounted troops chasing flying Boers. Captain Carpenter, with Lieutenants

Winter and Boyd, and 94 men of 2nd draft, joined the battalion of Winburg on May 6th, after very hard marching to catch up. The same day they marched to Taai-boschkuil, where they remained till the 9th.

« On May 10th the battalion was sent off to hold the extreme right flank of the position at Zand River. Getting to the top of the rise about half a mile from the river we were met by heavy fire from the river bushes and dongas, sent Captain Burstall forward with half of B Company to scout and feel the way. About 250 yards from the river Captain Burstall was forced to stop by the very heavy fire, the remaining half of the company was at once sent to reinforce his line, and D Company, under Lieutenant Lawless, was sent to prolong his line to the right; the other two companies being held in support. All the remainder of brigade was at this time about a mile and a half on our left assisting the 21st brigade in the main attack. The fire at us from the river bed grew rapidly in strength and it was only by pluck and determination of our men that we were able to hold on to our position and keep down the enemy's fire as much as possible. The moment any one, an officer, a stretcher bearer, or an ammunition carrier, showed himself above the ground the enemy's fire developed in greater strength. About now C and G companies came up from gun escort duty and were held in reserve. About 1.30 p. m. I went over to Major-General Smith-Dorrien, who I heard, was near by, and explained our situation and asked for a section of a battery to be sent to shell the river bed bushes and dongas. In about an hour these were sent from a position they had occupied to one at the right rear where they had been since 2 p. m., assisting some mounted infantry. The battery fire, with that of our men, soon cleared the river in our front, and about 4 p. m. we were enabled to remove our

wounded and bury the one man killed, Private Floyd. The six companies were marched into the drift about dusk, two of them, C and F, having meantime and till then been sent on a river picket. We bivouaced on a drift that night, A and H Companies having gone on with 5-inch guns to Ventersburg.

« In connection with this Colonel Buchan specially mentioned Captain Burstall and Lieutenant Lawless in his report to G. O. C. brigade for their gallant and determined conduct. 'G. O. C. subsequently informed me,' continued Colonel Buchan, 'we had over 800 Boers opposed to us all day. We had only 100 men in our firing line.' The remainder of report, which is voluminous, consists chiefly of details and of fighting at Heilbrun and the entry of the troops into the town under General Ivan Hamilton. On the Queen's birthday, the battalion turned out in the evening and drank the health of Her Majesty in a ration of rum, giving three cheers for the Queen also for Major-General Smith-Dorrien, Ivan Hamilton and Lord Roberts, finishing by singing 'God Save the Queen.' »



LIEUT.-COLONEL F. L. LESSARD, R. C. D.

(Commanding 1st Battalion C. M. R.)

LIEUTENANT-Colonel F. L. Lessard received his appointment of commandant of the Royal Canadian Mounted Rifles on 1st February and was ordered to proceed to Cape-Town immediately after the capture of Kimberley. The Colonel has been with General French until the relief, and while awaiting the arrival of his troops at Cape-Town he was appointed embarkation officer for the arriving troopships. This appointment coming as it has from the Imperial representatives at Cape-Town is a mark of confidence in the qualifications of our worthy and efficient officer. Colonel Lessard is in excellent health and although having been through the thick of the fight, has up till now entirely escaped injury.

Lieutenant-Colonel Lessard having wrenched his leg on the 16th July and being compelled to join the sick list at Middleburg, Major Williams took the command with great credit for his own military reputation.

Also, on July 31st, 150 of all ranks of the battalion under Lieutenant-Colonel Evans proceeded with reconnoitering force numbering 350 towards the Bothaberg Mountains and encountered a small force of the enemy near Naauwpoort and drove them back into the hills. The



LIEUTENANT COLONEL F. L. LESSARD.

force then captured a strong kopje and C Squadron secured two loaded waggons and 600 head of sheep.

BOTHA EVADES CANADIANS

MOUNTED RIFLES HAD PRACTICALLY SURROUNDED HIM.

« Toronto, July 17th, 1900.

« A special cable despatch from Mr. John A. Ewan, to the *Globe*, dated Pretoria, June 13th, via London, July 16th, says : —

« After marching through Pretoria the Canadian Mounted Rifles were selected to assist in the movement for rounding up General Botha's force. We came up with the enemy soon after crossing Pinar River, on June 11th, and immediately engaged under instructions to hold him there. The position occupied by the Boers was one of singular natural strength and the purpose was to cut off all their avenues of escape and compel them to surrender. The field in which the Canadian Rifles lay was very stony and the men built themselves shelters during the night so that on the following morning they were able to smoke their pipes and cook their meals in comparative comfort, while the enemy enveloped the position with shell and rifle fire. The programme of our lads was to hold their fire for the most part but occasionally give their antagonists a liberal dose of lead intimating that they were still on hand and proposed to stay and hold the position. During Monday and Tuesday, June 11th and 12th, the failure of General French's ammunition waggons to come up caused serious inconvenience. When his artillery ceased operations on Monday night only 28 rounds of ammunition remained. It was thought that the waggons would come up during

the night, but they did not. It was not deemed safe to use up the little remaining ammunition so not a shot was fired by our artillery until 4.30 in the afternoon. The absence of artillery fire naturally made the enemy bold and it was momentarily expected that they would attack our position. When the first boom of our guns was heard at 4.30 there was a general feeling of relief. During the night, however, the enemy had slipped away by the one uncovered avenue of escape. The only casualties among our men were Trooper Frost, of Calgary, mortally wounded, and Harry Baines, badly bruised by a flying stone. Captain McDonnell, D Squadron, was unfortunate enough to shoot himself with his own revolver by accidentally striking the hammer against a stone. The bullet entering his left side, passed through the liver. It was at first thought that the wound would prove fatal, but later accounts give good hopes of recovery. The Canadian Mounted Rifles acted magnificently during the two days' fighting.»

HEROES IN THE MOUNTED RIFLES

THRILLING STORY OF HOW CORPORAL MILES, CORPORAL
MORDEN AND TROOPER KERR ON OUTPOST DUTY
HELD A BAND OF BOERS AT BAY AT AN
IMPORTANT POINT.

« Pretoria, August 7th, 1900.

« . . . Our little camp,» said Lieutenant Davidson, « was situated about three miles north of Honingspruit Station and between two important bridges, which had to be guarded. The force consisted of a regiment of Imperial Yeomanry, two companies of the Shropshire Regiment, and troops one and four of D Squadron of Canadian

Mounted Rifles. Our camp was on the west side of the railway, while three miles away to the east across the railway were two large kopjes, on the top of which we had two outposts. We had also an outpost north of the camp about two miles, and another south of the camp about the same distance away. At the time the attack was made the Canadians were doing the outpost duty. The order of the camp commandant was that all these outposts should be manned during the daytime only. On the morning of the 22nd of June, I was returning from camp after having placed the north and south outposts. It was about 6 o'clock and just breaking dawn. Each of these outposts consisted of four men. Lieutenant Ingles left camp at the same time as I did to place the two eastern outposts on the top of the two high kopjes three miles east of the camp.

« I had got within half a mile of the camp, after having placed the last of my two, the southern outposts, when a fusilade of musketry came from the top of the kopjes where Lieutenant Ingles had gone, about an hour before. I hurried back to the camp and found everything in confusion. The Boers had opened on us from the crest of both the kopjes in the east with two guns, and were landing shells in among the men who were at breakfast at the time. It did not take me long to realize what had happened. During the night the Boers had occupied the crests of the two kopjes where we were in the habit of placing our outposts during the day time, and had opened fire on Lieutenant Ingles and his eight men as soon as they reached the crest of the hills. Later I found out that Lieutenant Ingles and two men had been wounded and four men captured. From that time on we had a hard time of it. The Boers advanced upon the camp pouring in a hot fire and landing their shells with great precision.

The infantry were extended in firing line and for a time managed to check the enemy's advance. About noon the enemy made an effort to outflank us. A party of about 60 of them went round our right flank intending to attack the camp from the high ground in the rear. Had they been able to do this we would have been in an exceedingly awkward predicament, and the chances are all of us would have been captured. In their advance around our flank, however, they encountered the southern outposts.

THE HEROIC OUTPOST.

« When the Boers opened fire on them the four Canadians composing the outpost realized the importance of preventing the enemy from gaining the high ground to the rear of the camp. One of their number was immediately sent back to camp with the horses, and the other three quietly set to work to reply to the enemy's fire. It was long odds, three men against sixty, but these Canadians from Pincher Creek were stout-hearted fellows who did not know the meaning of the word fear, and rattling good shots into the bargain. For eight hours they fought, the number of their opponents increasing as the hours went by until there were close to a 100 burghers pouring in a fusillade of rifle shots at the three men who held the crossing over the railway line. Shortly after noon Corporal Morden was seriously wounded with a bullet through the chest. He never gave up, however, but kept on firing until later on another mauser bullet crashed through his brain.

« About 2 o'clock another one of the little party, Trooper Kerr, was wounded. At that time the force consisted of two wounded men and Corporal Miles, who was in charge of the outpost. About half-past two Kerr was shot through

the heart, and a little later Corporal Miles received a bullet wound in the shoulder. He did not give in though for all that, but continued firing and used up the cartridges of his dead companion after his own had been exhausted.

« About 3 o'clock in the afternoon a train arrived at Honinspruit Station from the north and the Boers withdrew and attacked the train. The garrison, however, managed to keep them at bay until a train with troops arrived from Kroonstad, when the enemy, as usual, retired. Then it was that I had time to go back and see what had become of the little outpost on the railway line south of the camp, which I knew had been heavily engaged all day. I found Corporal Miles lying behind a little mound of earth suffering from a severe wound in the shoulder, and a short distance from him the dead bodies of Corporal Morden and Trooper Kerr, both of whom had been first wounded and afterwards killed by second shots. Though serious, Miles' wound was not by any means a fatal one, and he was at once taken to the hospital at Kroonstad, from where he was sent to Cape-Town later on. It is impossible to over estimate the importance of the gallant conduct of these three men. But for their splendid work our position would have been completely surrounded, and the chances are the whole garrison would either have been killed or captured.

« RICHMOND SMITH,

« Special correspondent of the *Star* in South Africa. »

PRAISE FOR CANADIANS

THEY HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY CONSPICUOUS FOR
GALLANT CONDUCT.

« A letter received in the city from Springfontein says that Sergeant McLeod, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons,

who went out with the second contingent, while out scouting, single-handed captured two Boers and sixteen head of cattle. This worthy achievement was brought to the notice of Lord Roberts and he personally complimented the brave sergeant. »

MAJOR-GENERAL HUTTON

« Major-General Hutton, who so ably commanded the Mounted Infantry in this war, has been relieved and sent to England. He has been sent to organize and arrange for the reception of the colonials there. As he has served in Australia and Canada with great distinction, no better selection could be made. On giving up the command of the Mounted Infantry, he sent Lieutenant-Colonel Lessard a flattering letter on the usefulness of the Canadian Mounted Infantry and the great work they had done in this war. »

COLONEL LESSARD'S REPORT

« Colonel Lessard, commanding the Canadian Mounted Rifles, transmits to the Department a letter which he received from General Hutton on October 14th, previous to the General's departure from England. In this communication General Hutton says he cannot leave South Africa without offering a few words of congratulations upon the success which has attended the regiment while under his command in the late campaign. Canada, he thinks, has good reason to be proud of the manner in which the regiment has upheld the reputation of the Canadian troops. They had shown what the type of colonial mounted rifles could accomplish in conjunction with the imperial mounted infantry. He realizes that colonies can hereafter be counted

upon to put into the field a force of mounted men of the utmost value. The general says that it was a source of constant pleasure to him to note how excellently the regiment had profited by its opportunities, and he congratulates and thanks the men for the good work they have performed. »

« Ottawa, July 9th, 1900.

« His Excellency has received the following message from Lord Roberts : —

« Pretoria, July 6th, 1900.

« I have much pleasure in bringing to Your Excellency's notice the good work done by the First and Second Battalions Canadian Mounted Rifles, who have been repeatedly conspicuous for their gallant conduct and soldierlike instincts.

« During the attack by the Boers on Katsbosch on June 22nd, a small party of Pincher's Creek men of the 2nd Battalion displayed the greatest gallantry and devotion to duty, holding in check a force of Boers by whom they were largely out-numbered.

« Corporal Morden and Private Kerr continued fighting till mortally wounded. Lance-Corporal Miles and Private Miles, wounded, continued to fire, and held their ground.

« On June 18th, a party of the 1st Battalion, under Lieutenant Young, when operating with a force under General Hutton to the north-west of Pretoria, succeeded in capturing two of the enemy's guns, and brought in a herd of cattle and several prisoners without losing a man.

« ROBERTS. »

LIEUT.-COL. HERCHMER, C. N. W. M. P.

(Commanding Officer 2nd Battalion)

HATE Commandant of the North-West Mounted Police, Lieutenant-Colonel Herchmer, whose military qualities were so efficient in the rebellion of North-West, in 1885, was happy to take the opportunity of accepting the command of the 2nd Battalion, Mounted Rifles. His cleverness was much appreciated in the work assigned to him, but unhappily he was a victim of the murderous disease that killed more young men than him, and was returning home by order of the Surgeons, before he so desired.

The gallant Captain T. W. Chalmers, formerly Lieutenant M. G. A., late Inspector N. W. M. P., Graduate R. M. C., who paid with his life for his heroic bravery, was under his command, and we are glad to associate the two names for the honor of the Royal Military College and the North-West Mounted Police men whose self-sacrifice, science and bravery are proverbial.

HOW CHALMERS FELL

GALLANT CANADIAN DIED LEADING HIS MEN OUT OF
TIGHT PLACE.

«Ottawa, December 17th.

« Lieutenant-Colonel T. D. R. Evans, commanding the Canadian Mounted Rifles, sends the following report, dated at Belfast to the adjutant-general at Ottawa, of the death of Lieutenant Chalmers in action November 2nd :

« ' On the 1st instant, at 7 p. m., a column under Major-



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL L. W. HERCHMER.

General Smith-Dorrien marched from Belfast south towards Koomati Valley to co-operate with a similar column moving parallel and to the west. Rain was falling heavily, and the column halted at 12.30 a. m. until about 3.30 a. m. The advance guard on 2nd. instant consisted of sixty of my men under command of Major Saunders. The advanced party, 2nd. troop C Squadron, was commanded by Chalmers, and was accompanied by a guide who appears to have given them the wrong directions ; when the advanced party came into touch with the enemy the main column had branched off to the right, and was nearly two miles away. About fifteen of the enemy were first seen emerging from a house in the valley, and thirty more came from a house about one mile west. These occupied a ridge to the west of our position. The advanced party moved up the slope to some trenches which had been constructed by the enemy. Other parties of the enemy now appeared from the east, and were engaged by the flankers of the support. Expecting early assistance from the main column, the advanced guard, although in a most dangerous position, held its place under severe rifle fire. At about 5 a. m. an order came from the G. O. C. to retire.

« The retirement of the advanced party to the support was conducted by Lieutenant Chalmers in a most skilful manner under a very severe fire. During the further retirement which was carried out steadily by successive groups, Corporal Schell's horse was killed and fell upon him, injuring his ankle. Sergeant Tryon gave him his horse, and Major Saunders, noticing Sergeant Tryon, dismounted, rode back to him and took him on his horse, and while rejoining the retiring line, the saddle turned and threw Major Saunders and Sergeant Tryon to the ground, the horse bolting. Major Saunders was slightly wounded in the left side, while taking cover, and, partially

stunned by the fall from his horse. Lieutenant Chalmers then went to Major Saunders and endeavored to bring him back with him but was unable to do so. He then rejoined the firing and sent Private G. G. Smith back with a spare horse for Major Saunders, but the latter was unable to mount. Lieutenant Chalmers would not retire any further until he could bring Major Saunders with him, and while taking steps to secure men from the support to enable them to carry out this intention he was shot through the body and died a few minutes later. When Lieutenant Chalmers was shot he had just left good cover to warn an orderly who was coming towards him to dismount as it was too dangerous to come over the ridge mounted.'

« Lieutenant-Colonel Evans pays high tribute to Lieutenant Chalmers's excellent management of the troops in his last engagement, as well as to his splendid services throughout the campaign. »

MUCH PRAISE FOR MAJOR DOBELL

HAS MADE A NAME FOR CANADIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Major Griffith, of the Remount Service, and Lieutenant Guillet, of the Veterinary arm of the Imperial forces when interviewed at Toronto said : —

« We are proud of the Canadians and of Canada. They have helped to show the world what is meant by the term British Empire. We have a son of Hon. R. Dobell in the Imperial forces that has made a name for himself. Not only is he socially and personally a favorite, but as commandant of the 15th Imperial Regiment he has made a record as a commanding officer. »



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL C. W. DRURY.

BRIGADE FIELD ARTILLERY

DRURY, L. W., Lieutenant-Colonel Royal Canadian Artillery, A. D. C.
to His Excellency the Governor-General, Commanding Officer.

EVERY military man knows that energetic and sympathetic soldier, the qualities of whose heart equal his military aptitudes. With Major Hudon, we are very glad to say, the brilliant renown gained by the Canadian Artillery is equally his.

« Ottawa, March 29th, 1900.

« Lieutenant-Colonel Drury, commanding the Royal Canadian Artillery, in South Africa, has forwarded, under date of February 27th, a diary of his movements there from February 17th. Probably the most interesting feature is a letter of thanks from the acting Mayor of Cape-Town, as follows : —

« Town House, Cape-Town, February 23rd, 1900.

« I am directed by His Worship the Mayor to convey to you and to the officers and men of the Royal Canadian Artillery a most hearty greeting.

« The citizens are deeply sensible of the sacrifice which has been made by the Royal Canadian Artillery in journeying to our shores and undertaking the work of a campaign in order to assist us. »

« Mrs. Drury this week received a letter from her husband, Lieutenant-Colonel Drury, dated April 16th, from Naawute, 20 miles from Van Wyks Vlei. Colonel Drury said that his command had arrived at De Aar on April 14th, after a tedious march of 350 miles. It had rained very much and there were no tents for shelter. He regretted that he would not see C Battery probably for a long time, as it has been ordered to Beira. The rest of the command, including himself, were then proceeding to Bloemfontein to join General Hutton. »

MAJOR J. A. G. HUDON, R. C. A.

« Ottawa, January 18th, 1900.

« The *Globe* presents to its Canadian readers this week another group of fearless Canadian officers who will have charge of the second contingent of Dominion troops in South Africa.

« Major J. A. G. Hudon, R. C. A., who will command C Battery, of Kingston, in the second contingent, is one of the best qualified artillery officers in Canada and has done more in recent years to put the local battery on efficient footing than perhaps any previous officer. He was personally complimented by Major-General Herbert on the memorable occasion some years ago when he exercised A Battery on the ice in the Kingston harbor and so ably manœvered his men. His military certificates are of the highest class. Major Hudon was born in Quebec in 1858 and was gazetted a lieutenant in the Quebec Garrison Artillery, which he assisted to organize in 1878.



MAJOR J. A. G. HUDON.

In August, 1887, he was appointed to A Battery, R. C. A., and served with that corps until 1897, when he took charge of B Battery at Quebec. He took part in the North-West rebellion of 1885 and after returning to Kingston with his battery he was appointed in 1887 to the field division and was made brevet captain, and captain in 1894. In the same year he went to England for a military course lasting eight months at Aldershot, where he passed a brilliant examination in 1895 and was promoted to the rank of brevet major. While connected with A Battery it was conceded that no officer worked harder for his corps, or was more successful. »

CHOSEN BY ROBERTS

HOW C BATTERY, R. C. A., CAME TO BE AT THE RELIEF
OF MAFEKING.

« Kingston, May 26th, 1900.

« Major Hudon, C Battery, R. C. A., writing home says that his command was specially chosen by Lord Roberts to go to the relief of Mafeking. He said he wanted a Canadian artillery force in the relief column and C Battery, Major Hudon writes, were in fine fettle as they were sailing up the Indian Ocean. He said the men would make good use of the quick-firing guns they handled. »

CANADIANS AT MAFEKING

« The Canadians with the column who assisted at the relief of Mafeking are represented by C Battery of the Royal Canadian Field Artillery, commanded by Major Hudon, with whom are Captain Panet and Lieutenants King and Leslie, says a despatch to a London paper.

« Together with the Queenslanders, the Canadians covered an immense stretch of country, in order to be in at the relief. Marandellas, in Mashonaland, was left on May 5th. The 300 miles by coach from that place to Bulawayo were completed by the 8th. A 24 hours' stay in Bulawayo was followed by a three days' railway journey to Ootsi, and thence during the three following days the men were marched across country, through bush and sand, a distance of 70 miles, via Colonel Plumer's camp to the Molopo. They met the Southern relief column on the banks of that river. Then they had their second day's rest of 24 hours' duration. The next 22 hours, including four hours' fighting, were spent in marching 25 miles into Mafeking. The casualties among the Canadians were Bombardier Patton and Gunner McCallum, severely wounded, but both were in action again on the following day, and assisted in chasing the Boers away to the east from Mafeking. »

« Mafeking despatches continue to pour into London relating to the events immediately preceding the relief and the entry of the troops.

« The correspondents agree that the Canadian artillery, Major Hudon's seven guns, did splendid work. Some of them assert that the Canadians did 'absolutely essential work in the fighting.'

« About 7 in the evening of the day before the relief, after Colonels Mahon and Plumer had defeated the Boers nine miles from Mafeking, Major Karri Davies and nine scouts entered the town. The Boers were then retreating.

« At 4 on the following morning, 1,000 men, including the Canadians, arrived. With them were 20 waggon loads of food, which were received with wild demonstrations. The armored train and a detachment then pushed forward to Gametree Fort, the scene of the unsuccessful sortie in December.

« The Boers had evacuated it on the east. They were pursued, and the correspondent, telegraphing these facts. »

« The Canadians had a share in the relief of Mafeking !

« Lord Roberts lays special emphasis upon the value of the services of the Canadian artillery, who reached the scene of the fighting before Mafeking's relief was made sure. It is not stated which of our batteries it was that came to the front at such a critical time, but it would not be surprising if it should prove to have been C Battery. A little while ago, we were informed that C Battery had gone north to join Carrington's column in Rhodesia. From the fact that Colonels Mahon and Plumer were able to join forces before Mafeking's relief it is quite possible that C Battery could have pushed its way down from Buluwayo in time to be of such great service as to practically turn the tide—for that is what Lord Roberts' kindly reference to them undoubtedly means. »

NEWS FROM MAFEKING

« London, May 28th, 1900.

« The latest news from Mafeking is dated Wednesday. Everything was then going along well. Supplies were arriving from the north, but the bread ration still consisted of six ounces. When people go out to dinner they take their own bread with them. The horses and Canadian artillery seem to have been the most welcome of the relieving force. The garrison had been occupied for eight months in keeping a line of defences eight miles long against modern artillery, while their guns consisted of four muzzle-loading seven pounders, which were out of repair constantly, four Maxims, one Hotchkiss, one Nordenfeldt, one ship gun firing cannon balls and one home-made Howitzer. None of these guns had a greater range than 8,000 yards.

« It is impossible to express the delight of the town on seeing the horse and Canadian artillery gallop into action after their marvellous march of 300 miles in twelve days, and then in watching the effect of the accurately aimed shells bursting immediately over the laager. The Boer encampment, which was already packed, was cleared in twenty minutes. »

TWO MORE BRILLIANT OFFICERS

LIEUTENANT H. S. STEWART, WHO HAS ACCEPTED A COMMISSION IN THE IMPERIAL HORSE ARTILLERY.

« Lieutenant Stewart is a son of Major Stewart, R. O., of this city, and a graduate of the Royal Military College, Kingston. He has been soldiering since he was twelve years of age, and has for several years past been associated with the work of the Laprairie camps. He leaves for England to assume his commission in the Imperial Horse Artillery. Lieutenant Stewart is very popular among a large circle of acquaintances, and his future career will be watched with a great deal of interest. »

LIEUTENANT McLEAN, OF ST. JOHN, N. B., COMES BACK FROM SOUTH AFRICA FULL OF HONOURS.

« Lieutenant C. W. Weldon McLean, who went to South Africa as junior officer of G Company (N. B. and P. E. I.) First Canadian Contingent, is now home on leave, a lieutenant in the Royal Field Artillery, having received his appointment in the regular army as the direct result of services in the field that attracted the attention of Colonel Otter, General Lord Methuen, and even the Commander-in-Chief. This is a splendid record for a lad in his nineteenth year and the youngest officer in the Canadian Contingents.



GROUP OF CANADIANS.

GUNNER J. PITMAN, Montreal.

" D. MACDONALD, Sidney, C. B.

GUNNER G. RYAN, Lansdowne, Ont.

" R. HOTT, Quebec.

« Lieutenant McLean is the son of Lieutenant-Colonel H. H. McLean, of the 62nd. St. John Fusiliers, is a graduate of Kingston Military College and before leaving for South Africa held a second lieutenant's commission in the 8th Princess Louise (Kings Co., N. B.) Hussars. 'Weldon' as he was generally styled by the men of G Company, was one of the most popular officers in the Canadian force, and every returned soldier loudly praises not only his gallantry in the field but more especially his treatment of the men under his command. 'He taught us many things necessary for soldiers to know, he looked after our comfort in the field and on the march, and he never sent us where he was himself afraid to go.' This is an extract from a private letter, written by a St. John soldier, to his mother, quite early in the campaign.

« 'Chebucto,' the correspondent of the *Halifax Herald* with the First Contingent, in his account of the Paardeberg fight said: 'The boy McLean of G Company never ceased to smile even when under the hottest fire, and if ever there was a lad who won his spurs it was this stripling in his teens, who, when given the opportunity, showed what stuff he was made of.' «

PRAISES THE CANADIANS

ARTILLERY RENDERS VALUABLE SERVICES TO MAHON'S COLUMN.

« London, May 22nd, 1900.

« Lord Roberts reports to the War Office in a despatch dated Kroonstad, May 21st, as follows: —

« Mahon reports that the flying column entered Mafeking at 4 a. m., May 18th. He was stubbornly opposed by 1,500 men, May 17th, nine miles from Mafeking, but the Boers were driven from their strong positions after five hours' fighting, thanks, he says, to the magnificent qualities of his troops.

« A detachment of Canadian artillery, by a series of forced marches, reached him the morning of the fighting and rendered very valuable assistance.

« Mahon's casualties were about thirty. The Boer losses were heavy. »

« Ottawa, May 22nd, 1900.

« His Excellency the Governor-General to-day received the following cable from Sir Alfred Milner : —

« Cape-Town, May 22nd, 1900.

« The officer commanding flying column, which entered Mafeking May 18th, reports, 'Ten hours' stubborn resistance from 1,500 Boers May 17th. Detachment of Canadian artillery, by a series of forced marches, reached me on the morning of the fighting and rendered very valuable assistance.' »

« His Excellency also received the following cable from Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies : —

« London, May 22nd, 1900.

« Congratulate Canada on the great service rendered by Canadian artillery in relieving Mafeking. »

BADEN-POWELL GRATEFUL TO CANADA'S SOLDIERS

« Ottawa, May 28th, 1900.

« Sir Wilfrid Laurier has received the following cable, which was delayed in transmission, from Major-General Baden-Powell : —

« Mafeking, May 17th, 1900.

« Mafeking relieved to-day, and most grateful for invaluable assistance by Canadian artillery, which made record march from Beira to help us.

« COLONEL BADEN-POWELL. »

LADY SARAH WILSON PRAISES CANADIANS

« A cable from London says : —

« London, May 29th, 1900.

« Lady Sarah Wilson in to-day's London *Daily Mail* says : —

« It is impossible to express the delight of the town at seeing the fine Royal Horse and Canadian artillery gallop gaily into action after their marvellous march of 300 miles in twelve days. Their accuracy in shelling the Boer laager was marvellous ; they cleared the Boer encampment in twenty minutes. »

FORT CANADA

BOMB-PROOF SHELTER BUILT BY CANADIANS AT
RUSTENBERG.

« Kingston, Ont., September 17th, 1900.

« Gunner Adam Armstrong, writing August 13th, says that for two months previous to writing C Battery was at Rustenberg with General Baden-Powell. ' We built a splendid fort,' he writes, ' one that will stand to the memory of C Battery for ages, if it is not destroyed. We called it Fort Canada. Engraved on the largest stone we could find were the words « Fort Canada, 1900. » It was a complete bomb-proof shelter with pits for the men, observation tower for C Battery officers, bastions for the guns and shelter pits for all our horses. It beats anything of its kind I have yet seen in South Africa.'

« C Battery is with Generals Hamilton and Mahon's column. »

TERRIBLE HAVOC WROUGHT AMONG HORSES

« A letter has been received from Captain Richard Costigan by Mr. Fred. R. Alley. The Captain writes from De Aar, April 20th. He says: 'We are resting our horses after our chase of the rebels across country for 500 miles. Our route is marked by the dead bodies of horses and mules. We hope to go to Bloemfontein for the final rush on Pretoria, or if not there to Kimberley and the relief of Mafeking. The Montreal members of our company are all well, and we can thank Dr. Harry Bell for his strict examination as we have not had a case of serious illness since we left.' »

REBEL CHASERS FROM AMERICA

« Sergeant Quinney; of D Battery, writes to friends in Ottawa: —

« We have another initial to our name. Now we are called R. C. F. A. That means Royal Canadian Field Artillery. Some of the boys are trying to find other names for it, but the best thing I can think of is Rebel Chasers from America. »

THE CANADIANS' SHARE

Lord Roberts — Is the R. C. A. in position?

Subordinate — It is, General.

Lord Roberts — Are the R. C. R., the C. M. I. and the Strathcona's Horse ready?

Subordinate — They are, General.

Lord Roberts — Is everything in readiness, and has there been any change in the position of the enemy?

Subordinate — Everything is in readiness, and the enemy is still massed heavily in our front.


Lord Roberts — Then order the Canadians forward.



REVEREND W. G. LANE,
CHAPLAIN.

REVEREND W. G. LANE

(Chaplain of the 2nd Contingent)

HAPLAIN LANE was born in Yarmouth, England, in 1848. At his own request he received notice to proceed to Halifax in order to join the Second Contingent, leaving for the front on January 15th. He has spent three years in India, five years in New Zealand, and been twice round the world, and fourteen times across the Atlantic in the interests of church work and Good Templary. For two years he was R. W. G. T. of the Independent Order of Good Templars, and has served for six and a half years as chaplain of H. M.'s forces in Bermuda, Halifax and South Africa.

Entering the ministry in England, he was sent to Ross in Herefordshire, where he received a call to the conference of Eastern British America through Dr. Stewart, then theological professor of the Sackville Institute, and was ordained at Amherst, N. S., in 1878. He married Miss Ross, of N. E. Margaree, Cape Breton.

Throughout the campaign Mr. Lane ranked as captain with allowances, with the full recognition of the Imperial authorities. A black Maltese cross on the collar alone distinguished his khaki uniform from that of the regular English officers.

He was highly appreciated in the field by every one for his devoted attention to all, especially the wounded and dead.

We are glad to also mention Rev. J. Almond, Quebec, T. F. Fullerton, P. E. Island, W. J. Cox, Church of England. J. C. Smith, R. C., whose zeal corresponded with their Christian work. Also Mr. H. E. Barrie and Mr. Thomas F. Best, representative of the Y. M. C. A. and it is with great pleasure we hear that all clergymen are associated with "The Daughters of the Empire," for the protection, the preserv-

ation and the decoration of the graves of our noble brave sleeping their last sleep in South Africa.

He wrote to the Halifax *Wesleyan* from Bloemfontein under date of April 25th, saying : —

“ Here we are in Bloemfontein amid all sorts of rumors, which fly in clouds like the vast army of locusts I have just seen across the veldt ; and which fairly shut out the kopjes, where shells were bursting and Boers flying before the onslaught of the British. This of course means fighting, for on Sunday last we were disappointed in our parade service, and instead were under fire for the first time in this campaign. We started out from Bloemfontein towards the water-works, and on arriving at Springfield, six miles out, were told that the water-works were clear of Boers ; so, like the children of Israel, we were turned back on our march till we came nearly to Bloemfontein again, and again turned eastward to Leeuw’s Kop. After travelling about 22 miles, scouting all the way, we suddenly heard the roar of artillery, and saw puffs of smoke and bursting shells in the neighborhood of Smith’s Farm, and found the Boers in an advanced position within 17 miles of Bloemfontein. About the same time we heard bang-bang on the east of Leeuw’s Kop, where the Canadian Mounted Rifles had drawn fire from a commando hidden in a ravine close to the farm house on the slope. Lieutenant Straubenzie, with twelve men, scouted to within four hundred yards, before the hail of lead forced them to dismount and seek cover. With admirable coolness he directed his men what to do, but stuck to the saddle a little too long, as he drew a concentrated fire on himself, and narrowly escaped, his horse being shot under him. A bullet passed through Private Danby’s hat, and for a time it looked as if many a gap would be made in the little band of twelve. As it was, Major Williams devotedly covered them, took the Boers’ fire, and in a masterly manner got them out of their difficulty. The fighting lasted about two hours at that kopje, the Boer gun ceasing to fire at 5 p. m., the Boers themselves retreating north and east, and our men escaping without a scratch and four horses hit.

“ In the meantime the Boers galloped down the kopje at the back of Smith’s Farm and took possession of the farm — threatening our line of communication. At this time Mr. Finn, the correspondent of the Montreal *Herald*, and myself were with General Pole-Carew and staff on a small kopje, from which the battle was directed.

“From this vantage ground, with glasses raised, we saw the Warwicks rush the farm. The Boers did not wait even to fire a parting shot, but jumped on their horses and galloped over the kopje — all but three — for just as the last five bunched together at the back of the farm, on the run, a shell fired at about 2,000 yards burst just behind them and three horses and three Boers did not gallop any more. Still further north towards the water-works, which, however, were eight miles distant, we could hear the roar of the fifteen-pounders, the bursting of lyddite shells, and the nasty pom-pom-pom-pom of the Boer Maxim. We expected to hear of heavy casualties, instead of which the day closed with twelve wounded, one officer thought to be mortally wounded, while the Boer loss was, considering their numbers, estimated at a larger percentage.

“Towards sundown the hills were cleared and the Boers gone; the norses were too tired to pursue or surround the Boers, whose horses were rested and fed. The Canadians behaved well — perfectly cool, and satisfied with their first conflict at Leeuw’s Kop.

“Now, let the armchair critics criticize our generals. You have no idea of the difficulty of the campaign. I ranged the country with powerful glasses, and although I knew that thousands of fighting men were on the veldt, and the direction they were in, yet they seemed to disappear into the veldt as effectually as a rainstorm into Bermuda limestone. Just as I write news has come in that our losses are about 800 killed and wounded, and that the Boer dead are 320, and about 1,000 wounded, in the conflicts which Sunday opened.

“I am writing, as you will see, at the Wesleyan Parsonage at Bloemfontein, in company with Rev. Charles Franklin, a worthy burgher, but loyal — a member of the South African General Conference, a busy man, visiting the sick, distributing goods among the sick and wounded. He accompanied me this afternoon to the hospital camp, where we met several of the first contingent on the sick list. Young Mr. Hart was there, on a sick bed, but recovering splendidly. All the Halifax lads are doing well, but one or two from the western provinces made one think sadly of the possibilities ahead. Nearly all the sound men were fighting as we chatted together, the boom of the heavy guns coming to our ears as we stood in the tent door, being just discernible; and these poor fellows were disappointed at not being with their comrades sharing the dangers of battle.

“We have just held a meeting in the schoolroom of Trinity

Church, which I led, at the request of the pastor. About thirteen soldiers were present. I wish you could have heard them sing and pray and testify the Spirit was with us. So things go on, bringing us comfort and hardship, long journeys on horseback (I have already used up one horse and now have another, which means heavy outlay, but we must keep up with our work at any cost), sleeping on the veldt with blanket only, chilled to the bone just as others are, and then scorched by day, till we look like bronzed and scarred veterans. Sometimes wet through, sometimes with biscuit to eat, and at other times a good meal, our fortunes varying, but through it all hope and trust that the future will unfold the justice of our cause and bring all this struggling under the protecting and prospering folds of the Union Jack. With kind regards, till I can write again."

THE NURSES

IF I do not say much about the devoted nurses for assisting our soldiers, it is because their modesty equals their zeal. But I am very happy to here translate what I wrote about nurses and hospitals on my return from the expedition of the Nile, in 1885.

The hospital I had visited was very comfortable. The medical staff and assistants were very courteous. I saw there many nurses assisting the wounded and the sick. "Our own Angels!" said one surgeon, and I was filled with admiration for those devoted women who, if they wore not the garb of the Grey Nuns, had at least the same heart for God's poor.

THE RED CROSS SOCIETY

THE Canadian Branch was organized in 1896 by Lieutenant-Colonel E. Sterling Ryerson, C. M. A. M. S. The Canadian Society was called the first to assist the Empire in South Africa under the direction of Mr. Ryerson, and his valuable services



"OUR OWN ANGELS."

Miss SARAH FORBES,

Miss MARCELLA P. RICHARDSON.



SURGEON-MAJOR A. N. WORTHINGTON.

were highly appreciated as may be seen by the testimonials of General Methuen and Lord Roberts. "The work accomplished by the Red Cross Society," said Methuen, "was done splendidly, modestly and patriotically."

"Ottawa, April 16th, 1900.

"His Excellency the Governor-General received also the following cable message from Field Marshal Lord Roberts : —

"Bloemfontein, April 16th, 1900.

"Please thank the people of Canada on behalf of myself, the troops and Colonel Ryerson, for their generous and timely gifts just received.

"ROBERTS."

SURGEON-MAJOR WORTHINGTON

(Writes of march to Kenhardt)

"Sherbrooke, May 24th, 1900.

"**S**URGEON-Major Worthington, who went with D and E Batteries from Canada, writing to his brother, Colonel E. B. Worthington, says : —

"Van Wycks Vlei, March 28th, 1900.

"Africa's sunny fountains have been rolling down their golden 'sands' to such an unprecedented extent lately that the gory path of the Carnarvon Field Force is for the time being arrested. We had done 150 miles of our march to Kenhardt and Uppington when a storm overtook us at Van Wycks Vlei, and more rain fell in four days than in the two preceding years. In fact the memory of the oldest inhabitant cannot recall such a flood. Hitherto water was scarce and existed only in artificial pools, ten or twelve miles apart; so muddy that even the horses when thirsty refused to drink; so thick and saline

as to be a decidedly corrective of the Beecham habit, and when boiled with the addition of our staple vegetable product (onions) makes an excellent puree, acquiring from the fuel used a delightful aroma peculiar to the locality from which it is extracted. This fuel is composed of the effete material of the animal economy found in the sheep kraals, and goes by the symphoneous appellation of amadoda, sells for two pence a foot, is delightfully fragrant when burned in open grates, and resembles so much the native breadloaf that one has to use considerable judgment in approaching the larder after dark, though with the olfactory bulbs in normal condition there is no real danger.

UNBROKEN VIEW OF VELDT.

“ Seated as I am, with my back against a ruined Kaffir hut, built with bricks of this material, I cannot see a tree in any direction in this sweet and blessed country, nothing but veldt covered with water, and here and there a stony kopje presenting itself.

“ Sandstorms are of daily occurrence, and, as we are without tents, cause a good deal of annoyance, filling our eyes, ears and nose with dirt, blowing things about in all directions, and playing havoc generally. Possibly they are blessings in disguise, as they give more body to the liquid refreshments, and aid materially in the digestion of bully beef and hard tack, acting on the principle of gravel in the chicken's crop. Speaking of gravel, we do not dare to lave our limbs in the limpid pools about, owing to the danger of contracting an affection of that name.

“ Our expedition is under command of Colonel Parsons, an Imperial officer, who rides ahead in a Cape cart, with the advance column; the main column being under Colonel Drury. His force is almost colonial, being composed of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, West Australia Mounted Rifles, New Zealand Mounted Rifles, 8th Derbyshire Imperial Yeomanry, and our two batteries. We were originally about 1,100, but leaving detachments at Victoria West and Carnarvon, has, with the sick, reduced our available force considerably, though, as the rebels are turning their swords into ploughshares, at our approach, I fancy we are sufficient for this thankless and monotonous work.

LONG MARCH TO KENHARDT.

“ When we arrive at Kenhardt we shall have marched 250 miles from the railway, and, after resting, will retrace our steps to Victoria

road, where, I trust, we will arrive about the second week in May, and in time and condition to be sent into the Transvaal. I fancy by that time, with 560 miles in the saddle, I will be calloused enough for a Government job.

“ Kitchener was coming down from De Aar with another force by way of Prieska, to meet us at Kenhardt, but has given up his command to Colonel Luttle, and gone back to the Free State, not finding much glory in simply establishing British prestige in small towns.

“ The days are very hot and the nights cold. Towards morning a heavy dew falls and wets the blankets and causes a great deal of tonsillitis, as the blankets have to be packed so early they do not get dried.

“ A mail has arrived to-day, composed principally of newspapers, rather disappointing, when letters were expected, but still very acceptable. Your comic papers were very amusing. I selected *Frozen Fun*, and retired to a shady spot, under the cart, where, with a temperature of 102 degrees in the shade, the jokes seemed anything but realistic.

“ March 29th.

“ We are still unable to cross the stream upon whose banks we are stationed, and every scout coming in reports another wider river to cross. In some places the veldt for miles is under water. The rebels have surrendered to Colonel Parsons, and we will return to the railway 150 miles away. This morning when I heard we were not going on at once, I rode back to the Post Office, twelve miles, visited the hospital, and brought out the mail. Game was very plentiful along the road, and, with a gun, could have shot any number of birds. I tried several shots with my revolver, but without success.

MUTTON AND OTHER THINGS.

“ March 30th.

“ Last night a number of sheep were killed and we had fresh meat for breakfast. We were fast enjoying some beautiful devilled kidney and fried liver, when the officer commanding E Battery came over to our mess and enquired where his kidneys were. Thinking he wished for the surface markings of his own organs, I began to demonstrate their position, when he announced that he simply came to make a formal complaint to the C. O., to the effect that the six carcasses his

battery received, contained no kidneys, or liver. As we received only one hindquarter, and it contained six kidneys and three livers, we suggested that there was possibly something faulty about the anatomy of the South African sheep. However, this did not appease the major's wrath, and, as he walked away, the adjutant hummed, 'Where are my wandering kidneys, to-night.'

"The night before last we had a 'Sing-Song' in the Australian camp. They had a fatigue party out all day with a cart, gathering karoo bushes for a bon-fire. The affair went off splendidly, 'Alouette,' and some of the Canadian choruses being much appreciated by the Yeomanry and Australians. The affair was repeated last night in the battery lines.

"A very amusing incident happened last week on the march. An Australian reporter with the column has two grey hounds, and, in chasing hares, ran a female ostrich into their lines, and there she remained in the middle of the troop, for at least five miles, trotting along quite unconcernedly among the horses. At the first halt she was given to a farmer and locked up. Stripped of all her feathers she presented a most doleful aspect.

BEGINS BACKWARD TREK.

"March 31st.

"Well, we have begun our backward trek, or rather have moved back six miles, from our old camp, Hartebeste River, to a small lake formed by an artificial dam. It is a pretty spot, full of wild duck and geese. Grouse and quail are constantly strutting about the edge of the camp picking up grain from the carts. Unfortunately we have no shot guns, and rifle shooting is rather dangerous. Some of the 'nigger' drivers got bowled over yesterday with 'Cape Smoke,' the native brandy, a vile, rank spirit, that during the stage of exhilaration renders a man excited and talkative, and later on brings about a condition of alcoholic stupor from which it is almost impossible to rouse him. Well, a couple of niggers in the excited stage drove a transport team of horses about in a reckless manner and were generally insubordinate. They were severely and quietly punished. While Kaffirs watched their mules by night the niggers after a fine of £1 apiece, and a medical examination to see if they were fit for corporal punishment, were laid over a sack of forage and given six lashes apiece. They didn't seem to mind it very much and will probably take an early opportunity of stifling their sorrows in a little more smoke.

WAITING FOR A SURRENDER.

“ We are waiting here until Parsons receives the formal surrender of the rebels, and will then go straight back to Victoria Road, possibly meeting our third battery C there.

“ Howard is not with us. His guns were to have accompanied the mounted rifles, but they did not, for certain reasons. ‘ Old Gat,’ I think I told you, acted as quarter-master, coming over, and gave great satisfaction. He is a hard worker, and belongs to a race that, like the beaver, the buffalo, and the red man, is gradually becoming extinct. From early morn till dewy eve, he pursued the uneven tenor of his way. The roseate hues of early dawn found him in angry altercation with the cook over the unequal distribution of two-pound loaves and bully beef. As the moon began to pale, his stentorian tones were heard in pursuit of the will-’o-the-wisp steward. From the forecastle to the wheelhouse, from the bridge to the keel, he was known and respected. He brought on board ‘ just one cubic yard of assorted liquors,’ and every time a horse went over, a board was held in ‘ Gat’s ’ room, and I can assure you that as president of the Horse Board he presided at the meetings of that august assembly with a wise precision and a legal acumen seldom seen, even in members of the civil bar. His court was no ordinary stateroom, no common or garden cabin, but a stateroom with a college education. The liquid refreshment was of patriotic flavor, and Anglo-Saxon preference, and every member of the board proved beyond cavil that he had no zealous grudge against our Sovereign Lady. Though ‘ Gat ’ wisely left the reservation of the Red Man and came east, as the present generation began to mature, he still had many blood-curling tales to relate of Indian massacres and dreary marches across the alkali plains of ‘ Arizone.’

TENT AT GREEN POINT.

“ We tented together at Green Point. He is a capital companion and he gets all that is coming to him, and more, too. I have heard this country described as a land of birds without song, flowers without perfume, and I fancy the description is correct.

“ I left twenty-four men behind at Carnarvon in a temporary hospital, and there are about fifty sick here. It is very hard on the poor fellows, as there are no comforts and no special diets, which is very essential in dysentery. However, I sent back and got some

condensed milk and corn starch. I telegraphed to Carnarvon for medicine, and the doctor there sent them by a nigger on foot, who came the fifty miles in the rain in less than a day, and charged 2s. 6d.

“Easter Sunday, April 15th.

“We got in here from Carnarvon on Friday, according to orders, marching the 150 miles in six days, just in time to avoid two days' heavy rain, which would have delayed us at the river if we had not crossed when we did. I do not know where we go from here, but fancy Kimberley, en route for Mafeking. One of our batteries re-embarked to go round by Beira, another section is at Kenhardt, so we are rather cut up. I have the Canadian Mounted Rifles and Yeomanry (8th Derbys), as well as the batteries under my care. I am afraid some of my letters have been lost on the *Mexican*.”

COLONEL PERCY GIROUARD

(Son of the Hon. Justice R. E. Girouard)

BORN the 26th January, 1867, Cadet at Royal Military College of Kingston, from 1882-86, is now, temporarily, general superintendent of the South African railroads.

Once that work done, he goes back to Egypt where he is president of the board of railroads which is composed of three other members: one for England, one for Egypt and one for France. I will say no more; leaving to the readers to appreciate the great strides, made in so short a time, by this brilliant Canadian, who is the brightest star of the pleiades educated with him at the Royal Military College of Kingston, and whose names I here insert.

The way the Military College men have dropped out of the regiment is striking, and they are employed as follows; —

Major Denison, A. D. C. to Lord Roberts; Major Macdougall, Staff Officer, Cape-Town; Captain Hodgins, Railway Work; Lieutenant Armstrong, Railway Work; Lieutenant Caldwell, Staff, Intelligence Office, Cape-Town; Lieutenant McLean, transferred to Royal Artillery; Captain Panet, transferred to Royal Canadian Artillery. This leaves Captain Burstall and Lieutenant Lafferty as the only Military College officers in the regiment. Major Cartwright is



TO COLONEL PERCY GIROUARD, D. S. O.

Late R. M. C. (1)

(Written for "*Le Livre d'Or*.")

BY J. K. FORAN, LIT. D., LL. B.

Son of this fair Canadian land,
Building, amidst the desert sand,
A pyramid of fame, as grand
 As that which Cheops built,
Thy great achievements are the same,
As those that won immortal fame,
And raised our country's glorious name,
 On fields where blood was spilt.

The desert's trackless waste you've spann'd ;
Like Moses, at your skilled command,
The waters leaped and blessed the land
 That torrid suns unceasing parch.—
And from the fountains of the Nile,
To where the Veldts in verdure smile,
You've laid foundations, pile on pile,
 Of civilization's arch.

The Northern and the Southern Seas,
Old Afric's both extremities,
Have seen you fling, with skill-born ease,
 A chain to bind them fast !
And when the dark, unknown heart,
Of that dread Continent, shall start,
To hear the engine screech, your part
 And fame, in that great work, will last !

(1) Brillant Canadien-français dont s'enorgueillit le collège militaire de Kingston, qui honore son pays par sa science et dont le Canada est fier.

D. A. A. G. to General Hutton's Division of Mounted Infantry, Major Dobell commands a battalion of mounted infantrymen and Captain Greenwood, of the Mounted Infantry, is on the railway.

I am glad to close this bright list with the names of the heroic Chalmers, P. H. du Perron Casgrain, A. E. Doucet, wounded at Batoche, in 1885, A. C. Joly de Lotbinière, H. G. Joly, Panet, Farley, Van Straubenzie, Ogilvie, Strange and couple hundred more distinguished young men educated at Kingston and who are the glory and pride of Canada.


“Mr. H. S. Pearse, the war correspondent of the *London Daily News*, writing from Bloemfontein, paid this compliment to Colonel Girouard, R. E. : —

“Lord Roberts is fortunate in having as chief supply officer Colonel Ward, to whom Sir George White paid the highest possible tribute after the relief of Ladysmith, and for director of railways Colonel Girouard, an officer, as your readers know well, of many resources. The celerity with which he pushed construction trains forward on each section of the line as troops advanced was simply marvellous, and the whole length up to Smaldeel is already in working order.”

Just two more words about Girouard, to explain his frankness and high character. After the destruction of the bridge on the Rhenoster River by Dewet and the capture of our mails and winter clothing which Dewet burned, Girouard gave his opinion to Kitchener. If anyone is awed by Kitchener it is not Girouard. Yes! says Major Boulanger, Girouard is a true *Canayen, celui-là!*

On another occasion, Mr. Carrière, correspondent of the *Matin* at Cape-Town, asked him : “Are you a Frenchman?”—“Yes, answered Girouard, more than you are, I am a Canadian!”

LIEUTENANT HAROLD L. BORDEN

AJOR Harold L. Borden, formerly commanding officer of the King's County Hussars, Kentville, N. S., who was killed in South Africa. The deceased officer left Canada as lieutenant of the fourth troop of B Squadron, Canadian Mounted

Rifles, and previous to leaving was stationed in Quebec for a few days, having secured his discharge from B Field Battery, R. C. A. The young man was a particularly fine specimen of robust young Canadian manhood and had already won distinction by his bravery in swimming with some others the Sand River on the march from Bloemfontein to Johannesburg. He was only twenty-three years of age, stood six feet three inches in his stockings and weighed 198 pounds. He was brought up in King's County, Nova Scotia, and had studied at Mount Allison University in Sackville and later at McGill, in Montreal, where he was in his third year of medicine.

In his despatch conveying the sad intelligence of the deaths of young Borden and Burch, Lord Roberts said: — "The two young Canadian officers were killed while gallantly leading their men in counter attack on enemy's flank at critical juncture of assault upon our position. Lieutenant Borden had been twice before brought to my notice in despatches for gallant and intrepid conduct."

"Ottawa, July 20th, 1900.

"Hon. Joseph Chamberlain cables to Lord Minto to express to Dr. Borden his deep sympathy with him at the loss of his gallant son."

The following cable was received addressed to the Minister of Militia: —

"Cape-Town, July 19th, 1900.

"Hon. Mr. Borden, Minister of Militia,

"Deeply regret to inform you of the death of your son in action of Reitvler, 16th. Mrs. Borden and yourself have my sincerest sympathy at the sad loss of this gallant officer, whom I have twice had the honor to specially mention in despatches to the Commander-in-Chief for gallant and intrepid conduct."

"HUTTON."

THE PREMIER'S TRIBUTE

"Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in moving the adjournment of the House, referred to this sad event. He said: —

"This news I am sure has touched the heart of every member of this House. He was the only son of a prominent, old and popular member of this House. Whatever strifes there may be I am sure that



LIEUTENANT HAROLD L. BORDEN.

"Lieutenant Borden had been twice before brought to my notice in despatches for gallant and intrepid conduct. — LORD ROBERTS."

before such misfortune all such have disappeared and on both sides of the House friend and foe will unite in offering to the bereaved father and bereaved mother that sympathy which will be their only consolation for such a loss on this side the grave."

"Mr. Davin, on behalf of the Opposition, said : —

"I could wish, Sir, the leader of the Opposition were in his place in order that he might re-echo the sentiments so fittingly expressed by the Prime Minister. A great statesman, belonging to Athens said of a great man who died, 'The whole earth seemed to be his mausoleum.' I think it might be said of the humblest hero who fights now under modern conditions on the battle field that the whole earth seems to be his mausoleum, because the civilized world seems to be in evidence, watching what is going forward, and I am sure not a man in Canada but will have heard of the death of this young man, just twenty-three years, with the hopes of budding youth, with regret."

"The *Daily Telegraph* unquestionably voices the unanimous sentiment of the Ancient Capital, when it extends to the Minister of Militia the most heartfelt commiseration. It deeply deplores the loss of the brave boy, who has fallen with his face to the foe and who has so patriotically given up his young life for the honor of his country's flag."

PRO PATRIA.

"And how can man die better than fighting
 "fearful odds;
 "For the ashes of his fathers, and the temples
 "of his gods."

"Gallant Borden ! fit type of the band of brave and generous lads, who, with chivalrous hearts and unpolluted motives, went forth to die in their country's cause ! True apostles are ye all of freedom, and the equal rights of man — real missionaries of the gospel of democracy. No sham, garrulous sophists are ye, prating stale and windy platitudes of a 'liberty' that enslaves ; a 'fraternity' that matures the mind of Cain ; and an 'equality' that widens more and more the social gulf that estranges man from a knowledge of his fellows. Noble boys, no enduring harm can come to a country with such a race of sons as you. Such men are not only their country's shield against the aggressive

arm of the alien ; but its hope that everything is not quite encircled by the cold grasp of materialism ; and that human beings exist who find something else to live for than the lust of gold. It is refreshing to hear the clatter of muskets as well as muckrakes. The example of our citizen soldiers inspires a hope that the reign of Mammon is not universal, and will not be eternal ; that to heap up pelf is not the chief end of man ; nor that its enjoyment, after the faculty for enjoyment is gone, will continue to be an everlasting sport and satire of the gods.

“To the eye of the undiscerning, the whole world is prostrate before the golden calf. In act if not in speech, as plain as plain can be, the burden of the universal dedication is : ‘Gold, thou art my god ; I will have no other gods before thee.’ In this melee of Mammon worship, how refreshing to discover that there is still a residue who have not bent the knee to the great metallic divinity whom the whole world doth worship. The example of our boys encourages the hope that society, like a spendthrift profligate, may yet return to some of its pristine virtues. Grant that it may so return, even if driven thither at the cost of chastisements and retribution, and sore visitings of Nemesis, which will make the ear tingle and the heart quake of him who heareth of them. Onward Christian soldiers ! Spill your blood for your ideas. The precious drops thereof will, like the blood of the martyrs, become the seed of a regeneration that will redeem the effete morality of your time. Every drop will be ‘a stepping stone to higher things.’ Fear not ; you will have your reward ; your names will be written in the book of the nation ; and your deeds will live in the hearts of the best of your kind. Requiescat, gallant Borden ; and rest also thy not less gallant comrades. Thou and they have been faithful unto death. Enter into the joy of the immortals. The laurel wreath will be kept green in our hearts, though its leaves wither on the graves of the veldt.

“DOROTHY COUTTS.”

Gazette, July 21st, 1900.

And now, let us kneel before the grave of Borden, Burch, Cotton, Arnold, Chalmers, Lord Roberts’ son, Count of Ava Dufferin, LaRue, Bradley, Thomas, Beattie, and all those young heroes whose glorious blood moistened the roots of the victorious laurels in South Africa for the union, under the same crown, of England and Canada.



LIEUTENANT JOHN EDGAR BURCH.

“ Killed with Borden, while gallantly leading their men in counter attack on enemy’s flank at critical juncture of assault upon our position. — LORD ROBERTS.”

JOHN EDGAR BURCH

JOHN Edgar Burch youngest son of Major F. O. Burch of the 2nd Dragoons, was born at St. Anns, Lincoln Co., Ont., February 8th, 1874. He attended Public School here; High School at Smithville, and also received some training in business principles in Hamilton Business College.

When about eighteen years of age he enlisted with B Squadron of the 2nd Dragoons which drills annually at Niagara-on-the-Lake. He from the first gave evidence of a military spirit. He attended Cavalry School one session as a Sergeant and three succeeding terms as a Lieutenant. Here he became very popular with the officers of Stanley Barracks, Toronto, and distinguished himself as a horseman, swordsman, and commanding officer.

In the Dragoons he was considered one of the best officers of the regiment and from first Lieutenant of B Squadron was promoted to the Adjutancy of the regiment.

When the Second Contingent was called for South Africa he volunteered his services; and was offered the position of Lieutenant in the Canadian Mounted Rifles which he promptly accepted.

From the time that the Canadian Mounted Rifles landed in Africa they were in constant activity and Lieutenant Burch more than once showed himself a cool-headed, quick-witted and brave officer. His letters and the reports of those who fought and lived with him give sufficient evidence that he was a born soldier.

On July 16th, 1900, Lieutenants Borden and Burch were sent to attack the Boers near Witpoort. Both officers led their men to within a few yards of the enemy but both met their deaths within a few minutes of each other. Lieutenant Burch's last word was "advance" when an expanding bullet pierced his breast. He was twenty-six years of age.

Lieutenant Burch has two brothers left in Canada, the one Captain Burch of 2nd Dragoons and the other Rev. A. L. Burch, B. A., of Knox College, Toronto.

AN INTERESTING LETTER

"The following letter from Lieutenant J. E. Burch of the 1st Battalion of Canadian Mounted Rifles may prove of interest to our

readers. This letter was received by his father and is dated South Africa, May 8th, 1900.

“The letter was read at the officers' mess of the 2nd Dragoons and received with much interest.

“Dear father and mother : —

“We are now about 45 miles from Bloemfontein, and are fighting every inch of our advance. The Boers are strongly entrenched just in our front and a halt has been made for to-day to give our men and horses a rest.

“On the 3rd instant we ran up against the enemy entrenched on two kopjes on either side of a road which the transport must travel. I was sent forward with a troop belonging to A Squadron, Canadian Mounted Rifles, to draw their fire and determine their position.

“The Boers did not fire a shot until we were within 50 yards of them, and they were well concealed, then they let blaze at us. Just at that moment another troop on my left was compelled to retire leaving me under a cross fire. It did not take long to decide that it was best to get out of these close quarters. That was the first time any of us had been under fire, but the men conducted themselves wonderfully well. Our object had been attained and our cannon soon shelled the Boers from their position. It seemed remarkable that none of our troop was shot, although for about five minutes the bullets whizzed and whistled around us like hail stones. The next day we again met them in stronger force, but were compelled to stand fast for the day and wait for guns.

“On the morning of the next day A Squadron, to which I am attached, made a reconnoissance and returned just in time to mix in the scrap of that day. That was the first time I smelled Boer shells and I prefer bullets every time, although bullets have been picked up which the Boers have dropped; some ‘dum-dums,’ and some poisoned.

“On Tuesday we marched and stopped at Winburg Road Station. Since last night the boys have been living well, as we are in advance of the regular line of transport, and the men are allowed to command whatever they want to eat.

“The Y. M. C. A. representative and our chaplain do all the swiping for the officers' mess. My servant does not ride in the ranks and during the day uses his time foraging. Last night he came in with all kinds of vegetables, and a bag of oranges and lemons.

“The country is a marked improvement on Cape Colony. The land is fertile and here, perhaps, is some of the best grazing lands in the world. Cattle, sheep and horses are here by the hundred thousand.

“There are about 26,000 Boers just in front of us and we expect a scrap to-morrow.

“There will be some hard fighting before we arrive at Kroonstad, about 40 miles from here.

“Everyone has got as black as a negro and I seem the blackest. The lice too have found us out and have made interesting times for some of us.

“For two weeks we have had no tents and sleep on the open veldt. What is more we are not likely to have tents again soon.

“I have written this letter on my water bottle. The paper is too dirty for use but it is all we have.

“I have just been called for duty and have no more time to write further. Good-bye.

J. E. BURCH.

PRIVATE MULLOY

“PRIVATE MULLOY, of the Mounted Infantry, who came from Winchester, Ontario, had lost his sight and had to be guided through the streets by a comrade on each side of him. A mauser bullet passed through his head from temple to temple at Bronkhorst Spruit. Now he stood on the West Gallery overlooking the area crowded with mercantile men, and, when the cheering had subsided, he said : —

“I am glad that I have the privilege of speaking to a portion of the people of our British Empire. I am not a regular soldier. A year ago I was a student studying in the University, and ought now to be in the University out there. But when Canada was called upon to send out men, she d'd not send her 'corner boys,' but the best she had to give. (Cheers.) I do not know how it came about, but I happened to be in that crowd (cheers), and I came because, like the

cat, I could not stop away. (Cheers.) I could not attend to my business. I have no regrets for the past, I think if a man decides that a course is right and has followed that course out he has no right to regret afterwards, whatever the consequences may be. (Cheers.) Of course, it looks rather unfortunate to see one's hopes, aims, and aspirations all cut down at a swoop, sudden and irreparable, but there are conditions which alter circumstances to a certain extent, and I believe that the truly brave man and soldier will accept with manly fortitude the vicissitudes of fortune (cheers), and will not be overwhelmed by any circumstance, but will still, with a calm heart and serene mind, go bravely forward. (Loud cheers.) I thank you very much in the name of the Canadian soldiers for the reception you have given us. That is all I have to say. I will not take up your time any longer. I will now call for three cheers for the beloved Queen, whom we love quite as well as you do. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)'

"As the men passed through the room, the cheering was maintained, and the merchants and others eagerly grasped their hands. The men had a like experience in the streets on the way to the ship."

A WOUNDED WARRIOR

"CORPORAL ARMSTRONG, minus a leg, hobbled on his crutches alongside his comrades, and the Queen immediately gave an order to have the wounded soldier presented later.

"The battalion formed in quarter-column and advanced towards the Royal carriage in review order.

"They swung up, a solid phalanx of strapping khaki-clad figures, with sun-tanned faces, crowned with a forest of glittering steel, and halted with the front company close to the carriage.

"A grand spectacle they presented, and seldom, if ever, has a more warlike body stood at attention before Royalty.

"Colonel Otter was presented, and commanded to dine, and the other officers were brought to Her Majesty's notice. Her Majesty then addressed Colonel Otter as follows : —

"I am very glad to see you here to-day and to express my warm thanks for the admirable services rendered in the War by the Canadian Troops.



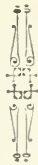
TWO HEROES.

CORPORAL B. R. ARMSTRONG,
THE MINUS-LEG MAN.

The Queen asked after his health : — " I am quite well, Madam."

" Where did you lose your leg ?"

" At Olifanfontein, Madam," replied the Corporal, smiling with happiness at the situation.



TROOPER L. W. MULLOY,
THE BLINDED MAN.

" I have no regret for the past. I think if a man decides that a course is right and has followed that course out he has no right to regret afterwards, whatever the consequence may be."

"I wish you all a safe and happy return to your homes.

" 'Madam,' replied Colonel Otter, 'we are only too proud to fight for the flag under which we have been born, exist and hope to live.'

" Corporal Armstrong next limped up to the carriage, and the Queen asked after his health.

" 'I am quite well, madam,' he said.

" 'Where did you lose your leg?' inquired the Queen.

" 'At Olifanfontein, madam,' replied the corporal, smiling with happiness at the situation.

" 'And where do you come from?' continued her Majesty, tenderly.

" 'From St. John, New Brunswick,' he replied, then added, 'My father is Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong in that town.'

" 'You must be tired,' said the Queen, sympathetically, and added a command that he might have a chair.

" Then, at the call of their gallant colonel of four Empire wars, the Canadians took off their helmets and ripped out three earsplitting salvos of cheering, marched past the Queen again on their way out, dined in the riding school, saw the apartments, were photographed for the Royal album, and returned to Kensington Barracks from Windsor at three, radiant and happy with the special recognition which has distinctly been theirs."

DEATH OF Pte ALBERT BEATTIE

THE following letter from Mr. W. Beattie, of Toronto, father of Private Beattie, who died in Bloemfontein, has been received by Mr. James Forbes, of Levis: —

" 33 Bellwoods, Toronto, April 30th, 1900.

"Dear Mr. Forbes,

"Two weeks ago last night the dreadful news of my son Albert's death was brought to us. It has been a long and sad fortnight.

"I had the satisfaction of being the last to see my noble son, kissing him a long farewell on board the *Sardinian*. I have been abundantly repaid for the time in going to Quebec by the melancholy satisfaction of being on board to almost the last minute. He gave his

life for his country, and he had my full permission to go and risk his precious life for Queen, Empire and liberty.

“ Yours truly,

“ WM. BEATTIE.”

In Memoriam

SERGEANT ALBERT BEATTIE

OUR GALLANT SOLDIER SON, WHO DIED OF FEVER AT BLOEMFONTEIN, S. A., APRIL 14th, 1900, AGED 27 YEARS.

Beneath Bloemfontein's sacred sod he sleeps —
 Far from his native land our hero's grave —
 While many a friendly eye o'erflowing weeps
 For him who was so noble, loyal and brave.

And he was gentle too and kind to all —
 His genial presence shedding joyous glow —
 Where'er he came, in cottage or in hall,
 The cup of pleasure seemed to overflow.

At home a treasure to his parents dear,
 To loving sisters three and brothers twain,
 Who him adored within the sacred sphere,
 Where they, alas, shall meet him ne'er again.

No truer soldier left Canadian soil,
 Or more heroic heart for Britain beat
 Than thine, who resting from thy war-like toil
 Hast made thy sacrifice with death complete.

Yet mourn we not as tho' we hopeless weep
 For dear one severed ne'er to reunite,
 But trusting wait till comes our final sleep,
 To meet thee rapturous in glory bright.

Farewell our son and brother, comrade, friend,
 We comfort us with thy last, solemn words —
 The Christian's hope was thine at life's last end —
 “ Whether I live, or die, I am the Lord's.”

WILLIAM BEATTIE,
 Toronto.



DENNISON ENG. MONTREAL

BUGLER DOUGLAS F. WILLIAMS,
 OF QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES, TORONTO.
 Who sounded the attack at Paardeberg.

SERGEANT A. BEATTIE.

"Farewell our son and brother, comrade, friend,
 We comfort in with thy last solemn words —
 The Christian's hope was thine at life's last end —
 Whether I live, or die, I am the Lord's."

SERGEANT C. T. THOMAS,
Killed in South Africa.

"Well, said Mrs. Thomas, I have six sons and surely
 can spare one for the Queen."

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS

“ De Aar, December 3rd, 1899.

“ **W**E are encamped just outside De Aar, and are to move on towards Kimberley to-morrow morning, so we will be in for the big battle to relieve that place Monday or Tuesday.

“ The Boers are said to be terribly afraid of the bayonet. I have spoken with soldiers from the Modder River fight. They tell me that the actual fighting lasted sixteen hours, and that the British loss was heavy and included many officers, but that they drove the Boers across the river, so we hope to be in at the finish and the relief of Kimberley. We are all in splendid health and spirits, and are anxious to get at the Boers. Two Boer spies were shot here this morning, one for spying round the camp, and the other got a bullet through his head while on the top of a telegraph pole cutting the wires.

“ Belmont, December 18th, 1899.

“ It is wonderful to see the entrenchments that the Boers throw up on the tops of the kopjes, and it seems really marvellous that the British can ever have driven them back, but they did.

“ I have just got back from Graspan, 8½ miles towards Kimberley, where we were guarding the lines while the Engineers put up the telegraph wires. They were all torn down by the Boers, and the iron poles bent and broken. We guarded the Engineers about seven miles past Graspan, to Eslin, and there handed them over to other troops from Eslin.

“ The ‘grub’ we got out there was mighty fine, as there were several Boer farms en route, and we had sheep, vegetables, milk, eggs and butter, and the women cooked bread and scones for us.

“ I forgot to tell you that the other night on outpost duty I heard some sort of a biped approaching my post, and challenged three times without getting an answer. Then, thinking it must be an enemy, I fired, and shot a poor unoffending ostrich through the head.

“ Belmont, January 24th, 1900.

“ We have great fun watching the Boers trying to break the British heliographic messages by search light at night from Kimberley.

“ We see the signal from Kimberley and the answer from Modder River, and the Boers' light flashing up and down and all around as if it had lost itself, but not interfering with the messages at all I believe, the Boer position not being in direct line between the two points.

“ We have just received our chocolate from the Queen. I will send my box home as soon as I can do so safely. . . .

“ Woodstock Hospital, June 20th, 1900.

“ Captain Pelletier (Major of the 65th Battalion) had a sunstroke at Paardeberg. He has been sent to England with one leg (the right) paralised from toe to thigh, but the doctors told him that a month or two would fix him up as good as new. He had some narrow escapes. One bullet through his helmet, one through his collar, which cut the skin on his neck, and one through the heel of his boot. I think the first two are about as close as is pleasant. When I went to see him at the Clairmont Sanatorium I had a long talk with him and tried to cheer him up. I liked him very much, and I think all of the company did. All I have seen seem very sorry for him.

“ PTE. HARRY BELL MONTIZAMBERT.”

“ Captain Rogers, of Ottawa, writes from Paardeberg Drift, Orange Free State, South Africa, under date of the 19th February, 1900, giving some particulars of the death of Mr. Zachary R. E. Lewis, North-West Mounted Police (of D Company, Royal Canadian Regiment), in the attack under Lord Roberts on Cronje's laager the day before. . . . He says : —

“ Poor Zack met his death in a gloriously plucky manner, as he was one of two (out of the whole regiment) who fell right in the enemy's trenches ; in fact, from what I can gather, he was the first to reach them of our firing line (composed of Seaforth Highlanders,

Black Watch, Cornwalls and Royal Canadians), and he had charged so far ahead of his comrades that no one saw him fall. In searching the battlefield for dead and wounded (which we did all night, with the enemy constantly sniping at us), we could find no trace of him, and, as a number were missing, we fondly hoped he would return as others did the following morning. But, on searching the enemy's trenches by daylight, we found dear old Zack there. His end must have been painless, as he was shot through the head. I had his remains buried to-day. . . . He lies with his comrades near the bank of the Modder River, at the edge of a beautiful grove — one of the few we have seen in this country. All his comrades share with me the deepest regrets. His constant good nature, as well as his North-West Mounted Police experience, made him one of my most valued and trusted men."

The *Ottawa Citizen* says: —

"Many of the older members of Parliament will recognize in the young soldier, whose gallant death is thus described, the fair-haired page of the House of Commons of former years, a general favorite among the members some ten or twelve years ago. Zachary Lewis was born and bred in Ottawa, the son of the late Dr. R. P. Lewis, a brother of the Archbishop of Ontario. He studied law for some years, but in 1896 joined the North-West Mounted Police at Regina, N. W. T., where he was stationed until recently. Having formerly served for three years in the Governor-General's Foot Guards, and being in Ottawa on leave when the Royal Canadian Regiment was recruited, Trooper Lewis obtained permission to enlist in D Company, and so it was his lot to be the first of the North-West Mounted Police to thus fall in action on Imperial foreign service, a credit to his country, his city and his corps."

"Sherbrooke, June 5th, 1900.

"Captain C. K. Fraser, officer commanding E Company first contingent, has written the following letter to Mr. John Wasdell, father of Private Wasdell, who was killed at Paardeberg: —

"Bloemfontein, April 14th, 1900.

"My dear Mr. Wasdell,

"I know you have been looking anxiously for some particulars from me of your son's death upon the field of battle.

"I cannot tell you how much I sympathize with you in your sad bereavement. Your son had won the esteem of both officers and men of his company, and we all feel his loss deeply. As captain of his company I always found him a faithful and most willing soldier, and he died doing his duty for his Queen and country. He was wounded in the attack on Cronje's laager on Tuesday morning, February 27th. I was with him when he was carried into our trenches and sat with him for two hours, during which time he was attended by Surgeon-Major Wilson, and everything possible was done for him. He was then taken to the New South Wales field hospital, which is recognized as the best in the army. There he received every care and attention. He died the following morning (February 28th) and his end was peaceful. He was conscious up to a short time of his death. He was buried on Wednesday, the 28th, by a Church of England clergyman in a very pretty spot on the river bank. The grave has been very nicely fixed up and fenced in by some of his comrades, and a cross placed at the head.

"His greatest friend in the army was Private Coates, of Montreal, who was with him when he died.

"I have several little things that were found in his haversack, some letters and his service cap, and also have his watch and purse containing \$4 in gold, which I will take care of. I have also got £2 for him from a Montreal fund. This money I will keep with his other things till we return to Canada, as it would almost be impossible to send them from here. If there is anything that I can do or any further information that you would like, I would consider it a favour if you would write me and let me know.

"With heartfelt sympathy for yourself and family in your sad loss.

"Believe me, yours faithfully,

"C. K. FRASER,

"Captain Com. E Co., R. C. R."

"In a letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Ponton, of Belleville, Ont., Rev. F. C. Powell writes this interesting passage concerning a Montrealer:—

"On Friday I went to Wynberg Hospital and had some speech with Captain Peltier, of Montreal, who was with poor and brave Arnold when he was shot through the head—awfully disfigured,



H. COTTON,
ROYAL CANADIAN REGIMENT.
Killed in South Africa.

they tell me, but he was not killed. As the ambulance bearers were carrying him off the field he was shot again through the shoulder. Peltier and others say the Boers fired continuously on the ambulance. They could hardly plead excuse of not being able to distinguish the Red Cross. They are keen enough to pick out and shoot the officers. One might suppose they might be equally keen in detecting and leaving alone the men of mercy, who leisurely walk about with no weapon, never dodging or hiding behind stones, but just quietly picking up wounded soldiers. Peltier, when night comes on, lives through the battle again in his sleep, and thrills the whole hospital ward with shouts, 'Now Canada, on Canadians!'

HARRY COTTON

ANOTHER HERO.

"Harry Cotton, is a son of Lieutenant-Colonel Cotton, of the Militia Department Office, commanding the Ottawa district. He went away to South Africa as a member of D Company, first Canadian contingent. The late Mr. Cotton was about 23 years of age, and since 1895 has been in the service of the Bank of Montreal. He was an efficient and popular employee. He was quite an athlete, being a member of the Ottawa Football Club, and of the Ottawa Rowing Club. In the regatta at Brockville, last year, he was one of Ottawa's four-oared crew. In Kingston, where Mr. Cotton had previously been living, he was also identified with athletics. While stationed in Montreal he belonged to the Victoria Rifles, and with this corps gained his military experience. On going to the front with the first contingent he was granted a year's leave of absence with full pay by the Bank of Montreal. He fell gallantly at Thaba N'Chu, on the 1st of May."

"The following letter has been received by Mrs. John McCann from her son, Private McCann:—

"South Africa, February 27th, 1900.

"My darling mother,

"I write you these few lines under great difficulties. I am all right at present. On Sunday morning we passed through our baptism of fire, having reached here after a forced march of 18 miles. On our arrival, when we received orders to advance on to the firing line, we

were given a small drink of rum and a biscuit. I lay in the firing line from 6 o'clock in the morning till half-past seven at night without anything to eat or drink. We had to wade across the Modder River up to our necks in the water. The sun dried us in an hour. In the afternoon it commenced to rain. It was rather uncomfortable with rain and bullets dropping around us at the same time. Poor Aleck McQueen was about fifty feet from me when he fell.

"When darkness came, and it was safe to walk around, Soney Casey (Private R. P. Dalberg), myself and some of the boys, went and picked Aleck up. He was not quite dead then, but the doctor said he could not live long, so we had to leave him till morning, when we buried him.

"We have been fighting off and on since then, but not so near the enemy. I would write more, but have no paper. This morning paper was served out. The man was lucky who got any.

"I am writing this letter about a mile from Sunday's battlefield, on top of a kopje. We are now 16 miles east of Kimberley, through where our mails will pass, and expect another big battle pretty soon. Good-bye, dear mother and father, for the present.

"Your loving son,

"SONEY."

THEY ALL LIKE O'LEARY

"A letter received from Private James Herrick, a Londoner with the first contingent, written under date Bloemfontein, March 16th, says he is in good health, and continues:—

"They say the Canadians are devils to fight. I tell them that is what we came for, to go to the front and hold up the Maple Leaf forever, and I think we did our part. We have a chaplain with us named O'Leary. He is a Roman Catholic priest, and he is a grand old man, and every man on the field likes him. He was right in the field all day of the fight. He was better than a doctor to some of the men. He is an old man. You would pity him if you could see him at night, when we go into camp, covered with dust from head to foot. We are now at Bloemfontein. I hope this is the last of the war. We have had our share of the fighting. We lost three men from London. Smith is the only one I knew: White, of Windsor, and Donegan.

They were killed in the charge. We got 4,180 prisoners in Cronje's outfit. I guess he found it out, for we were getting too close to him."

"Well, at last we have been in it, and through it, and, though our baptism of fire was a costly one, willingly would we go through it again. Canada may well be proud of her noble boys. It is true that many a once happy home is now in mourning since the fatal 18th day of February, but the deep sorrow that has entered into the hearts of the loved ones far away will undoubtedly be tempered by the consoling assurance that all have done their duty; all, everyone. So say the brave Gordons, the famous Black Watch, the Argyles, the Seaforths, the sturdy Cornwalls; so say they all.

"And, oh! that wild, mad charge against an invisible enemy. Never shall I forget it, nor shall I attempt to describe it, at least, for the present. Hell let loose would give but a faint idea of it. On, on we rushed through a hail of bullets, the air alive again with deadly missiles. On we rushed madly, wildly, tearing through brambles, stumbling over prostrate comrades, eager in the delirium of bloodshed and destruction which had seized on us all to reach the enemy's trenches. And above the din of the battle, oh! that wild, soul-stirring cheer, or rather that savage yell. Like tigers, our brave boys bounded over the open, but it was not to be. Darkness closed on us 'ere the position was carried and the day won. Darkness settled down on that well-fought field, mercifully casting a veil over its horrors.

SEARCH FOR THE DEAD.

"Then began the search for the dead and wounded. In the total darkness, for the least light drew the enemy's fire, we groped over the ground everywhere, our hands steeped in blood. From all directions faint moans, coupled with pitiful pleadings for water, reached our ears. Accidentally, one would stumble over a friend. Then what a pathetic scene would take place — a message for home — 'Tell mother, etc., etc.,' or, perhaps, 'don't leave me; it won't be long.'

"The moon rose over the weird scene, and shed its peaceful rays on many an upturned face, many of them calm and placid in death. That night myself and a few devoted fellows remained until late on the fatal field, exploring every nook and corner, for the wounded, oftener meeting with the mangled dead, until at last our strength gave out, and, reaching our lines we threw ourselves on the hard ground,

seeking rest and forgetfulness in sleep. So did most of the survivors. Hardly a word was exchanged, for all were exhausted, what with a forced march of twenty miles the preceding night, and the trying ordeal of that long day.

"Monday morning we gathered our dead together, and buried them, side by side, eighteen in all, in one broad grave, whilst I performed the sad but consoling duty of committing them to the care of God's angels, when we would be far away from this fateful land. May they rest in peace; noble, brave boys!

"I must draw this letter to a close. I feel sick at heart when I recall to mind the scenes of blood I have witnessed, and the stirring events I have gone through.

"P. M. O'LEARY."

"Ottawa, April 20th, 1900.

"Chaplain O'Leary, of the first contingent, writes his brother, James L. O'Leary, of the Post Office Department, from Bloemfontein:—

"One particular incident may interest you. In Sunday's battle (Paardeberg), when the enemy's fire was most furious, we had taken shelter in open as best we could, until a lull in firing would allow us to rush forward. Behind an ant hill, I lay prone, sharing the tiny shelter with one of the Black Watch. Finding that there was not room for two, I decided on making a dash for a little mound some fifty yards forward. As I raised myself on my hands and knees, preparatory to a dash, I remember him calling out, 'My God, sir, take care. God speed you.' Just then a volley was directed at us, too late for me, but alas for him. Next morning at early dawn I found him behind our friendly ant hill just as I had left him, but pierced through heart and body with bullets that perhaps had been intended for me. Do you know that a feeling of guilt came over me as I gazed on my poor companion an hour, but still, had I remained a minute longer this letter would never have been written.

"Another trying moment was when in the early hours we were laying almost within touch of a laager. Oh, how that hell-fire mowed down everything around us, but we held our ground and when day broke, the Boers hoisted the white flag and surrendered, the best tribute ever given to Canadian worth and Canadian bravery. While every one of the other regiments is loud in our praise, we can well afford to be proud of our brave boys. They are indeed worthy of it."

“For the gratification of all those who kindly and generously donated gifts in the way of religious articles for the wounded and sick ‘Tommys’ in South Africa, we are pleased to publish the following letter from Rev. Father O’Leary, chaplain 2nd. Battalion, Royal Canadians : —

“Wyneberg, July 2nd, 1900.

“My dear Miss Van Felson,

“Your welcome letter and ever so welcome parcel only reached me a few days ago, no one is to blame for delay. The mail service is quite demoralized of late. Needless to say how overjoyed the dear boys in hospital here were to receive the precious gifts you procured for them, and they have all commissioned me to thank you in their name. The Almighty will certainly reward your zealous endeavor.

“I hope to be going up country again, some of these days after recovering from an attack of deadly enteric ; and I shall distribute the balance of devotional articles along the line in the many hospitals.

“I most decidedly object to your exaggerated appreciations of my humble efforts to better the lot of our poor fellows. Any other in my position would have done as much and probably more. My only regret is that my illness has so long forcibly kept me separated from them. I love them so much, and they were so thankful for whatever little attention one might bestow upon them.

“We are all heartily glad that the war is drawing to an end, for that means our return to our dear land in the near future.

“You ask, ‘do our dear boys know that they are ever in our thoughts?’ Oh ! yes, and should they be tempted to forget it I take many an opportunity of reminding them of those at home. We have all been more or less separated, but I shall probably meet them all in Pretoria.

“Once more thanking you for your great kindness.

“I remain, yours faithfully,

“P. M. O’LEARY.”

“The articles were shipped by Elder-Dempster SS. Company, through the generous kindness of Messrs. R. M. Stocking & Co., representative of the Elder-Dempster SS. Co., and graciously forwarded onward after reaching Cape-Town by His Excellency Sir Alfred Milner, Governor.”

REV. FATHER O'LEARY

KIND LETTER FROM THE COUNTESS OF DUDLEY.

"Ottawa, September 17th, 1900.

"A very kind letter has been addressed by the Countess of Dudley to Father O'Leary, chaplain to the first Canadian Contingent, in which she says : —

"I hear that you have been invalided home from South Africa and I venture to write and ask whether you would allow me to have the great pleasure of being of any use to you and of offering for your acceptance the loan of one of the houses mentioned on the list enclosed, or of apartments at any of the hotels in England or abroad, whilst recruiting your health. I am enabled to make this offer through the kindness of many persons who wish to help those who have fought and suffered in the war, and who have lent their houses so that we may have the great pleasure and privilege of offering them privately for the acceptance of those officers to whom, with their wives or other relations, a few weeks' rest and change at small expense might be acceptable after all they have undergone."

"The following letter has been received by Col.-Sergeant MacNab, of the 5th Royal Scots, from Private R. Gunn, first contingent : —

"Friday, February 23rd, 1900.

"I am just writing a few lines to let you know how we are getting along. I suppose you will have heard of the big fight we had before this letter reaches you. We arrived at Modder Spruit after a 25 miles march, leaving Cliff Spruit the night before. We were just one hour in camp before we were in the thick of the fight. We had time to have a wash in the river and drink a little coffee, and we lived the rest of the day on one hard tack biscuit and a little water, we had in our bottles. We got in the fight at seven o'clock. The Boers were entrenched in strong position along the river. We could not see them on account of the thick bushes which grow along the water's edge. We waded the river about a quarter of a mile from the Boer position, the water reaching up to our shoulders, and the weather being wet, we chilled for the rest of the day. After we reached the opposite side we opened out in skirmishing order. A and C Companies were the

firing line, the Gordon Highlanders also forming a part. B, D and H Companies the supports, and E, F and G the reserve. We got the order to advance across a plain, protected only by ant hills. As we advanced we were met by a shower of bullets and shells from a small gun the Boers have. We call it a 'Pom-Pom.' It made things pretty lively for us. Our artillery commenced firing, which made it hotter for them, and we advanced slowly along, making use of the cover we could get. E Company then got the word to advance again, under Captain Fraser. No. 1 section got separated from the rest of the company, and we were under Sergeant Allan. We passed the support and firing line and got within twenty yards of the Boers and laid down there the rest of the day, as we could not see the enemy. About five o'clock we got the order to charge. E Company got there first, but could not get near them, as our men were moved down. No. 1 section suffered most. It was a very sad night for us. We retired after dark and camped about ten hundred yards from the Boer position. We slept that night without anything to eat, only a little coffee we made ourselves. We have the Boers surrounded and they can't get away. There are about ten thousand of them. As we have to give our mail in right away I can't write any more this time."

"Private Charles Harrison, of 2nd Regiment Canadian Artillery, was in F Company and was wounded in the wrist at Paardeberg, just before Cronje surrendered.

"I was near poor Lester when he was killed" said Private Harrison, "and helped to bury him and Corporal Goodfellow who was killed at his side. We had crept up near the Boer laager, supported by the Gordons, and got right near the enemy's laager when we were discovered. Three distinct sheets of fire broke forth and we threw ourselves face downward, but one bullet reached my wrist.

"I was sent to the New South Wales Hospital, where I received excellent treatment. Later I went to Kimberley, and was well attended. Lord Methuen visited the hospital and I had a handshake from him. He sent us pipes and tobacco and other luxuries."

"Private Angus Sutherland, of the Duke of York's Canadian Hussars, was wounded at the capture of Cronje. He belonged to F Company, and while charging for the trenches during the night was struck by a bullet which first struck his helmet and afterward ploughed along his spine. He is as well as ever again, however.

"We were in the most dangerous position," said Private Sutherland, "and had crept up within from thirty to fifty yards of the Boers' laager, when all of a sudden some one struck a meat can, and all at once three sheets of fire broke forth a few yards in front of us and we dropped right down on our faces.

"After I was wounded I was taken first to the field hospital, then transported in an ox cart to Modder River, where we entrained for Wynberg. I spent nine weeks in hospital there and then went to Green Point, and after passing a couple of medical examinations was sent to England. I can say nothing but good of the medical attendance at the hospitals and the nurses were most kind. The orderlies were, however, hardly what should have been expected, and made off with a great deal of the property of the wounded men and the curios they had collected.

"My stay in England was exceedingly pleasant. Since June 6th I was at Stockwell and was overwhelmed with kindness by everybody with whom I came in contact."

"Private Percy Thomas, of Montreal Hussars, who is looking hale and hearty, was wounded at the first Paardeberg engagement on the memorable Sunday, February 18th, 1900, when the first Canadian blood was shed for the defence of the grand old flag in Africa. He was wounded early in the engagement, the mauzer bullet entering his right breast and going diagonally right through his lungs. He said to the *Star*: 'I felt no pain and did not know just what happened to me. A slight stinging as the bullet ploughed its way through my flesh was the only sensation I experienced at the moment, but I immediately grew weak and fell to the ground. I remained conscious for half an hour and then knew no more until about ten o'clock that night when an officer of the Cornwalls shook me, and as I became partially conscious he told me to wait a few minutes until he called men with a stretcher. As they removed me to the field hospital the pain was excruciating, but I soon got to the hospital and had my wound dressed. My treatment at the different hospitals was most satisfactory. The doctors were most attentive to their duties and did remarkably well, considering the number of men they had to handle during that time.'

"The Gordon Highlanders were great friends of ours, but they used to swear when we led, because the Canadians marched altogether too

fast to suit them. The other regulars did not like us so well, but still we got on fairly well with all of them.

“Among our officers, those whom the men dote on and would follow anywhere are Majors Oscar Pelletier and Buchan, Dr. Fiset and Father O’Leary. Say, I am a Protestant, but I must say that Father O’Leary is one of the grandest men I ever knew. On February 27th, he marched with the rank and file 24 miles, instead of going back to the transport. His face and lips were swollen and he seemed about played out but when we suggested that he should ride in the transport waggons he just said that what was good enough for the men was good enough for him. He remained with us through the thickest of the bullets and was kind to all alike, affording them religious consolation irrespective of creed. There is not a man in the regiment who would not do anything in his power for Father O’Leary.

“We had a hard time at Paardeberg. The march there was simply terrible. Colonel Otter is a brave and a good fighter, but he need not be so hard on his men in the field. In camp he is all right, but when we got started he almost killed his men on the march and we had hardly anything to eat all that time.

“Poor Lester was killed by an explosive bullet. It went into his mouth and blew the top of his head. Corporal Goodfellow was shot through the heart and before piercing his heart the deadly steel had gone through a Bible in his pocket, on the fly leaf of which was the inscription ‘To Papa, from Muriel.’ Poor Barry was some distance away. I helped to bury them all.”

THE LATE PRIVATE FLOYD

“London, Ont., July 18th, 1900.

“On Sunday afternoon at Richmond Street Methodist Church, in connection with the Sunday School exercises, a photo of the late Private George Floyd, appropriately mounted, was hung upon the wall of the school, the following inscription being engrossed beneath: — ‘In memory of Private George Floyd, in boyhood a member of this Sabbath School, killed in action at the battle of Zand River, May 10th, 1900. He died nobly fighting for the Empire. *Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.*’ At the evening service a memorial sermon was preached by Rev. John Morrison, the subject being national and individual responsibility. The choir rendered appropriate

music, and a detachment from Wolseley Barracks representing the Royal Canadian Rifles was in attendance. The pulpit and altar were tastily decorated with a large Canadian red ensign kindly sent for the occasion by Major J. W. Little. The congregation was large."

"Corporal John Wandlass, one of the Fredericton boys who left Canada in March as one of the hundred recruits sent out on the transport *Monterey* to Africa, to replace casualties in Canadian regiment, writes as follows of the Montreal boys on board: —

"We have a very fine class of men on board. In our company a great many of the non-commissioned officers and privates are from the best families in Canada. There is one fellow from Montreal here by the name of Barry; you may have seen his picture in the *Montreal Star*. His brother was killed in the battle of Paardeberg and he offered to take his place and pay his own expenses. He was offered the first vacancy in the Strathcona Horse, but he is attached to our mess and will likely remain with us."

"Toronto, May 1st, 1900.

"The *Globe* has the following from Van Wyk's Vlei, Cape Colony, April 4th, via London, April 30th: —

"The first death in the Second Canadian Contingent occurred to-day. Private Bradley (Ottawa) had ridden his horse to the river in order that the animal might drink. The horse suddenly threw him, and he sank into a deep hole. Bradley could not swim. Private Walters, of Ottawa, and a dozen others, jumped into the water to rescue him, and one of the number, Private Firms, a West Australian, brought him to the surface. Lieutenant Morrison threw a rope to the pair, who were then pulled ashore.

"Bradley was unconscious, but after prolonged effort, Dr. Stewart and Hospital Sergeant Whitton succeeded in restoring animation. The mud had, however, so injured his lungs that pneumonia set in and he died the same night. The body was buried here with military honors.

"Fearful rains, almost impassable roads, and a threatened shortage of provisions and forage are characterising the march. These hardships are beginning to tell. We left nineteen men in the hospital at Carnarvon, and another hospital has been established here.

“Private Hopkins, of D Battery, accidentally discharged his revolver, the bullet taking effect in his knee. The wound is not serious.”

“Quartermaster-Sergeant Robert Hunt, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, whose death is reported from South Africa, is none other than Sergeant-Instructor B. Hunt, of A Squadron, 1st Battalion Canadian Mounted Rifles, as squadron quartermaster-sergeant, was stationed at Stanley's Barracks, Toronto. ‘Barney,’ as he was familiarly known, was an old Quebec boy, aged about 30 years, and from 17 years of age was attached to the cavalry school in this city under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Turnbull, later known as the Royal Canadian Dragoons, joining as a trumpeter and rising to the second highest rank among non-commissioned officers. He was well and favorably known not alone in military but civilian life here, and Canada could boast of no braver soldier than the deceased, who was always ready at the call of duty and was one of the first to volunteer for service in South Africa. The news of his death will consequently be received with much regret by his numerous friends. His only living sister is Mrs. H. M. Bartlett, wife of the chief inspector of the Quebec District Railway, while he leaves a wife with four children, the youngest born since he left for South Africa, to mourn his loss. They are still residing at Toronto. Mrs. Hunt was formerly a Miss Couillard, of L'Islet, and has been married for some ten years. It has been known in this city for some time that deceased was suffering from enteric fever at Kroonstad, to which he evidently finally succumbed, although full particulars are not yet to hand.”

“Corporal W. F. Fowle, of A Company, Royal Canadian Regiment, in a letter to a friend in Winnipeg, dated Paardeberg Drift, February 24th, says : —

“Our poor Captain Arnold was shot down in the middle of the fight and three men were wounded in carrying him off the field. He was hit in the head and arm, and was unconscious soon after until he died this morning. Poor fellow, he fully believed he would never go back and acted rather nervously at times, although in the fight he showed great pluck. In fact, you could almost say he was foolhardy, as he certainly exposed himself unnecessarily. He marched by me the previous night and chatted about Winnipeg and the goth among other things.”

BRIDE TO BE IS DEAD

“Hamilton, April 20th, 1900.

“For Private J. H. Sutton, of this city, who was wounded in South Africa, and who is among those Canadians who recently arrived in London, there will be a sad home-coming. The following message was received from him in this city on Thursday : —

“To Miss A. Daniels, Cannon street west, Hamilton, Canada.

“London, April 19th, 1900.

“London Daily *Mail* forwards following received by its relief corps. Arrived in London safe. Tell my father.

“J. H. SUTTON.”

“The messenger boy stopped at 162 Cannon street west and delivered the message. Miss Daniels did not get it. She was buried yesterday afternoon in Hamilton Cemetery. The war, creator of thousands of heart-breakings, had created just another.

WAITED AND HOPED.

“When months ago Hamilton's young men of the First Contingent said good-bye, there was one at the station whose handkerchief fluttered till the train had rounded the curve, and a parting answer from the rear of the car told that Private J. H. Sutton, of C Company, First Canadian Contingent, and Miss A. M. Daniels, would wait and hope. They wrote often. They both thought of a happy future. She sent her photograph, and he took it and put in under his dirty khaki uniform and looked at it often.

“The enemy shot him in the arm. She heard of it, but she still hoped on. He went to the hospital with fever and sunstroke, and she still kept hoping. She heard that he was recovering, that he would be sent home. About two weeks ago she took sick. The doctor said that it was measles. She rallied soon, and then pneumonia came. They told her that she could not live, and she wrote a letter to South Africa. As long as she could hold the pen she wrote. It fell from her hand, and a sister completed the letter. The funeral took place yesterday afternoon, and Rev. G. K. B. Adams, of the Gore Street Church, where she was a member, officiated.

HIS LAST LETTER.

“Shortly after her spirit had gone a letter came, bearing the post mark South Africa. It reads thus : —

“March 17th, 1900.

“Dear Bert,

“Just a few lines to let you know that I got your letter, dated January 14th. I was so glad to hear from you, and hope that you are in good health. As for me, I am in the hospital with a sunstroke, fever, and a wound in my arm. But I will soon be all right. You asked me if I had received all your letters. Yes, I have received them up to the date January 14th, and also your photo. Now I hear that you are fretting about me. But you must not, for my sake, for I will soon be all right again. I am not going to the front again, and I hope that the war will soon be over. I will have to write a short note, as it is hard for me to write much, as I am not allowed to get out of bed, and have to write this the best way I can. Bye-bye for the present.

“I remain, yours ever true,

“PRIVATE J. H. SUTTON,

“C Company, R. C. R.

“God be with you till we meet again. — JACK.”

PRIVATE LARUE'S LAST LETTER

“The last mail from Africa brought a letter to Dr. Léonidas LaRue from his son Lucien. It was dated from Wynburg Hospital, June 7th, and, as he died of his wounds received at the battle of Paardeberg, June 24th, is probably the last letter written by him. It is as follows :—

“My very dear father,

“Here I am since yesterday morning at Wynburg Hospital, about 12 miles south-east of Cape-Town. The doctors seeing that I could not gain strength at Norval's Pont decided to remove me here until I could take the first hospital ship sailing for Southampton ; they say that the rapid healing of my wound is the cause of this rheumatism that has been troubling me for nearly two months, and that as soon as I am at sea I shall feel a perceptible improvement. All my comrades who were wounded like me at Paardeberg and returned to the

regiment after being cured, have been obliged to come back to the hospital after the first march, suffering from poisoning of the blood, or inflammation of their wounds.

“The war draws to its close; enthusiasm is at its height. Lord Roberts has made his triumphal entry into Johannesburg and Pretoria, with my regiment, 350 strong, the second Canadian regiment, and the Guards. Kruger, with his staff and troops, has withdrawn into the mountains north of Pretoria. I expect to leave Cape-Town in a week en route for Southampton — Netley Hospital. In case I get well during the passage I may, when I get to Netley, obtain a three weeks’ leave of absence, which would allow me to push a point to Paris and visit the exposition.

“I have been without news from home for two months, the regiment, I am sure, not knowing where to find me.

“My regiment will probably embark for England in a fortnight, and the city of London is preparing a grand reception for us.

“Do not fret yourself about my illness; I do not think I shall suffer from it long.

“The regiment will take me up in England and I think the first fortnight in August will see me in Quebec in the midst of all the family.

“Well, my dear father, regards and kind wishes to all the family; a thousand kisses for my brothers and sisters, the largest part for you.

“A bientôt,

“Your affectionate son,

“LUCIEN.

“This letter, so full of cheerfulness and bright visions of the future, is very affecting in view of the death of the brave young soldier a little more than a fortnight after, and will intensify the universal feeling of sympathy with the bereaved father and family.”

MILITARY JOTTINGS

“A letter has been received by his friends from Private Jos. Hudon, from Quebec, who was wounded at the battle of Paardeberg, and under orders to proceed to Netley. Owing to the disaster to the *Mexican*, the ship on which he was to sail was ordered to take out the mails and

passengers, and was consequently unable to find room for the whole batch of invalids, some of whom were sent to Green Point Camp near Cape-Town, and others to No. 3 General Hospital, Rondebosch, from which the letter is dated. Here, the colonel of the R. A. medical corps, commanding the hospital, hearing that he was good at clerking, sent for him and gave him a job on the staff office, which brought him 22 cents a day extra, and required light work. Private Hudon writes that he is sorry that he will not see his friends as soon as they expected, but comforts himself with the thought that he may obtain leave to go to the front later on, which is what he is looking for, because although he has won two bars on his medal he would like to win the bar for any general engagement fought around or on the way to Pretoria, and although all the doctors he has yet seen have marked him as unfit for further active service he still has hopes to obtain his request later on. On Easter Sunday he had a visit from young Drum and Montizambert, who had just arrived from Canada in the draft to replace the casualties, and they had a great time of it the next day, which was a holiday in the office. He says, 'Speaking of our charge at Paardeberg, the Boer papers call us 'the little Canucks,' 'flying devils,' and there is a bounty of ten shillings offered by President Steyn, of the O. F. S. for each Canadian caught dead or alive. So I think we are somebody after all.' He concludes by saying that he is cheerful and well, and hopes to be back in September."

WAS REPORTED KILLED

"After a graphic description of the battle of Modder River on February 18th, Private Johnson, son of Dr. Johnson, member for West Lambton, relates the incidents intervening between it and the next battle, the final stand of Cronje at Paardeberg.

"On leaving the battlefield as I was going in I heard some groaning and searched for the place from whence the sound came, found a Seaforth, badly wounded. Fortunately I had put the rum with which we were served before the battle in my water bottle and had about half of it left. I raised him up and gave him a drink of it and the way in which it revived him was wonderful. Helping him along a short distance we met a stretcher on which he was put and carried in, but I shall not forget his inexpressible gratitude to me.'

"Private Johnson continues; — 'On the 26th, about noon we went

into the trenches for what was to be for forty-eight hours. We were not in very long before we were told that the regiment was to rush the Boer trenches during the next night, so we were all on the 'qui vive.' On the morning of the 27th we were wakened at 2 a. m. and B Company was to be prepared to support C, D and G in the rush (B Company had suffered severely in the first fight on the 18th), the Gordons and Cornwalls to support the whole regiment. Our men left the trenches and stealing forward got to within about fifty yards of the Boers when a tremendous fire was poured into them. The men, in the meantime, had made trenches and were able to hold their ground though the gain was won at a fearful cost, about 14 killed and 24 wounded. To make matters worse the crossfire of the Shropshires hampered us and in addition to this the Gordons who had manned the trenches were waiting with bayonets fixed as supports. When the order to retire was given two of our men clambering into the trenches fell on the Gordons' bayonets, both receiving severe flesh wounds, but fortunately neither of them fatal. Great was our surprise in the morning, the anniversary of Majuba Hill, to see the entire Boer force surrender, Cronje, their leader, with them. We were among the escorts."

SAW CRONJE TAKEN

SOME INTERESTING DETAILS FROM VICTORIA BOYS WHO WERE IN
THE BATTLE.

"The following is an extract from a letter received by W. W. Northcott, Victoria, B. C., city assessor, from his son, Sergeant Joseph Northcott, at Paardeberg Drift, under date of March 2nd:—

"We are now camped till next Thursday about the battlefield. We have had a glorious victory over the enemy, although it cost us pretty heavy, about 140 killed and wounded. The Boers, however, have lost twice that number. They look like a fine lot of men, although they are very dirty, but I don't think we have much to brag about in that respect just at present, for we have not had much time lately to be anything else.

"It was the Canadians who made the Boers give in, for our fire was something terrible. We started the fight about 2 in the morning and the enemy gave it up at 6 a. m. Lord Roberts made a speech to

the regiment, but our company was across the river, so we did not hear it. I had 25 men with me in the upper trenches, comprising some of our best shots, and when Lord Roberts came our way with his staff he asked who we were. I told him, and then he asked me my name. He then stated we had done noble work, and were as good a lot of men as were in the British army.

“I saw General Cronje taken prisoner, accompanied by his wife and two daughters. They were started for Cape-Town with an escort of 100 mounted men. I had a conversation with one of the Boers, and he said they were tired of it, and wanted to quit; but that General Cronje would not let them. We captured a great amount of ammunition and arms, including ‘pumpums.’ This is a terrible gun, and shoots a bullet of about a pound, but our naval gunners knocked it out almost in the first round.

“We have been under fire every day from the 18th of February up to the 27th, but I am pleased to say A Company has not lost any men since the 18th. I am sending you a sketch of the battlefield, and where the troops were situated; also the Boers’ laager, as it was on the 18th instant and on the 27th instant.

“Where we are going next we don’t know. Some say Kimberley and some to Bloemfontein. I have not had a paper from Victoria since December last. I am keeping in good health and spirits.”

“Private Finch-Smiles, of Victoria, has written to a friend from Orange River Hospital, in which he scores those Britishers who admire the Boers, saying that the latter potted the stretcher-bearers, used explosive bullets and fired into the hospital.

“This is just to let you know,” he writes, “that I am still on top of the earth, though not quite as lively as perhaps I might be, and not able to do more than pen a few lines, as I get extremely tired. We had a very exciting day last Sunday week, and I got my dose early in the day, and so had leisure to reflect upon many things pertaining to the brevity of human existence on this sad earth — also many other thoughts of a philosophical character.

“My wound is healing up nicely, and I hope to be able to rejoin the regiment in three or four weeks’ time. We have been set nearly crazy over the good news that begins to roll in now, and if things continue as now I fear the campaign will be over before I am in condition to rejoin. Well, we shall see.”

BAUGH BOYS WRITE HOME

“Corporal George Baugh, of the R. C. A., received two letters from his boys in South Africa on Friday, from Corporal R. Baugh, of the Maxim gun section, and Private E. Baugh, known among his comrades as ‘Boss.’ The latter was hit but twice, not three times, as already published. The first bullet struck him in the back and came out at the leg, leaving two holes, which his brother took to be two distinct wounds, and with the one in the foot thought he had been wounded three times.

“Writing from De Aar under date of February 27th, of the Paardeberg battle, Private Baugh says: —

“You should have seen the field after the battle. It was the worst sight I ever saw. The dead were piled on top of one another and the wounded were crying for help. The Boers were firing just the same. They did not stop night or day. We fought all the day from 6 in the morning till 6.30 at night, and then we made a charge on them, and you should see the men falling. I got hit in the side first, but I did not stop. I went on till we got within a hundred yards of them. Then we had to lie down. We could go no closer and stopped there for a while. Then they must have seen us coming, for they hit me in the foot, but they did not shift me. I stopped there till it was all over, and then we were brought into camp, and had to sleep on the rocks with nothing to eat till the next day. I hope I will get another chance at the Boers soon for I would like to hit some of them to pay them back for the twice they hit me. I only hit six or seven of them that day, but that is not enough. War is not as easy a thing as they say. We had two hard tack biscuits for two days with one bottle of water and had to fight for more water and to lose fourteen men before we got it; but we got it all the same. We lost about 20 killed and 75 wounded. Poor Corporal Power is wounded in the breast, but I think he will be all right again.”

BELLEVILLE MAN WINS WATCH

FOR BEING THE FIRST TO PUT A FLAG OVER THE GAOL AT PRETORIA.

“Belleville, August 27th, 1900.

“When the first contingent went to South Africa Mrs. Fred. Lingham, of this city, gave a silken Union Jack into the keeping of

Lieutenant Glencoe Hulme, of the Fifteenth A. L. I., promising to present the best gold watch in Canada to the man of the Belleville squad who raised that flag over Pretoria gaol. Lieutenant Hulme enlisted as a private in D Company, and has since been promoted to sergeant.

“Colonel Ponton on Sunday received a cablegram from Pretoria which announced that Sergeant Hulme had himself put up the flag on the gaol. Sergeant Hulme’s father is City Surveyor and assessor of this city, and is receiving many congratulations to-day over his son’s success.”

KIND TO THE CANADIANS

“Private E. T. Austen, of Belleville (now in the Canadian Mounted Rifles), tells this incident in a letter from Cape-Town : —

“A young lady came down to our camp the other day and they were all out on drill and I was left on guard. She wanted to see the Canadians. I told her to come the next day about 4 o’clock, and she came with her mother, and they asked a Mr. Jackson, of Toronto, and myself, up to their house, and we went up and have been up twice. They are coming down to-morrow to get a pass for us to go up to tea. They are such nice people and they live in a lovely house. They brought us down a basket of grapes and some candies and books. I have seen some of the Canadians who were up at the front, that are wounded, and they don’t seem to mind being at the front very much.”

HOW WALTER WHITE DIED

WINDSOR BOYS WRITE HOME TELLING OF THEIR FRIEND’S SAD DEATH.

“Messrs. Northwood and Boers, Windsor, are in receipt of letters from their sons in South Africa, both dated from Bloemfontein. Northwood mentions briefly the attack on the trenches at Paardeberg and the surrender of Cronje next day, then the movement of the Windsor boys to Bloemfontein. He touches most feelingly on the death of his intimate friend, Walter White, who, he says was killed while on an errand of mercy. He had moved from cover to give a drink to a wounded Highlander when he fell. ‘Words,’ said the writer ‘cannot describe my feelings when I saw his face covered with

the blood he had so nobly shed for his country, I know it will be some consolation for his mother to know that her boy died such a noble death.'

"From the surrender of Cronje to the writing of the letter the contingent had been marching and fighting every day, while living on half rations. At Bloemfontein, however, a few luxuries and necessaries were obtained.

"Boers' letter contains a very interesting item of news not before conveyed in the letters from the boys. He says that three or four days after the surrender of Cronje, the Canadians and Highland Brigade were dispatched to dislodge some Boers who had occupied a kopje ten miles off. The Boers did not await the onset, but retired hastily, after some cannonade, leaving two of their best Krupps. In all that day the troops detailed for this work manoeuvred over a distance of 20 miles.

"The march to Bloemfontein, 67 miles, took four days, and all were much fatigued."

STORIES OF CANADIANS NEW AT THE FRONT

SHOT — DIDN'T FEEL IT.

"One of the Canadian wounded, Private Angus McAuley, writing from Winberg Hospital, March 4th, says of the last fight : —

"All we had that morning was a drink of rum, went into the field at 8 a. m., and surrounded Cronje and his force. Then the bullets began to whiz. We crept for about a mile to get into the firing line, then sent volleys into the laager. You should have heard the women screaming. Of course the Boers take a lot of women along with them. They had no doctors with them, so they threw the wounded into the river. They hoisted the white flag a good many times and started to dig trenches at the same time, so Lord Roberts ordered the guns not to cease fire for the flag. It was then 4.45 and the Cornwalls were advancing. As they came up the word went along our lines to fix bayonets and charge. We all went and I had only run about 50 yards when down I came, with dozens falling around me. I didn't feel the bullet going through. My leg just felt like a log. I stepped on it and down I fell. I lay there till dark when I was carried in. It took till 4 the next morning to get to the hospital. About 8 a. m. my leg was dressed."

"Private R. R. Thompson, of the First Canadians, writing to an Ottawa friend from the convalescent camp at Norval's Pont, on June 15th, says: —

"Ottawa has contributed nobly to Canada's share of honor in the war. Of the 58 boys that left Ottawa on the 23rd October last, 25 have been killed or wounded. Certainly she has suffered very heavily. Our regiment has suffered severely, both from casualties and disease, of the 1,200 who were left, only about 200 now remain at the front with the regiment.

"We have lost about 170 killed and wounded and the rest are lying in hospitals or convalescent camps, suffering from enteric fever, malaria, rheumatism or sunstroke."

BOYS ARE WELL TREATED

"Mr. Réal Huot writes as follows to his brother in Montreal, from Cape-Town, under date of February 27th: —

"Dear Alphonse,

"I write you a few words to tell you that I am well and in good health. People here are very good to us, and I never ate so much fruit as I did this winter. My officers are good to me, so are the rest of the boys. Yesterday they made us put a paper in our valises with the names of our nearest relatives, to whom we would like to have news sent if we died on the field. I put your name and I gave your address. If I am fortunate enough to go back to Canada again I will have lots to tell you.

"We leave here to-morrow for Kimberley, about 700 miles from here. As you see, we are all disposed to die for our Queen. This country is very nice, but it's very warm. I would like to give you a more complete letter, but you understand that I have no place and no time. Letters take a month to reach here, so before you get this letter and answer back it will be two months at least. I see about 3,000 to 4,000 soldiers daily from all nationalities, and it is a nice sight. But a war like this isn't a play, I tell you. I suppose that when I receive your answer our fighting will be over.

"Yours,

"RÉAL HUOT,"

THEN THE CHARGE CAME

“Mr. W. C. Caldwell, M. P. P., of Lanark, Ont., has a letter from his son, Lieutenant Caldwell, who is in Wynberg Hospital, which tells of the charge. He says: —

“Then the charge came, and the fire was awful. I can't see how so few were hit. It is simply a wonder to me that the regiment wasn't wiped out to a man. I wasn't in the charging line, and I am very thankful I wasn't. The men dropped right and left, and the regiment on our right lost men in bunches. Darkness came on, and how thankful we were for it — tired, hungry and thirsty, only the excitement keeping many of us up. Then came the wounded — it was awful. The dead were left on the field and buried next day, Monday. The camp that night was a thing to be remembered. Only a few of the blankets had come over, and one blanket to four men was the allowance. I got hold of a bag, and Armstrong (an old R. M. C. Cadet) and I got our legs into it, with the blanket around us, and crept under a tarpaulin, thankful that we were safe and sound.”

HOWELL'S BRAVE DEED

HE HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED FOR THE VICTORIA CROSS.

“Brantford, Ont., November 30th.

“The *Expositor* has received a letter from Captain J. S. Kingston, of the Imperial Light Horse, who is a Brantford boy, reporting that Reginald Howell, another Brantford lad, who enlisted in the South African Light Horse, distinguished himself at the Tugela River by swimming across to capture a ferry and also saving the life of a comrade who had become exhausted. Howell has received the Humane Society's medal and has been recommended for the Victoria Cross. The young Canadian was personally thanked by General Buller and Lord Roberts.”

“Galt, April 20th, 1900.

“Alex. McLean of Galt, who was at Paardeberg, writes home as follows: —

“From Paardeberg to Bloemfontein Lord Roberts and staff were with us. Major Denison of London, Ont., is one of the field marshal's staff officers.

“ We have had some very hard times fighting by day and marching by night, often on half empty stomachs for hours, so that what with fatigue and the climate it is no wonder that some of our boys have succumbed to fever, etc. It only goes to show the wisdom of the authorities in rejecting unlikely or weakly fellows. The boys from Brant, Oxford and Waterloo Counties are all right. We can hold our own with the cream of the best. Many of us have blistered feet and have not doffed our clothes, except for a swim, for the past five or six weeks, and more often sleep under the canopy of heaven than under any other cover, all of which is trying to one's constitution.

“ There are nearly 50,000 troops here. We are camped on the east of the town, which is being strongly fortified. We have been promised that the colonials will march with the rest of the troops towards Pretoria, 300 miles distant. We all hope so. All our men are in fettle and are longing for the word from Bobs ‘forward.’ ”

SEAMY SIDE OF WAR

“ Private W. J. Raymond, of St. John, N. B., writes : —

“ People can shout all they wish about the ‘glory of war,’ but to me there is only one side to it, and that is the ‘seamy side.’ At Paardeberg that morning, after the Boers gave in, we slipped from behind the line of entrenchments we had so quickly built, and approached the Boer laager and fortifications to accept their surrender and take their arms. On the way there I first discovered Fred. Withers, who lay dead upon the ground. I had up to that moment thought him alive, and you can picture the shock it was to find him — dead. It was terrible. It was difficult at first glance to know just who it was, but after we had looked at him closer it was easy to know the truth. He was lying on his back and had undoubtedly died instantly. We placed his helmet over his face and left him. A distance to the right a couple more bodies lay. We approached and knew that poor little Joe Johnston and Sergeant Scott would never voyage back to Canada again. I will not try to tell you anything about it, but covering them over as best we could, we walked away. On ahead and nearer the Boer trenches three more silent khaki-clad forms lay scattered on the grass, while inside the trench a Boer also lay dead. Later in the morning a burying party was formed, and all of our regiment who had died were placed in one large grave—seven in all.”

FIRST TO FORD MODDER

“Ernest Bownes, in a letter to the *Patriot*, Charlottetown, says: —

“The Boers were entrenched all along the Modder River. A rope was stretched across, and by catching hold of it we kept ourselves from being carried away by the swift current and got across some way. At some places the water was up to our shoulders, and several fellows lost their footing and got in over the head. I tried to be the first Islander over, but Hedley McKinnon got ahead of me and I came in a good second. As soon as all our company were over we went on to support the other companies, who were already at it. We advanced in extended order — that is seven paces between each man — until we came to the brow of a hill over which we had to go and advance down the slope about 1,000 yards before we came to the Boer position. It was going down that slope where we lost most men. At the brow we lay down to get our breath. It was while lying there that I saw the first man hit. He was a private in H Company, and was hit in the right arm by a stray bullet, plenty of which were whistling over our heads in fine style.”

“Lieutenant Joseph Matthews, of Lindsay, tells of the battle in these words: —

“I think from the way they acted under fire for the first time, that Canada has no need to be ashamed of the regiment. When told to try an impossible charge of about six or seven hundred yards, against a hidden enemy, they showed no hesitation whatever, but charged like men. The Highlanders say that the fire they faced at Dargai and Magersfontein wasn't a patch to this. Since then we have been under fire more or less all the time, but I don't think we will be called upon to repeat Sunday's performance, as the artillery are doing the work. We are up nearly every night, and only get about one meal a day, so we are having hardships in earnest.

“Will have to close now to get this away. Our regiment is going to occupy a position on the left to check Boer reinforcements. I hope you can make this out, but I am afraid you can't. Remember me to all my friends, and tell them that I am doing splendid so far.”

SIGHT OF A LIFETIME

“ ‘Chebucto,’ in the *Halifax Herald*, says : —

“ Before leaving Dreifontein, Lord Roberts passed through us on horseback, accompanied by his staff. It was the sight of a lifetime, the small figure of the Field Marshal, beloved by all, and closely following him three abreast, the bravest and cleverest men that could compose a General's retinue. Staff officers, subadars and other native officers, and the broad rimmed straw hat of a bronzed face officer belonging to the naval brigade.

“ This march of 11 miles was one of the worst we have experienced, and heaps of men fell out. specially amongst the Cornwalls and Shropshires. This stop (Sunday, March 11th), was known as Aasvogal Kop (Vulture Peak), and was a very pretty green spot for a camp, situated between three kopjes. We lay to over night, and the next morning continued our journey, reaching Venter Vallei, because at this spot I got in with the black kaffir camp followers, and paid five shillings and six pence for three biscuits (hard tack) a small piece of meat and a canteen full of hot coffee.”

RECRUITING PROGRESSES

“ Private H. S. White, in the *St. John, N. B., Sun*, says : —

“ Meantime recruiting and looting go ahead merrily ; the Dutch residents willingly accept the honor of service in the ranks of the Free State army — perhaps they do not realize at all that they are risking themselves into rebels pure and simple. Steenekamp is there ; the place has been annexed to the Free State, and they look upon themselves as burghers fairly and squarely. In this way the villages and intervening country from Van Wyk's Vlei on the south to Upington on the north, and from Britstown on the east to Calvinia on the west, has been placed under the three-colored Republican flag. Almost every Dutch resident has taken up arms, everything of any value has been ‘commandered,’ and the consequence is that we have now the prospect of a pretty little ‘scrap’ with a fairly well equipped force of something between two and three thousand men, who call themselves burgher soldiers, and whom we call ‘rebels.’ ”

IN THE COLORED QUARTER

“Private Mellish writes his mother in Charlottetown : —

“Bloemfontein Camp, March 15th, 1900.

“Here we are at last. We marched here from Ferrara, our regiment being the rear guard. I have made a visit to the town, entering by the colored quarter. I was the object of much notice by the dusky inhabitants as I passed along on the outskirts. I purchased ten peaches and five pears for nine pence, and I can assure you I relished them. As I turned a corner a negro came running down the street, pursued by a soldier. The sentries and a great crowd came up and I passed on. After getting well in the town, on enquiry I found a hotel and had a famous dinner. The table was set out with table napkins and other accessories. I enclose the bill of fare. While at the hotel an ex-officer of the Boers and a corporal and two men of the Manchesters came in wrangling about a Mauser carbine. One of the men took the rifle from the Boer and then the soldiers told the corporal to follow them in and take the officer a prisoner for having arms in his possession. This at once quieted the Boer and he left the rifle with the corporal.”

THE SECOND MIDDLESEX AT SPION KOP

“Private H. Newell, 2nd Middlesex, writing to his brother at Richmond, says : —

“24th January, 1900, will never be forgotten by the Middlesex Regiment. It is called the day of horrors by the regiment, and Spion Kop is called the Slaughter Hill, and such it was. English troops were slain as in a butcher's shop. It was near 18 hours' fighting as far as I was concerned. Our regiment (Middlesex) fought like lions the whole day long, with heavy casualties. On my right two men had their legs blown off; on my left men had arms and some had their heads blown off. To-day is the first day that I have had my boots off for about 16 days, and as for sleep, we have had none, except with our eyes open.”

COLONIALS AT WORK

BUSINESS ACUMEN OF THE CANADIAN PRIVATES WHEN NOT FIGHTING.

“London, April 21st, 1900.

“A despatch from Bloemfontein, commenting on the improvement in industrial prospects, which the system is likely to bring about says:—

“An instance of the business acumen of the colonial is the case of a Canadian private, who has a large interest in a soap business. During the present halt he has been pushing his wares with the same energy as he and his comrades rushed the trenches at Paardeberg.”

BRAVE STRETCHER-BEARERS

“Corporal Cawdron, of Hamilton, after describing the fight, relates the following incident of the battle : —

“The Cape Colony Volunteer stretcher-bearers deserve great praise for the way they worked with our wounded. Too much praise cannot be given them. One, a corporal, and Dick Thompson, of D Company, went 100 yards under fire for a poor fellow who was tossing about, but he died as they lifted him up.

“At 10 o'clock we marched on to the Boer laager and took possession of it, while prisoners were escorted along the other side of the river and looked like Coxey's army, some with shawls, overcoats, umbrellas, etc.”

“Of the congratulatory messages sent Corporal Cawdron says : —

“Sir Wilfrid Laurier's cable was read out in orders to-day, and Colonel Sherwood's communication to members of the Forty-Third, and quite a few nice things were said by the Forty-Third as to the Colonel's thoughtfulness.”

“Writing from the General Hospital at Wynberg, George McCallum writes to his father in Springfield, N. S. Speaking of his wound, he says : —

“I was under fire for 10 hours before I got hit. The wound is not much. I was hit on the head by a hard Mauser. It twisted the bullet

a bit. I have the bullet that was taken out of my head. If I had got a rap on the head at home in a pit like this I would not have lost a day's work with it, but the doctors know it all. They sent me from Paardeberg to the hospital at Modder River Station. The consulting doctor was afraid of my head, so he sent me to the Island Hospital, which is a hotel made into a hospital, situated on an island between Modder and Reit Rivers. They kept me there for ten days till I was fit to travel; then they sent me here to Wynberg, which is only seven miles from Cape-Town; but I will be back with the regiment in about a fortnight, as the doctor here said I would be able to join my regiment in about three weeks when I first came here, so that by the time you get this I will be back at the front again. James Scott was shot through the fleshy part of the leg, which will lay him up for about two months."

THE CANADIANS' MAIL SERVICE

" 'Larry' Johnston, the Winnipegger with the Canadian regiment in South Africa, as special mail service officer, writes: —

" Our own work is heavy owing to the regiments receiving their back pay and the mails for the Canadians are as large as the other three regiments combined. Out of 41 bags for the brigade, 21 were for our regiment. A field post office is attached to each brigade, consisting generally of four regiments, supply corps and medical corps. There is also a field post office for the divisional staff, each division being made up from two or more brigades. A sergeant and three men of the army P. O. C. are attached to each F. P. O. I am attached to the 19th Brigade, F. P. O., as sergeant of the Can. P. O. C., and although I am supposed to work in conjunction with the other corps, my time is taken up entirely by our own regiment. To give you an idea of the amount of business we transacted up to last Sunday. We had taken in £1,300, and this week has beaten the record over £700. We sell an enormous amount of stamps, postal notes (for England only), registered envelopes, letter cards and note paper and envelopes. Lord Roberts inspected the brigade yesterday, and paid a visit to our tent, situated between the lines of Canadians and Gordons. We are exempt from all duties except com. off. parade, including church parade."

CANADIANS' GRAVE

“Halifax, April 23rd, 1900.

“A correspondent describes a visit to the Paardeberg battlefield, where the Canadians made themselves famous, a week after Cronje's surrender. He says:—

“It is terrible to contemplate the storm of shell that must have fallen around these trenches when once the British, fighting the wily marksmen every mile of the way, had completed their manoeuvre and got ahead of the Boers. The greenish-yellow of the lyddite shells covers whole patches of ground, whilst shrapnel must have been bursting, without exaggeration, one shell to every dozen yards. How the Dutch escaped annihilation can only be put down to their skilfully-constructed trenches in the first part of the fighting, and to our general's action, when he had got his guns into position, in allowing them to surrender.

“One grave is conspicuous in a glade amongst the thorn trees. It is that of six of the brave Canadians who fell when one of the Boer trenches was rushed. The grave is covered with large stones, and a cross formed of planks stands at the head, with the inscription: ‘In memory of Corporals Withey and Withers, Privates G. Orman, J. M. Johnson, J. B. Scott, W. A. Riggs, Royal Canadian Regiment, killed in action, February 27th, 1900.’”

IN A PATRIOT'S GRAVE

“Private L. LaRue, of Quebec, who was wounded at Paardeberg and whose death from enteric fever has now been reported, gave his life for his country, and for his Queen, just as completely as though he had been slain in battle. His name is worthy to be enrolled among the heroes of the nation, for he responded to the call to arms, did a soldier's duty and met a soldier's fate. We who enjoy the privileges and the immunities that are purchased at the price of such young, ardent and patriotic lives, will prize as a precious heritage the memory of the men who have fought and died for the flag we love so well. Quebec has now given three names to the army of dead heroes—Witty, LaRue and McQueen—and though dead, these men still live as an inspiration to noble and patriotic deeds.”

CANADIANS HOISTED FLAG OVER PRETORIA

“Our brigade was first to get into Pretoria, and the Canadians, being at the head, put up the flag on the Government buildings. The 19th Brigade got the preference, as they had done most of the fighting and the hardest work of all. Permission being asked of Lord Roberts by General Smith-Dorrien on Tuesday, June 5th, we entered Pretoria, and next day we went to the other side of the town.”

“FRED. T. ANDERSON.”

WAR MADE GOOD BUSINESS FOR CANADA

The war in South Africa has brought terrible loss of life and suffering in its train and Canada has wept tears of blood, but out of the evil good has come. The business of Canada has received a tremendous stimulus and her ability to supply the Imperial authorities with food stuffs and other war material has opened up a very wide market for her. The British authorities now know that their wants can be supplied within the Empire and that they need no longer be at the mercy of other nationalities. It is interesting to learn that the War Office has placed heavy orders in Canada for war supplies, to be sent to China. Waggon, horses, hay, cattle, food, etc., great coats and other clothing of various classes “as used in Canada” are required and very soon to build men-of-war. This, besides being highly interesting from a commercial standpoint, is significant as being a straw showing the direction of the wind of British policy.

This can't replace the blood of our braves, but by the sacrifice of that blood it is the guarantee of a prosperity that is due to our brave Canadian soldiers.

A CREDIT TO MCGILL COLLEGE

“Mr. Alfred E. Burrows, under-graduate in medicine at McGill, who joined Kitchener's Horse about the middle of August last. Writing under date of November says : —

“I am writing from what was once the Orange Free State Hotel. I was sent back here after the engagement, in charge of the wounded. I was to rejoin my column as soon as the ambulances arrived, but the ambulances have evidently been unable to come, as I have had no

word since. In the meantime some Boers came and walked off with my horse, saddle and saddle-bags, containing all I possessed. We had six wounded here, including a Royal Artillery captain who had his arm shattered. Another man had his mouth and part of his nose torn away. I had only one orderly to help me.

“The Boers I have been speaking to claim that the worst of the war is not over yet.”

“Later Mr. Burrows writes from Kroonstad under date of November 11th: —

“I hope you will be able to read this indistinctly written letter, which was written by the flickering light of a candle. Since writing last I have rejoined my column. It was read out in orders the day before I arrived here that Quartermaster-Sergeant A. E. Burrows, on account of his medical experience, had been left at Bothaville in charge of the wounded, and would remain on the medical staff on his return.’ I brought all my patients safely into Kroonstad — not one death, although all were seriously wounded.”

KENNEDY'S MANY WOUNDS

“Big Jim Kennedy, of Toronto, was formerly a sergeant in the Queen's Own Rifles. He now enjoys the distinction of having on his person eleven marks of Boer bullets, although only six struck and stick lovingly in some part of his anatomy. There is lots of room for that bullet, too, for Big Jim, as his comrades fondly call him, weighs about 235, whereas he tipped the scales at less than 180 when he left Quebec last October. His right arm was broken in two places, and one setting has not been completely successful as yet. However, Private Kennedy does not worry. He has travelled in the north of Ireland for two months in company with his mother. On his right arm are seven wounds, the tip of his shoulder is knocked off, while one bullet went into his back and came out in the thigh, while the other is located in the leg. ‘It was a sniper,’ said Big Jim, and he was up a tree, but he'll never go there any more. He plugged me full of holes, but something struck him after a while and now he isn't sniping. It is hard on a fellow, though, not to give him a chance to return the compliment; but I am glad to get home just the same. I

was well treated in the hospitals and the orderlies could not steal anything, for I had no clothes left but the band of my pants and the pocket which contained my purse, my watch and my mother's photo. All the rest of my clothes had been shot off by that fellow up the tree and I rode from Paardeberg to Modder River with no clothes on me. There some one gave me a suit of pyjamas, and thus attired I reached Wynberg."

A HALIFAX HERO

"Corporal Charles Hancock, of Halifax, is a great favourite with the contingent, and not without reason. At times he was the only assistant that Dr. Fiset could find on the bloody mission of removing the dead from the battlefield. Each and every one of the members engaged at Paardeberg have a good word to say of Charlie Hancock, who helped many of them in their hour of dire need. He himself fell a victim to the dread enteric, and was forced to give up the fight. It is pretty hard on a fellow to have to turn back and not follow the regiment to the end.

"Sergeant Peppiatt was wounded on the day of the second battle of Paardeberg, which followed by a day the battle of February 27th."

EARNED THE VICTORIA

"Fred Ramsay, of St. John, N. B., has received a most interesting letter from Private Fred McCain, of the first contingent. It is from Bloemfontein under date of March 28th. He tells of the action on February 18th, in which Private McCreary was killed. He writes :—

"We had two killed and two wounded of our company. One of them (the killed) was from Prince Edward Island and the other from Kings County. The latter's name was Taylor. He was a nice quiet boy and a very good living fellow, and McCreary was in our section. He was a good fellow, too, and if any one earned the V. C., it was he. He was a stretcher bearer and when any fellows were wounded and called out for stretcher bearer, poor Pat was up and away to him, no matter how thick the bullets were coming. He worked all day in the thick of the fight, and, when we were ordered to retire, we thought he had gone to the hospital with some poor wounded fellow; but

when we went out next morning to see and bury our dead, poor Pat was there on the field shot in four places, and the Boer doctor had bound up his wounds. He was alive but unconscious. He died in the hospital next day."

WELL DONE !

Message from the people of Canada to their Contingents in South Africa, after Paardeberg and the relief of Mafeking.

Well done, brave sons ! Your every move we've traced :
 With eager eyes—through tears—we've scanned the news ;
 You are of us, and so we could not choose
 But stand with you or fall at Fate's behest.

We knew your valour. In your veins you bear
 The chivalry of France — the Briton's pride —
 With names like "Daulac" or "Champlain" to guide,
 Or "Brant" or "Brock" to teach you how to dare.

But never did we dream that you might do
 Such deeds as late have set us wild with joy ;
 Such fearless feats — fit boast for fabled Troy —
 As give the palm of Paardeberg to you.

We wait, impatient till the war is o'er,
 To do you honour on your proud home shore.

GEORGE GRAHAM CURRIE.

Winnipeg, Man. May 24th, 1900.

OUR ROYAL CANADIANS

(BY J. H. COWDEN)

Hurrah for our soldier lads so true ! —
 They come of the good old stock,
 Sinews of steel, and sun-tan hue,
 Courage as firm as a rock.

For they've gone over ocean blue —
 They've marched over veldt and plain,
 Sturdy of will and hearts as true —
 Their fathers' fights they'd fight again.

This guiding thought of their line so keen,
 It's firing front to vict'ry bore —
 "To dare and die for the Empire's Queen,
 And Canada's fame from shore to shore."

No weakling cravens in trench or pit,
 Met the zest of Canadian zeal,
 Than Cronje's burghers are none more fit,
 Worthy of sternest foemen's steel.

With the flag of Empire in the van —
 With Imperial will they faced the foe —
 To do whate'er may be dared by man,
 For Britain to go where man may go.

In forefront flashed Canadian steel —
 Forward the Empire's youngest son!
 No halt midway during battle's peal;
 No rest for the brave till duty's done.

They waver not at the fire so drear,
 That galls and kills with war's grim spite,
 Canada's soldiers spurn each fear —
 Their war cry "Britain's Queen—The Right!"
 * * * * *

The end — none else might the bravest seek —
 The stubborn beaten foemen yield,
 Their cry for mercy, faint and weak,
 Was ne'er to Britons in vain appealed.
 * * * * *

* There were 26 killed and 95 wounded in the battles that preceded Cronje's surrender at Paardeberg.

And counting our dead — our dying braves,
 Victorious sorrow, mourning weeps,
 While she wreathes the laurel o'er their graves,
 And the south wind moaning — vigil keeps.

Little they reck of the guerdon won,
 Resting in peace, neath Afric's sod —
 Their course of duty early run —
 Their souls keep trust with Mercy's God.

A prayer for our soldier lads so young,
 Who fought like the good old stock,
 With sinews of steel and nerves well strung,
 And courage as firm as a rock.

KIPLING'S LATEST POEM

SUNG AT BLOEMFONTEIN IN THE CONCERT ORGANIZED FOR WIDOWS'
 AND ORPHANS' FUND.

“Bloemfontein, Thursday, April 20th, 1900.

“A concert was given last night in aid of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund organized by the war correspondents. The leaders of the army were present, and the feature was Kipling's new poem sung to the music of 'Auld Lang Syne.' It is as follows: —

We welcome to our hearts to-night
 Our kinsmen from afar,
 Brothers in an Empire's fight
 And comrades of our war.
 For Auld Lang Syne, my lads,
 And the fights of Auld Lang Syne!
 We drink our cup of fellowship
 To the fights of Auld Lang Syne.

The shamrock, thistle, leek and rose,
 With heath and wattle twine,
 And maple from Canadian snows,
 For the sake of Auld Lang Syne.

For Auld Lang Syne take hands
 From London to the line !
 Good luck to those who toiled with us
 Since the days of Auld Lang Syne !

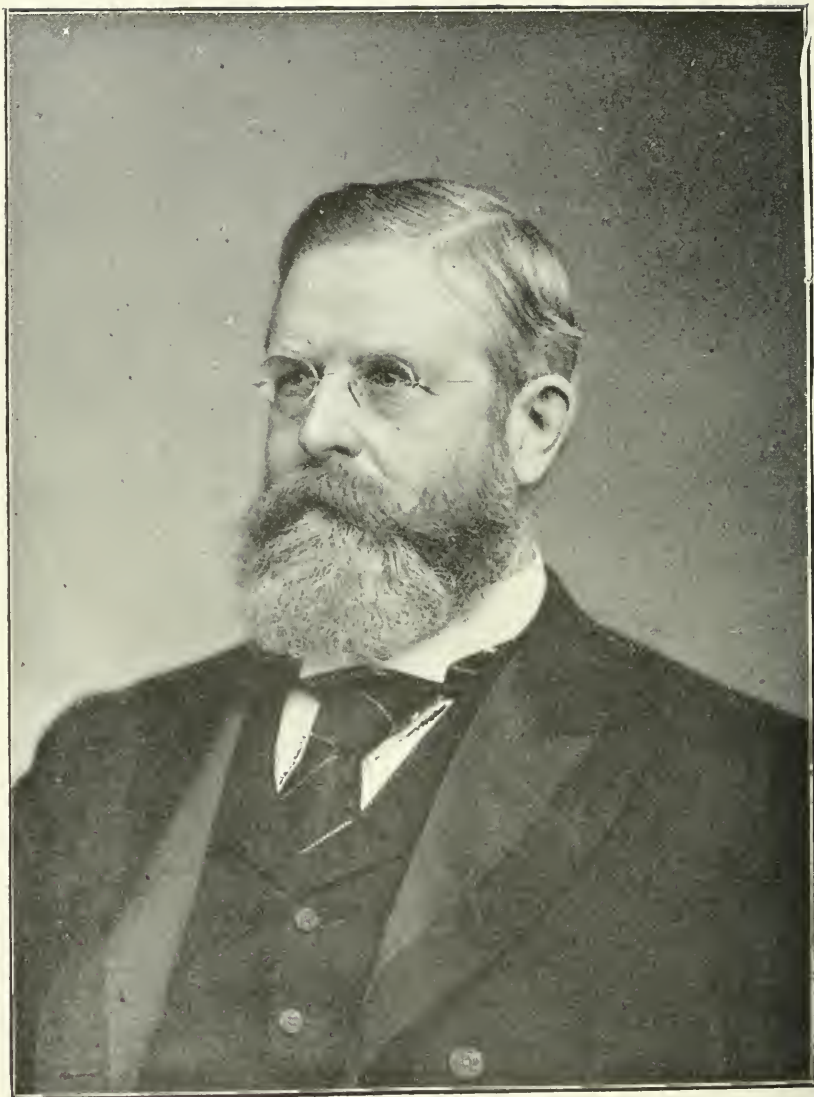
Again to all we hold most dear
 In life we left behind,
 The wives we wooed, the bairns we kissed,
 And the loves of Auld Lang Syne.
 For surely you have your sweetheart,
 And surely I have mine ;
 We toast her name in silence here
 And the girls of Auld Lang Syne.

And last to him, the little man,
 Who led our fighting line
 From Kabul on to Kandahar
 In the days of Auld Lang Syne.
 For Auld Lang Syne and Bobs,
 Our chief of Auld Lang Syne !
 We're here to do his work again
 As we did in Auld Lang Syne ! ”

We would never end were we to reproduce all the letters that have come to us from all over the Dominion, for, we may say with assurance that each soldier has written at least one letter — which would give an average of three thousand letters in all.

But as all these letters are written with the same heart, the same sentiments, and the same love for Canada, we will pause, to give expression to our admiration, at the story of the postal service, the systematic organization of which has allowed us to follow, step by step, the magnificent advance of our brave lads, as depicted in their own letters.





HONORABLE W. MULOCK,
POSTMASTER-GENERAL,
Organizer of the Postal Contingent.

THE POSTAL SERVICE

HOW OUR PEOPLE ARE APPRECIATED IN SOUTH AFRICA

THE following correspondence has just taken place between the officer in charge of the Army Postal Service at Cape-Town, and Hon. Mr. Mulock, Postmaster-General of Canada, in regard to the effective service rendered by the Postal Contingent in Africa : —

“ Army Postal Service,

“ Cape-Town, April 25th, 1900.

“ To the Honorable the Postmaster-General, Ottawa.

“ Sir :

“ Two months have elapsed since the arrival in this Colony of the Canadian Postal Service, and I desire to note the precious assistance that your Government has been able to so timely afford me.

“ The correspondence naturally increased in proportion to the number of soldiers sent here. The postal service corps did not at first suffice for the duty, and it became necessary to increase its numbers in order to obtain a better service.

“ The Canadian members thereof, under the direction of Captain Ecclestone, rendered very effective service. Apart from their delivering me from all work in connection with the correspondence of the Canadian troops, they were on several occasions of valuable assistance.

“ Sergeant Johnston and Privates Murray and Bedell are now with the van-guards of the army with the campaign service. Captain Ecclestone and Private Lallier are busy with the distribution of letters

at the postal headquarters of the Army, here. They both fulfil their duties in a most satisfactory manner, and to the credit of the Canadian Post-Office Department.

“While expressing my high appreciation of the services rendered by the Canadian Postal Corps, I have the honor to be, Sir,

“Your obedient servant,

“G. W. TREMBLE,

“Major commanding the Army Postal Service.”

“Ottawa, May 23rd, 1900.

“Sir :

“Permit me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 25th, in which you give expression to your satisfaction with the services rendered by the Canadian Postal Corps in South Africa. While I am not surprised, I am very happy to learn that the officers of the Post-Office Department chosen to assist you have acquitted themselves of their duty in a manner such as to draw forth the praise which you so obligingly distribute to them in your letter.

“Yours very sincerely,

“W. MULOCK,

“Postmaster-General.

“Major G. W. Tremble,

“Postal Headquarters of the Army,

“Cape-Town, South Africa.”

“Ottawa, July 30th, 1900.

“Hon. William Mulock has received the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Otter : —

“Bloemfontein, May 13th, 1900.

“Dear Sir :

“A slight wound in face and neck, received in action on the 25th ult., has necessitated my returning here to hospital for a few days and gives me an opportunity of writing you a short note, which otherwise I would not have had.

“I am quite sure you will be glad to learn of the working of the Canadian Postal Service, established by you from one who has had

the best of chances for noting its usefulness, or otherwise. I am very glad to be able to say everything that is good of it. The service since it passed into the hands of Captain Ecclestone, has been most efficient and satisfactory. Two of its members have been doing duty at this station for some time, and the result has been most prompt and regular deliveries at all times that the exigencies of war would permit, while Captain Ecclestone himself has been most attentive in meeting our demands and giving information. Nothing could be more satisfactory, and I can safely say that if any delays have taken place in the deliveries of either letters, papers or parcels, the fault has not been with the officials of the Canada Post-Office Service. I consider it my duty to make this statement voluntarily, in view of the good work done and of the great satisfaction, under what is no doubt difficult and trying circumstances.

“Presuming that, as a Canadian, you will be glad to learn of our condition and circumstances, I venture to increase the length of my note by referring to them. The regiment, though in good spirits, is woefully depleted in numbers by death, wounds and sickness, and where we had, on landing in South Africa, 1,040 stalwart men of all ranks, we cannot muster to-day 600 effectives. No regiment in the army has had harder or, I think I am safe in saying, more fighting. How such has been performed it is not for me to say, but must leave the verdict in the hands of the authorities and the public to determine. I can only trust that up to this the record of the regiment has been satisfactory to those who sent us here. I know we have striven hard to merit their confidence and I hope that we have succeeded.

“Yours very sincerely,

“W. D. OTTER.”



THE PATRIOTIC FUND

UNDER the patronage of Her Majesty, the Queen, the presidency of Lord Minto, Governor-General, and with the co-operation of several high and distinguished citizens of Canada, subscription lists were opened for the benefit of the widows, the orphans and the wounded during the war. So patriotic was the idea that the whole of Canada made generous response to the appeal.

In fact, on the 31st of July, 1900, Mr. G. M. Courtney, C. M. G., the secretary of the Fund, wrote us that the sums subscribed amounted to the very large figure of \$317,636.75.

These figures require no comment. We will not give the names of the generous contributors, nor of the banks that have subscribed; yet we desire to make one exception, in the case of the lists opened at the Canadian Pacific offices, which resulted in a sum of \$12,033.00.

We are the more pleased to make special mention of the Canadian Pacific Railway as we desire to relate a special incident, which is sufficiently explained by the following letters:—

A little girl of eight years of age, from Streetville Junction, Ontario, Miss Annie Hyland, wrote some days past, to the President of the Committee, Mr. Robert Miller:—

“I have fifty cents saved up for Santa Claus to bring me a doll, but my Ma is sending Pa’s subscription to the fund for widows and orphans. I won’t mind my doll now, but I will send my fifty cents to buy a doll for some soldier’s little girl fighting in South Africa.

“ANNIE HYLAND.”

This letter, which came to hand some time ago, was answered yesterday, the committee going into their own pockets and purchasing the best



SIR CHARLES TUPPER,
Organizer of "The Insurance Association for the Benefit of the
Wounded and the Dead."

doll in the city and sending it to little Annie, accompanied by the following letter : —

“ Windsor Station, Montreal, May 30th, 1900.

“ Dear Little Annie :

“ Your letter and subscription to the Canadian Pacific Railway Employees Patriotic Fund was duly received. There has been a delay in replying, as we waited for a meeting of the whole committee, so they could see what a little patriotic girl had done to help our absent soldiers. The members of the committee felt sure that they would have received a great scolding from Santa Claus had they not shown in some way how pleased they were to receive your letter and subscription, so they, with a few others, made a private subscription and got this doll to replace the one you were so willing to sacrifice for the sake of some little girl who must be so anxious for her dear Papa now in such great danger in far away South Africa. Please accept it with our best wishes.

“ ROBERT MILLER,

“ For the Committee.”

The doll given by the committee cost fifteen dollars.

In all this great credit is due to the employees of the Canadian Pacific Railway and specially to the good hearted little Annie.

THE TUPPER INSURANCE

It is universally known, that, under this title, Sir Charles Tupper established an Insurance Association for the benefit of the wounded and the dead, during the South African campaign, or for the benefit of their heirs.

With a capital of one million dollars, this association insured each soldier to the extent of \$1,000. As this was surely a noble and patriotic idea, and as the association has strictly adhered to its obligations, we feel bound to give due credit to Sir Charles Tupper for his philanthropic conception.

Congratulations for the Contingents

“The Colonial Secretary to

“His Excellency, the Governor-General.

“London, February 27th, 1900.

“**H**ER Majesty, the Queen, desires me to convey to the Canadian people the expression of her admiration for the bravery with which the Canadian troops have acted in the last engagement, and to express her sorrow for the loss of so many brave men.”

EXTRACTS FROM MILITIA RECORDS.

March 1st, 1900.

“His Excellency desires personally to avail himself of the opportunity of expressing his admiration for the brilliant courage and the devotedness of the Canadian troops at present in South Africa.”

The Governor-General received the following despatch from Lord Roberts : —

“Paardeberg, February 22nd, 1900.

“The Canadian regiment has acted admirably since its arrival in South Africa. I deeply regret the many losses suffered by the regiment during the battle of the 18th instant and I beg of you to tell the public how much we all, here, admire the bravery that our Canadian comrades evidenced on that occasion.

“ROBERTS.”

Lord Minto received, by the last mail from South Africa, a letter from Sir Alfred Milner, Governor of Cape Colony, bearing date the

27th February, the very day upon which General Cronje was captured.

The following is the letter : —

“ Government House,

“ Cape-Town, February 27th, 1900.

“ Dear Lord Minto :

“ Even though I have — as you can readily imagine — scarcely the time to write, I feel that on this memorable day I should send you a word to congratulate you, you and Canada, on the important part taken by your valiant contingent in the destruction of General Cronje's army. It is the first great success that we have had in this terrible struggle. The relief of Kimberley was an encouragement; by the capture of Cronje and his four thousand soldiers, we have really achieved marked progress. I fear that our brave Canadians have suffered considerable losses. But on an occasion such as the present one, there is at least the satisfaction of knowing that their lives were not sacrificed in vain.

“ The victory, in itself, praise-worthy as it may be, is not the most important; rather is it to behold the tightening of the bonds that unite the whole Empire. That union will spring from the blood poured out together by Canadians, Australians, and South-Africans competing in courage, with Britons of the old country, in an effort to bring about a happy issue to this struggle.

“ I am sure that the British people of South Africa will never forget the noble aid that Canada gave them in those days of battle.

“ Accept my warm congratulations for yourself and for Canada and believe me,

“ Yours very sincerely,

“ A. MILNER.”

“ I cannot speak in language too flattering of the bravery displayed by the Canadians on this day; the admiration, so strongly manifested by the English soldiers, for them, should send a thrill of pride throughout the whole Confederation. The authorities have paid the Canadians a magnificent tribute and the English soldiers never tire of praising them.

“ Lord Roberts came personally to congratulate the Canadians upon their bravery and to inform them that he had called the attention of the government to their exploits.” — *Official despatch* from Paardeberg, of the 3rd March, 1900.

The Governor-General received the following two despatches : —

“George-Town, British Honduras,

March 15th, 1900.

“My cordial congratulations to the Canadian troops on duty in South Africa.

“GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF HONDURAS.”

Lord Tennyson to the Governor-General : —

“The Governor, the ministry and the people of Southern Australia desire to offer their congratulations to the Canadian people upon the fine conduct of their contingents in South Africa, and their deep sympathy for the losses that they have suffered.

“LORD TENNYSON.”

“It is an open secret that, at the beginning, the majority of the officers of the British army, had but slight confidence in the Colonial soldiers, but now it is generally recognized that without the Canadians and their Colonial companions, British arms would have had a great deal more to do.

“It is universally admitted, that the principal labors of the war were performed, in that part of the campaign, by the Canadian and New-Zealand soldiers, and we, in Canada, have no reason to be ashamed of our Canadian soldiers.

“G. STERLING RYERSON,

“Surgeon, Lieutenant-Colonel, Canadian and British Commissioner
“of the Red Cross, in South Africa.”

“. . . What a splendid part was that of Canada ! I had a little Canadian with me, McInnes of the Royal Engineers, a brave of the brave. He had the defence works of Kimberley executed. He was a staff officer, and wherever he went he inspired confidence. I can never forget what I owe him. The Canadians performed acts of heroism everywhere, and we may soon expect to hear of fresh and brilliant feats-of-arms by them, before the war is over.

“COLONEL KEKEWICK,
“Commander at Kimberley.”

A fine expression of praise from an American newspaper, the *Detroit Free Press* : —

“ We do not see that any other corps in the British army has carried off more laurels in the African war than did the boys from Canada. They were as conspicuous wherever the firing was liveliest as was the white plume of Henry of Navarre.”

“ Cape-Town, May 17th.

“ To His Excellency, the Governor-General.

“ The detachment of Canadian artillery, by a series of forced marches and during the battle rendered great service.

“ SIR ALFRED MILNER.”

“ London, May 22nd.

“ Compliments to Canada for the great services rendered by the Canadian artillery in relieving Mafeking.

“ CHAMBERLAIN.”

“ All the French papers, in their accounts of the latest military events in South Africa, dwelt upon the heroism of which the Canadian contingent gave proof.

“ I will even add that we learned, not without a feeling of pride, of the tribute paid to the valiant troops of the Dominion by Marshal Roberts.

“ The bonds that unite a great number of Canadians to France, are so strong, that all that brings out in relief their personal qualities, creates in the old land a mutual satisfaction.

“ MAURICE DE LA FARGUE.”

In regard to the engagement at Komati, on the 6th November, wherein the Dragoons, the mounted infantry and the artillery gave evidence of admirable bravery, General Smith-Dorrien says : “ The courage and devotedness of these troops during the two days of battle can never be too highly appreciated.”

“ Pretoria, September 26th, 1900.

“ Lord Roberts accompanied by Lady Roberts as well as by their daughters, reviewed the Canadian troops, on the eve of their departure.

“I cannot” he said to them, “allow you to go without expressing to you my thanks for your loyal services as also for your excellent assistance, above all at Paardeberg. I am sure that the Canadian people will learn with pleasure of your gallant and splendid conduct.

“I deeply regret the losses you have sustained, I would have been happy to have seen you all return to your homes, but many losses of lives must be expected, especially in such a hard campaign.

“I regret that some amongst you are obliged to return as soon, but I here recognize the necessities of private business.

“I am certain that Her Majesty, the Queen, as well as the British people, will never forget your services. If my good star will permit, I will visit Canada, and I have the hope of meeting you all once again.”



THE RETURN

"Imagine a combination of the audacious spirit of the French, the inventive genius of the American, and the tenacity of the British, and you have an idea of the qualities required in such an undertaking." — *Le Soleil*.

AS the first reception tendered our brave soldiers is similar to those that will follow, we will be content with the reproduction of the two following articles, which contain a fair expression of the sentiments that exist in Canada.

WELCOME !

"Our invalided volunteers are returning in groups to the country. They are the object of the liveliest enthusiasm on the part of the crowds that flock to meet them. Yesterday the scene was truly grand and contrasted with the coldness of the send off tendered our men when they started for Africa.

"Instinctively and with reason, our population encourage very slightly the enlisting of our people, nor did it augur any good results from this distant war.

"There was, however, some consolation in the cleverly circulated idea that the enterprise would merely consist of a sea voyage, always more or less interspersed with pleasant incidents, of easy marches in a new country, and, at most, a few skirmishes with half-savages the dispersing and wiping out of whom would be only child's play for Canadian valor to accomplish. Then the glitter of military glory was there — a thing so rare that our fine youth, especially those of English origin, hastened to seize by the forelock an occasion, so unique in the

course of their lives, of returning with promotion, decorated and the envy of all their friends, who would be heard saying : ' He too, was one of the contingent.'

" We, therefore, tender a most cordial welcome to those brave soldiers whom illness and the enemies' lead could not entirely knock out. They did honor, in the infancy of our Dominion, to the Canadian flag, on the fields of this Anglo-Boer conflict, — one of the most painful as well as most glorious in history. They have proven that Canada possesses the elements of a vigorous and powerful army which we could establish and utilize to our own greater advantage.

" Let the nation profit by the lessons taught by the war from which our valiant citizens now return, and no person, not even amongst those most opposed to the idea of Canadian intervention, will regret very much the decisions that sent us into Africa and which bring us back broken and mutilated in the persons of our contingents."—*La Presse*.

Last evening Quebec gave another striking example of patriotism and above all of loyalty.

The Mayor, accompanied by two secretaries of the reception committee — Messrs. H. J. J. B. Chouinard and E. T. D. Chambers — read them the following address : —

" TO THE OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND SOLDIERS
OF THE CANADIAN CONTINGENT RETURNING FROM SOUTH
AFRICA ON THE STEAMER " LAKE ONTARIO. "

" Gentlemen :

" The citizens of Quebec are happy to be the first to greet you on your return to Canada, after an absence of nearly a year, during which you were ever present to our minds on account of the loyal and noble mission that you had freely undertaken, and also on account of the constant dangers to which you have been exposed.

" But the emotion that we feel to-day is greater than usual as we notice in your ranks, the well-known faces of Quebec boys who grew up and lived amongst us and whose families are preparing to welcome with a warmth and an enthusiasm that can be readily understood after such a prolonged and cruel suspense.

" All of you, in risking, as you have done, your health and your lives, in going abroad to defend the honor of Britain's flag, have given

the entire world an example of courage and military virtue that does honor to our country.

“Your parents, your friends, your fellow-citizens, hail with pride your return to our country where, we have no doubt, you will fulfil with honor, and with benefit to yourselves, the duties of the useful avocations in which you will find a wide field for the exercise of your energies that have been strengthened on the fields of battle, and a real rest after your sufferings and privations along war's rugged pathways.

“The country is happy to see you once more, and the joy she feels is the greater since you return full of honors after having imparted everywhere a glory to the name of Canadian.

“May you be happy, and may you long enjoy the sweets of peace and of home.

“Such is the wish that arises from every Canadian heart at this moment, and to which we give expression in the name of the entire Dominion.”



A PARTING WORD

YOU know the rest of the story. From Atlantic to Pacific the home-coming of our brave lads was a triumphal procession. Halifax, Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Kingston, Belleville, Hamilton, St. Johns, Charlottetown, Winnipeg, Vancouver, in a word all the cities, from the largest to the smallest, received the returning soldiers with open arms and proud hearts. *La Presse, La Patrie, Le Soleil, L'Événement, The Star, The Herald, The Chronicle, The Globe, The Daily Witness, The Daily Telegraph*, to all of whom we are indebted for important information — not to mention other sources — greeted them in nobly expressed and generous terms. Everywhere they were right royally received, and by that reception, above all, can we judge of the fraternal sentiment which unites all the Provinces of Canada.

Let us proclaim it frankly: that this war, which proved fatal to some, has been a source of union and greater attachment for us all. Truly is it by the bivouac fire and on the field of battle that men and races learn to know, to esteem and to love each other. Let us, therefore, never forget that our union has been cemented and sealed with the blood of our heroic youth amidst the confusion of carnage, the groans of the dying, the bursting of shells, the rustling of standards, the agonies of parents, the tears of the widows and orphans of the glorious dead, and that our watchword forever more should be: —

“In honor and memory of our brave !”

GASTON P. LABAT.

ADDITIONAL NOTE

Our work was completed when the following interesting information was received ; this explains the placing of this note.

See page 12 of appendix under heading "*Bene Merenti.*"

FORTY-EIGHT CANADIANS GET SPECIAL MENTION ARE NAMED BY LORD ROBERTS FOR BRAVERY IN THE FIELD

London, April 16

Another despatch from Lord Roberts on the subject of the South African campaign, dated April 2, 1900, has been published in the Gazette.

LIST OF CANADIANS

The following Canadians are mentioned for meritorious service :—
Cols. C. W. Drury and W. D. Otter ; Lieut.-Cols. L. Buchan, T. D. B. Evans, F. L. Lessard and S. B. Steele.

Majors B. Belcher, A. M. Jarvis, G. and Ogilvie.

Surgeon-Major A. M. Worthington.

Captains G. W. Cameron, F. L. Cartwright and E. F. LacKie, of Strathcona's Horse ; Capt. A. C. McDonald, of the Second Canadian Mounted Rifles ; Capt. A. H. McDonald, of the Royal Canadian Regiment, and Capt. H. A. Panet, of the Royal Canadian Artillery.

Lieuts. A. E. Christie and J. E. Leckie, of Strathcona's Horse ; Lieut. Davidson, A. L. Howard, F. Young and William Inglis, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles ; Lieut. Lew Irving, of the Royal Canadian Artillery ; Lieut. J. H. J. Ogilvie, of the Royal Canadian Regiment and Lieut. R. Turner, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons ; Surgeon-Lieut. C. B. Keenan, of Strathcona's Horse.

Regimental Sergeant-Majors Church, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles and J. Hynes, of Strathcona's Squadron ; Sergeant-Major J. Richards, of Strathcona's Battery ; Sergeant-Major W. H. Gimblett, of the Royal Canadian Artillery ; Sergeants W. H. Nelles and J. M. B. Skirving, of Strathcona's Horse and Sergeant R. H. Ryan, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles.

ADDITIONAL NOTE

Corporals T. Gallagher, T. R. Miles and F. W. Whitlow, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles.

Trooper Crawley, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles ; Trooper White, of the Canadian Mounted Infantry ; and Privates J. Kennedy, M. Crooke, J. Landen and S. R. Thompson, of the Royal Canadian Regiment ; Hammond, T. Kerr, Miles and S. E. Morrison, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles ; and L. W. E. Mulloy, of the Royal Canadian Artillery.

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR

SILVER MEDALS TO BE GRANTED TO ALL WHO SERVED IN IT—
CLASPS ARE PROVIDED—THERE ARE TWENTY-SIX IN
ALL FOR THOSE WHO SERVED IN PROMINENT
ACTIONS IN THE WAR.

The following Imperial Army Order 94, april 1901—regarding the South Africa medal has been issued :—

1. His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to confirm the order given by her late Majesty Queen Victoria that a medal be struck to commemorate the military operations in South Africa.

2. The medal, in silver, will, provided the claims are approved by the commander-in-chief, be granted to all officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the British, Indian, and colonial forces, and to all nurses and nursing sisters who actually served in South Africa between october 11, 1899, and a date to be hereafter fixed ; to all troops stationed in Cape Colony and Natal at the outbreak of hostilities ; and to troops stationed in St. Helena between april 14, 1900, and a date to be hereafter fixed.

BRAVERY REWARDED

“ London, April 24th.

“ The *Gazette* announces the Victoria Cross has been conferred on Lieutenants H. Z. C. Cockburn and R. E. W. Turner, and Sergeant E. Holland, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, for conspicuous bravery at Komatipoort River, November 7th, 1900, in protecting artillery from capture.”

ADDITIONAL NOTE

LIEUT. COCKBURN IS WARMLY CONGRATULATED

“ Toronto, April 24th.

“ The family of Lieutenant Churchill Cockburn received last night with jubilation the message announcing that he and Lieutenant Turner, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, had been granted the Victoria Cross for saving the guns of the Canadian contingent in November at Komatipoort.

“ Lieutenant Cockburn is now one of five men in the British Empire entitled to wear the Victoria Cross and the Royal Humane Society medal. The latter was conferred on him in 1898 for gallantly saving the life of two companions in Lake Rosseau, Muskoka.”

QUEBEC IS PROUD OF LIEUTENANT TURNER

“ Quebec, April 24th.

“ The news that Lieutenant R. E. W. Turner, of this city, has received the Victoria Cross has been received with the liveliest rejoicing by his family and his legion of friends in Quebec.”

SERGEANT HOLLAND THREE TIMES RECOMMENDED

“ Ottawa, April 24th.

“ Sergeant Eddie Holland, who is one of the three Canadians to receive the Victoria Cross, is well known in Ottawa as a fellow of sterling qualities. He was recommended for distinguished bravery three different times.”

CANADIANS IN HONOR LIST

AN ADDITIONAL LIST IS CABLED TO MINISTER OF MILITIA

“ Ottawa, Ont., April 24th.

“ In addition to the C.B.'s conferred upon Colonels Otter and Drury and Lieutenant-Colonels Steele and Evans, the Minister of Militia was today advised by cable of the following additional honors awarded to Canadian officers who served in South Africa :—

“ Lieutenant-Colonels Buchan and Lessard, Major Denison ; Majors Belcher and Jones, Strathconas, get C.M.G.'s.

Captain A. C. Macdonald, Mounted Rifles ; Captain H. Panet, Lieutenant Irving, R. C. Artillery ; Lieutenant Ogilvie, Royal Canadian Regiment ; Lieutenant Turner, Royal Canadian Dragoons ; Captains Cameron, Mackay and Cartwright, Strathconas ; Surgeon

ADDITIONAL NOTE

Keenan, Lieutenants Christie and Leckie, Strathconas, get distinguished service order.

“Kinsley, R. C. Dragoons, get medal for distinguished conduct on the field.”

SIR EDWARD GIROUARD

“All Canadians will feel honoured by the distinction conferred upon Lieutenant-Colonel Girouard, now Sir Edward Girouard, K. C. M. G., D. S. O. Never was knighthood more honourably won. The young Canadian soldier has made a brilliant record both in North and South Africa for useful service to the Empire.”

THE VICTORIA CROSS MEN

“Honors have been distributed with a generous hand to the Canadian soldiers who took part in the South African war. All have been the cause of satisfaction in the country that sent out the men who received them, because there was a general belief, based on the accomplishments of the different corps, that they were worthily won. None will give greater pleasure, however, than the award of the Victoria Cross to Lieutenants R. E. W. Turner and H. Z. C. Cockburn and Sergeant Holland, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons. The cross is given ‘for valor,’ that must be so conspicuous as to attract attention and so effective of a useful purpose as to merit special approval. It is a reward that all in the service may aspire to, be they officer or private, white, black, or yellow. Therefore is it the more held in esteem by those who are so fortunate to win the approval that it marks. The reward in the case of Lieutenants Turner and Cockburn and Sergeant Holland was for the manner in which they acted in the action of November 7th, when the Canadian Dragoons and Mounted Rifles, with two of “D” Battery’s guns were covering the retirement of Smith-Dorrien’s column from an advanced position near Belfast. Lieutenant Turner, though wounded, directed the movement of his men so as to better give Lieutenant Morrison a chance to get off with his guns. Lieutenant Cockburn was prominent in the same kind of duty. Sergeant Holland, when he could not bring off the machine gun in his charge, dismantled it and brought away the barrel, leaving the enemy only the wheels. In a spirited fight, where all were doing well, the three merited special commendation, and all their countrymen will share in their satisfaction because it has been given.”—*The Gazette.*



DENNISON ENGRAVING

OUR PROVINCES REPRESENTED BY CAVALRY, STRATHCONAS, INFANTRY AND ARTILLERY.



THE BOW OF PROMISE

TS the Rainbow, that sign of Promise, blending in harmony its seven hues, seems to span the heavens and join them to earth, so have we thought well to here present the emblem of each of our seven Provinces, all of which have been cemented in a perfect, a fraternal, an indissoluble and an indivisible union, by the blood which our heroes shed under the torrid sun of South Africa. This figure, and this strengthening of bonds, suggest, at this moment, the beautiful lines addressed, years ago,

to Canada, by one of this country's poets: he styled our Dominion, —

“The Northern Arch, whose vast proportions
Span the skies from sea to sea;
From Atlantic, to Pacific,
Home of unborn millions free.”

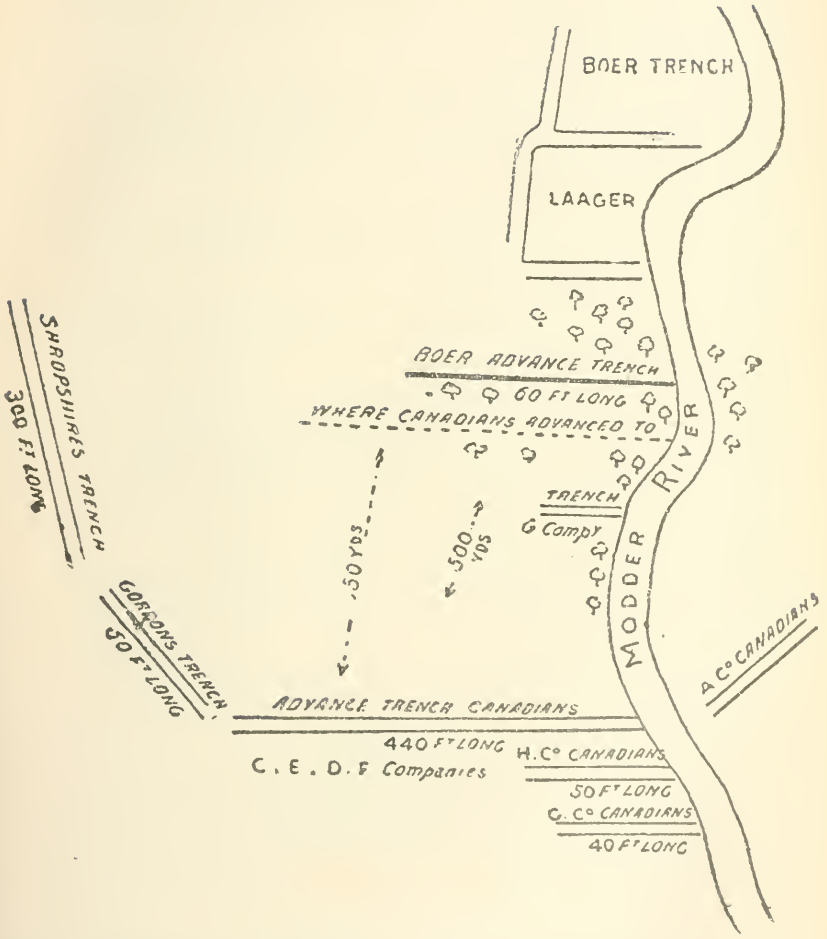
GASTON P. LABAT.

ARC-EN-CIEL

COMME le signe de la Nouvelle Alliance, par le mélange harmonieux des couleurs qui le composent, semble relier la terre avec le Ciel, ainsi nous avons cru devoir mettre ici l'emblème de chaque Province, cimentant par le sang coagulé de nos braves sous le soleil torride de l'Afrique, l'union fraternelle, indissoluble et indivisible des Provinces réunies.

GASTON-P. LABAT.





SKETCH SHOWING THE ADVANCE OF CANADIANS AT PAARDEBERG.

LE LIVRE D'OR

DES

Contingents Canadiens dans l'Afrique du Sud

AVEC UN APPENDICE SUR LE

LOYALISME CANADIEN

CONTENANT LETTRES, DOCUMENTS, PHOTOGRAPHIES

AINSI QUE LES

Portraits de la Reine Victoria ; du Roi Edouard VII ;
et de la Reine d'Angleterre.

Par *GASTON-P. LABAT*

*Auteur des " Voyageurs Canadiens à l'Expédition du
Soudan en 1885."*



MONTREAL

EN VENTE CHEZ TOUS LES LIBRAIRES

DÉPOT PRINCIPAL : 479, RUE SAINT-LOUIS, MILE-END

1901

DÉDICACE

A SON EXCELLENCE LORD MINTO,

Gouverneur-Général du Canada

Excellence,

QUAND je me suis permis de demander à Votre Excellence de me faire l'honneur d'accepter la dédicace de cet ouvrage, je connaissais depuis longtemps l'intérêt que Votre Excellence témoigne au peuple Canadien.

En effet, vous avez dit vous-même. en revenant dans ce pays et en parlant d'une de vos charmantes filles née ici : " C'est une Canadienne que je suis heureux de vous ramener."

Voilà pourquoi, Excellence, j'ai cru devoir mettre "*Le livre d'or des Contingents Canadiens en Afrique*" sous votre égide, convaincu que les Canadiens seront heureux et fiers de conserver l'une des plus belles pages de leur histoire sous le très haut et distingué patronage de Votre Excellence.

Daignez agréer, Excellence, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus respectueux.

GASTON P. LABAT,

Montréal.

LETTRE-PRÉFACE

Mon cher confrère,

AVANT d'être littérateur, vous avez été soldat, et avant d'être soldat, vous étiez français.

C'est-à-dire que, par la race, le caractère et l'entraînement professionnel, vous avez naturellement la passion de tout ce qui est noble et chevaleresque.

Mieux encore, cette passion, vous la raisonnez. Quoique français de sang et de cœur, aussi attaché que jamais au souvenir de la grande aïeule, du jour où vous avez mis le pied sur notre sol avec l'intention d'en faire votre future patrie, vous êtes devenu canadien, et canadien loyal envers le drapeau du jour, sincèrement dévoué aux institutions qui nous régissent.

Vous l'avez prouvé sous l'uniforme, dans les lointaines expéditions comme aux casemates de nos citadelles ; vous l'avez prouvé depuis, au pupitre du fonctionnaire, et souvent la plume du journaliste à la main.

Personne donc n'avait plus d'autorité que vous pour signer le petit livre que vous livrez en ce moment au public, et pour lequel vous me demandez deux mots de préface.

Ce petit livre est précieux ; il ajoute à notre richesse nationale, car il apporte une page héroïque de plus aux glorieuses annales de notre passé.

Je n'entrerai pas sur le terrain politique en discutant le plus ou moins d'opportunité qu'il y avait pour le Canada d'envoyer des troupes dans l'Afrique du sud pour combattre les Boers. Qu'il me soit permis de ne voir là, pour le moment, que l'élan spontané d'une jeune nation fière d'apporter sa quote-part de sacrifices à la cause d'un empire dont les circonstances, loyalement acceptées, l'ont faite solidaire.

Il ne peut être question non plus de la justice ou de l'injustice de cette guerre étrange. De même que, par une fiction nécessaire de la loi, le plus haut tribunal et le souverain d'un pays sont considérés comme infaillibles, d'après le même principe, le drapeau qui flotte à l'avant-garde d'un peuple ne saurait jamais avoir tort.

Je ne veux qu'admirer le beau côté du spectacle, et applaudir aux heureux résultats qu'il ne peut manquer de produire.

N'est-ce pas émouvant, en effet, que cette vaillante et robuste jeunesse se levant l'arme au bras pour répondre à un cri d'appel venu de l'autre bout du monde, et passant les mers d'un hémisphère à l'autre pour marcher à la rescousse du drapeau national en péril !

N'est-ce pas de nature à nous remplir le cœur d'un légitime orgueil que de voir ces jeunes braves affirmer l'héroïsme traditionnel de notre race, au point de conquérir l'unanime admiration du plus vaste empire qui ait jamais existé sous le soleil !

Et quant aux résultats, n'est-ce pas quelque chose que d'avoir gagné la confiance et le respect de nos compatriotes anglais, trop portés, dans certains milieux, à suspecter notre loyauté envers la couronne britannique ?

Cette confiance et ce respect sont la première condition de l'harmonie entre les différents éléments de notre population, harmonie indispensable au bonheur des nôtres comme au développement de notre prospérité nationale.

A ce point de vue plus qu'à tout autre, le rôle joué par nos volontaires d'Afrique est éminemment patriotique et civilisateur.

Ils ont bien mérité de la patrie ; ils ont droit à la reconnaissance publique ; et ce n'est que justice de perpétuer leur mémoire en consignant leurs noms et leurs faits d'armes dans nos archives et nos bibliothèques.

Combien de fois le dévouement de nos soldats de 1812 n'a-t-il pas servi d'argument victorieux contre les préjugés soulevés à notre endroit dans les cercles ultra-loyalistes !

Ces patriotes du passé furent blâmés par plusieurs de leurs contemporains, ce qui n'empêcha pas leur œuvre d'être féconde et bienfaitrice.

Leur souvenir allait s'éteignant : il se trouve ravivé par nos vaillants d'aujourd'hui, qui viennent, en renouvelant l'histoire, d'abattre la dernière tête de l'hydre.

Désormais nous ne sommes plus qu'un peuple, homogène dans ses aspirations comme dans ses intérêts, et qui, bien que formé de différentes races fidèles à leurs traditions et à leur origine respectives, devra prospérer et grandir dans l'accord d'une indissoluble fraternité.


Supposez maintenant un refus de notre part d'obéir au vœu national dans cette circonstance, la crise devenait aiguë, et les Canadiens-français étaient rejetés un demi-siècle en arrière.

Donc, mes félicitations, mon cher confrère, avec mes deux mains dans les vôtres.

LOUIS FRÉCHETTE.

MONTRÉAL, 12 octobre 1900.

PRÉFACE

E livre n'est pas de nous. Il est écrit par nos soldats des Contingents Canadiens dont l'admirable bravoure a étonné le monde entier et dont le sang a rougi le sol meurtrier de l'Afrique du Sud.

Tel est le but que nous nous sommes proposé en publiant cet ouvrage.

Maintenant, pourquoi ce livre est-il moitié anglais et moitié français ?

C'est que, partis ensemble sans distinction de race ni de religion, la main dans la main, coude contre coude ; ayant répandu leur sang sur le même champ de bataille ; reposant dans le même sol, enveloppés dans les plis du même drapeau, de même ils doivent revivre dans le même livre et reposer dans toutes les bibliothèques, ce sanctuaire immortel que chaque peuple consacre à ses gloires nationales.

Nous disons que ce livre est écrit par nos braves. En effet, à part quelques articles de circonstances dont nous remercions les auteurs, il est uniquement composé de leurs lettres ; quelques-unes inédites que nous tenons de la gracieuse bienveillance des familles, d'autres déjà publiées par les journaux, et nous espérons que personne ne nous

reprochera de les avoir précieusement recueillies pour les mettre en volume, de manière à laisser à l'histoire Canadienne un souvenir compact et tangible de la noble, héroïque et glorieuse vaillance de nos braves.

Avec eux et de par eux, le Canada est connu du monde entier, plus et mieux que tout ce qu'on a pu dire, écrire et faire depuis cent ans, tant il est vrai que c'est le sang répandu qui fait la force des religions et des peuples.

Or, aujourd'hui, le Canada est un peuple, une nation avec laquelle les autres nations devront désormais compter.

Voilà pourquoi après le sacrifice du sang de nos braves, devant tant d'héroïsme, et la sainte folie de ces acharnés à la victoire, nous devons nous agenouiller sur la tombe des disparus, et recevoir à bras ouverts, comme pour le retour de l'enfant prodigue, ceux qui nous reviennent couverts de gloire !

GASTON P. LABAT,

Montréal.



UN MOT D'EXPLICATION

L'OUVRAGE que nous publions pourrait contenir dix volumes si nous relations tous les hauts faits d'armes accomplis par nos braves et si nous insérions toutes leurs lettres.

Comme ce n'est ni notre but ni notre prétention, nous nous sommes contenté, dans ce modeste volume, de recueillir des lettres, des documents provenant de toutes les Provinces du Canada, pour rendre un patriotique hommage à la vaillance de nos héros. . . . Que ceux donc qui n'y trouveront pas de leurs lettres, mais qui y trouveront leurs noms, car ils y sont tous, ne nous en veuillent pas : cet ouvrage, à l'instar d'un monument qu'on érige à la mémoire d'un général, rejaillissant sur tous ceux qui ont été ses compagnons dans la lutte et la victoire.

Enfin, nous avons cru devoir y mettre aussi la photographie de personnages qui se sont intéressés à la formation des contingents, plus, dans un *Appendice*, celles de non moins braves Canadiens ayant fait connaître la valeur militaire du Canada aux Indes, en Chine, aux Philippines, et dans tout le monde entier : car on trouve le Canadien partout.

Pour moi, en 1885, j'en ai trouvé dans le Soudan, chantant : *Un Canadien errant*.

Et s'il faut en croire l'histoire, voici ce qu'on raconte. . . . A l'époque du déluge, un homme voulant échapper à la fureur des flots était sur une montagne. L'arche venant à passer, notre homme héla Noé pour avoir une place. . . . Il n'y en a pas, lui fut-il répondu.

— Va donc chez *le diable*, répondit l'homme . . . ce n'est *ben* après tout *qu'une petite orage*.

C'était un Canadien. . . . A part ce dernier fait qui semble venir de Marseille, nous ne nous occuperons donc que des premiers, car ils appartiennent à l'histoire.

G.-P. L.





COLONEL L. F. PINAULT.

“ Dans l'envoi des contingents, le talent d'organisation du colonel Pinault et sa capacité en affaires ont été démontrés à un degré remarquable. ” — *Le Globe*.

LE LOYALISME CANADIEN

POUR prouver qu'il existe dans le Canada tout entier, tout autant que dans le cœur de nos braves, nous avons cru devoir faire précéder leurs lettres des autorités suivantes.

D'abord, voici comment s'exprime Mgr Bégin à Mgr Bruchési, dans une admirable lettre datée du 15 janvier 1900 :

« La loyauté des évêques et des prêtres canadiens-français ! elle est écrite en lettres d'or, en traits de feu, dans les fastes de l'histoire, et tous les souverains, tous leurs représentants qui se sont succédé ici depuis la cession du Canada à l'Angleterre — même ceux d'entre ces derniers contre lesquels il a fallu lutter légalement pour la défense des droits les plus légitimes — tous leur ont rendu le plus solennel et le plus cordial témoignage.

« Rappellerai-je ici un Mgr Briand qui, occupant le siège de Québec au tournant de l'histoire de la Nouvelle-France, vivant tour à tour sous le drapeau fleurdelysé et sous l'étendard britannique, loyal d'abord au premier jusqu'à ce que sur les plaines d'Abraham tout fût perdu fors l'honneur, et puis transférant généreusement au second l'hommage de sa loyauté entière, usa de toute son

influence sacrée, aux jours terribles de 1775, pour garder le Canada français fidèle à ses nouveaux maîtres? Et pourtant Dieu sait combien grande devait être la tentation pour les enfants de la France en Amérique d'unir leur sort à ces enfants d'Albion, moins scrupuleux, moins loyaux qu'eux — et ne pourrait-on pas ajouter : moins vilipendés et plus facilement pardonnés—pour une révolte réelle et efficace que nous ne le sommes aujourd'hui pour une déloyauté chimérique? Si les émissaires catholiques des Etats-Unis, si l'appel chaleureux des officiers français qui servaient la cause de l'indépendance américaine ne purent triompher des dernières résistances du peuple canadien, c'est que la grande voix du chef de l'Eglise de Québec, invoquant les principes sacrés du respect dû à l'autorité régnante et stigmatisant du nom de *rebelles* ceux qui se laissaient entraîner, opposa à la révolution une barrière infranchissable. Et l'Angleterre, déjà spoliée de la plus riche portion de son héritage en Amérique, dut à un évêque français la conservation de ce pays du Canada, l'un des plus précieux joyaux de la couronne impériale.

« Que ne pourrais-je dire — si je ne voulais être bref — d'un Mgr Denaut dont le dévouement à l'Angleterre se traduisit par des actes d'une héroïque générosité, et d'un Mgr Plessis rappelant à ses diocésains, en 1807, « qu'il est impossible d'être bon chrétien sans être sujet loyal et fidèle », et, « qu'ils seraient indignes du nom de catholiques et de Canadiens s'ils montraient de la déloyauté ou même de l'indifférence quand il s'agit de remplir leurs devoirs de sujets dévoués aux intérêts de leur souverain ou à la défense du pays. » C'est cet illustre prélat qui, en 1812, s'employa tout entier et réussit à maintenir les Canadiens fidèles à l'allégeance britannique. La même attitude se retrouve chez Mgr Panet, l'oncle maternel du regretté cardinal Taschereau.

« Puis aux jours si regrettables de 1837-38, c'est Mgr Signay, à Québec, et l'un de vos prédécesseurs, Mgr Lartigue, à Montréal, qui s'interposent au nom de la religion pour apaiser des luttes fratricides : acte de loyauté qui leur a souvent attiré d'amers reproches de la part de quelques-uns de leurs compatriotes ; devoir sacré qu'ils ont dû accomplir, nonobstant la voix du sang et de la tendresse paternelle. Nous retrouvons plus tard Mgr Baillargeon qui trace à ses ouailles la même ligne de conduite à l'égard des Fénéiens envahisseurs et Mgr Taché qui, en un moment critique, pacifie ses Métis et les conserve à l'Angleterre.

« Et si j'osais me citer moi-même, je pourrais répéter ce que j'ai dit en pleine France, en pleine cathédrale de Reims — aux grandes solennités du XIVE centenaire du baptême de Clovis et de ses Francs — que, tout en conservant de l'affection pour notre ancienne mère-patrie, nous étions heureux de vivre à l'ombre du drapeau britannique et que nous habitions une des contrées les plus libres de la terre. »

Et plus loin il ajoute :

« Si jamais — ce qu'à Dieu ne plaise ! — la question de l'annexion aux Etats-Unis s'agitait sérieusement, il serait curieux de voir l'attitude respective de nos deux nationalités — Anglo-canadiens et Canadiens-français — en face de cette éventualité. J'aime à croire que nous n'aurions pas à rougir des nôtres en pareille occurrence, parce qu'ils sauraient encore une fois remplir leur devoir de loyaux sujets de Sa Majesté Britannique. »

Tel est le noble langage de Mgr Bégin.

Après le clergé, laissons parler nos hommes publics.

Et d'abord sir Wilfrid :

« A Sa Majesté la Reine,

« Très Gracieuse Souveraine,

« Nous, sujets loyaux et soumis de Votre Majesté, Sénat et Chambre des Communes du Canada, assemblés en Parlement, désirons offrir à Votre Majesté, nos cordiales félicitations à l'occasion de la fin prochaine de la guerre de l'Afrique du Sud, fin que font prévoir les succès récents des armées anglaises couronnés par la chute de Prétoria.

« Le sentiment de fierté et de satisfaction avec lequel nous saluons toute addition nouvelle à la liste déjà longue et glorieuse des hauts faits de la valeur et des ressources anglaises est encore augmenté actuellement de la conscience que nous avons que le Canada, grâce à l'active coopération de ses enfants sur le champ de bataille a droit d'une façon nouvelle et spéciale de participer à la joie du triomphe actuel.

« Nous nous réjouissons que le conflit qui heureusement s'achève maintenant, aura pour effet de faire disparaître les embarras dont ont souffert pendant si longtemps beaucoup de concitoyens, et nous ne doutons pas que l'extension de la domination bienfaisante de Votre Majesté sur toute l'Afrique du Sud n'amène sur ces territoires les bénédictions qui résultent d'une sage et bienveillante administration de lois justes et équitables.

« Nous adressons des prières pour que le règne de Votre Majesté se prolonge de longues années encore pour le bonheur de votre peuple. » (*Session du Parlement de 1900.*)

Passons à sir Charles Tupper :

« C'est avec beaucoup de plaisir que je seconde l'adresse que l'honorable Premier Ministre vient de proposer en

termes si éloquents, et que je m'associe aux sentiments qu'il a si noblement exprimés.

« Sir Charles parle ensuite de la noble conduite des Canadiens-français depuis que le sort des armes a fait passer leur pays sous la domination anglaise, et c'est du fond du cœur, dit-il, qu'il déclare que la couronne britannique n'a pas de plus loyaux sujets que les deux millions de Canadiens-français qui vivent sur cette terre du Canada. » (*Session du Parlement de 1900.*)

Laissons parler maintenant l'honorable Evanturel, président de l'assemblée législative d'Ontario :

« Je sens que je ne puis rien ajouter aux sentiments de parfaite loyauté et de contentement que vient d'exprimer cette province entière, par la voix de son premier ministre et du chef du parti conservateur. L'Orateur de cette Chambre n'est pas, d'un sens, en position d'ajouter quelque chose à ce qui a déjà été dit par des hommes d'une bien plus grande importance et d'une plus haute autorité ; mais, la Chambre me permettra, je l'espère, d'oublier que j'occupe ici une position officielle, et de déclarer qu'il n'y a pas de race au Canada qui ait appris, avec une joie plus exubérante, les précieuses nouvelles qui nous sont arrivées de l'Afrique Australe, que la race canadienne-française, celle à laquelle j'appartiens. (Applaudissements.) Je parle à un auditoire instruit, peut-être l'auditoire le plus instruit de cette grande province d'Ontario, aussi, je me permettrai de citer une page d'histoire, certain par avance que l'on ne me contredira pas sur ce point.

« A une certaine époque, sur ce sol même que nous habitons aujourd'hui — et quelle magnifique page de notre histoire cela me rappelle : — alors que pas un seul Anglais n'était encore venu, alors que pas un de nos amis irlan-

dais, qui ont pris une si large part à la formation de nos destinées, n'avaient traversé les mers, à cette époque donc, les Canadiens-français se tenaient seuls et durent résister, de la part des Américains, à la plus sérieuse tentation qui les ait jamais assiégés.

« La tentation fut une de celles que l'on ne rencontre pas dans l'histoire du monde entier. Les Américains étaient allés chercher en France le général Lafayette, celui-là même qui vint déployer, sur la frontière qui nous délimite au sud, le drapeau de ma race, le drapeau à l'ombre duquel nous sommes nés ; puis, il fit à mes compatriotes cet appel : « Pourquoi ne revenez-vous pas à votre ancien drapeau ? Après tout, ce drapeau qu'ils appellent le *Union Jack* ou le *Royal Standard* d'Angleterre, vous ne l'avez jamais vu sur vos rives. Revenez donc à nous. Moi, Lafayette, parlant au nom de vos voisins, de ce peuple qui est à mes côtés, je représente la liberté, l'égalité et la fraternité. »

« Puis, une autre voix se fit entendre ; elle parla aux troupes canadiennes-françaises. C'était la voix d'un bon évêque de Québec. Le distingué prélat se plaça devant les rangs des soldats et leur parla en ces termes : « Ce drapeau peut vous tenter ; les lois de la nature peuvent aussi vous tenter ; vous pourriez vous réfugier sous les plis de ce drapeau ; mais, n'oubliez pas une chose, c'est qu'hier encore vous avez juré fidélité au drapeau qui doit être le drapeau de ce pays. Si vous alliez renier cette allégeance à ce drapeau, dès aujourd'hui la Providence vous refuserait les bénédictions que vous êtes en droit d'attendre d'Elle. »

« Cet appel fut entendu et les Canadiens-français épaulèrent leurs mousquets et chassèrent devant eux les soldats de Benedict Arnold et Montgomery. (Applaudissements.)

« Je ne désire pas retarder cette Chambre dans ses travaux ; mais, permettez-moi de dire qu'il n'y a pas de plus loyaux sujets de Sa Majesté dans tout ce pays que les Canadiens-français.

« Des enfants de ma race sont aujourd'hui à combattre sous le drapeau anglais dans l'Afrique Australe !

« J'en suis fier, bien que je déplore qu'il y en ait parmi eux qui aient été blessés ; même, parmi ces derniers, je vois le nom d'un brave qui est né dans la même rue, dans la même ville que moi.

« Oui, là, couché dans les tranchées de Paardeberg ou dans une voiture d'ambulance anglaise, vous trouverez le fils du président de la plus haute cour parlementaire — sir Alphonse Pelletier — qui est un des premiers officiers du régiment canadien. (Applaudissements.)

« Permettez-moi de dire, en terminant, qu'il n'y a pas de race, représentée dans l'enceinte de cette législature, à qui la victoire qu'on annonce aujourd'hui en appelle plus fortement ou cause plus de satisfaction que cette race à laquelle appartient celui qui préside aux débats législatifs de cette province. »

C'est à coup sûr le plus noble et grand acte de loyauté qui ait jamais été exprimé par un Canadien-français devant un parlement anglais.

Voici maintenant Benjamin Sulte :

« Nos guerres ont montré que nous voulions défendre le Canada et le conserver au drapeau anglais. Par trois fois, en 1765, 1775, 1812, alors que nous formions pour ainsi dire la seule population blanche du pays et que l'Angleterre, engagée ailleurs, ne pouvait pas nous secourir, les milices canadiennes ont fait des miracles de dévouement et sauvé la situation. Ces faits devraient suffire pour répondre aux attaques, aux soupçons, aux

dénigremens dont on nous abreuve. Par bonheur la vérité reste victorieuse après les injures comme nos armes d'autrefois après la bataille.» (*Conférence au château Ramezay.*)

A son tour, voici ce que dit Ulric Barthe, dans une de ses conférences, à Québec :

« Et dans cette nouvelle nation, les Canadiens-français ont un des premiers rôles à jouer, qui consiste, non pas à perpétuer en Amérique, sur cette terre d'Amérique, les haines qui remontent à l'époque de Jeanne d'Arc, et qui n'ont pas leur sens ici, mais au contraire à servir de trait-d'union entre les deux plus grandes races du monde, et à démontrer ce qu'ensemble elles peuvent faire pour la civilisation. »

Enfin cette loyauté se confirme et s'affirme par les extraits suivants :

« M. de Léry Macdonald, maire de Rigaud, a prononcé quelques paroles chaleureuses au sujet du succès de nos soldats en Afrique et a émis l'opinion, qu'en cette circonstance, il ne serait pas hors de propos d'affirmer notre loyauté.

« En conséquence, il a proposé, secondé par M. Wm. Brown, maire de Pointe Fortune, la résolution suivante qui a été adoptée à l'unanimité :

« Que les maires du comté de Vaudreuil, assemblés, désirent exprimer à Sa Majesté la reine Victoria leur vive satisfaction à l'occasion du succès de ses armes en Afrique, et saisissent cette occasion de réitérer l'expression de leur loyauté à la couronne britannique ; et comme témoignage de leur sympathie offrent une contribution personnelle de vingt-cinq dollars au Fonds patriotique du Dominion. »

☞ Résolution adoptée par les maires du comté de Vaudreuil.

Les Acadiens réunis en convention à Arichat ont décidé de tenir leur prochaine réunion à Caraquette, N.B., et ont adopté la résolution suivante qui a été câblée à Londres :

« Nous, les Acadiens-français, assemblés en convention générale à Arichat, Cap-Breton, protestons de notre inaltérable loyauté à la couronne britannique et comme un gage de notre amour pour Sa Majesté nous lui offrons nos condoléances au sujet de la mort récente de Son Altesse Royale, le prince de Saxe-Cobourg. »

Résolution adoptée par les Acadiens.

Pour conclure *sur le loyalisme canadien*, nous citerons enfin les sentiments élevés et patriotiques de MM. J.-M. Tellier, M.P.P., du juge Baby, de M. Dugas, C.R., du R. P. C. Beaudry, C.S.V., de Joliette, lors de la distribution des médailles aux vétérans de 1870 :

« Que la démonstration d'aujourd'hui soit pour nous tous, messieurs, d'un salubre enseignement, qu'elle soit surtout un enseignement pour la jeunesse ; que cette démonstration en particulier rappelle à tous que chacun doit aimer son pays, le servir fidèlement, et au besoin, être prêt à lui faire le sacrifice de sa vie. »

TELLIER.

« Après cette harangue du président, toute vibrante de patriotisme, que l'assistance avait à maintes reprises interrompue par ses applaudissements nombreux et chaleureux, l'honorable juge Baby fut appelé à adresser la parole.

« Le savant magistrat dit qu'il était heureux de prendre la parole devant cette foule. Il est enfant de Joliette. Il sent qu'il se fait vieux ; ceci l'amène à dire que lui et beaucoup de ses contemporains disparaîtront bientôt, et qu'alors le poids des affaires et des intérêts du pays

tomberont sur les robustes épaules de cette jeunesse brillante qu'il a sous les yeux.

« De la campagne fénienne, il se rappelle un fait qui peint bien le patriotisme des Canadiens. Il se souvient que parmi la compagnie de Sainte-Mélanie, il y avait comme soldat un brave cultivateur accompagné de ses deux fils, M. Perreault. Il est heureux de voir que les deux fils sont au nombre des médaillés. Le père est allé recevoir sa récompense là-haut. Qui pourrait dire que les Canadiens-français ne sont pas loyaux ; ils sont plus loyaux que ceux qui prétendent qu'ils ne le sont pas. Seulement, les Canadiens-français ne font pas parade de loyauté, mais quand ils sont appelés à défendre leur pays, il n'y a pas un peuple au monde capable de leur résister. L'Angleterre est dans le moment engagée dans une guerre atroce ; après une récente victoire, le commandant général adressait à l'Angleterre elle-même un message disant que c'est grâce à l'artillerie canadienne qu'il a remporté cette victoire ; et ce corps est commandé par le major Hudon, de Québec, un Canadien-français comme nous.

« Il veut adresser une prière aux jeunes gens. C'est d'être toujours loyaux à l'Angleterre, au drapeau britannique qui nous abrite. Sans le soutien de l'Angleterre, que serions-nous ? un rien, un petit peuple d'aventuriers qui deviendrait la proie des grandes nations. . . . Aimons la France, notre mère-patre, mais vénérons et respectons l'Angleterre, notre patrie d'adoption. . . . »

« M. F.-O. Dugas, avocat, C.R., de Joliette, est l'orateur suivant. Sa parole chaude, ardente, patriotique, trouve de l'écho dans tous les cœurs. Il est vivement applaudi par l'auditoire. Il dit que le district de Joliette a contribué dans sa large part à la défense du pays, à cette époque de danger. Il distribue à chaque compagnie de volontaires

sa part de compliments, mais il félicite tout particulièrement les Irlandais de Rawdon qui ont formé à eux seuls deux compagnies. L'orateur fait l'historique des deux invasions féniennes de 1866 et 1870. Il parle de la loyauté des Canadiens-français. Il dit que ces troubles de 1870 ont fourni l'occasion aux Canadiens-français de démontrer à l'univers entier qu'ils étaient loyaux sujets ; que leur conduite patriotique a prouvé qu'ils n'avaient pas démerité de leurs ancêtres. L'orateur est natif de la paroisse de Saint-Jacques-de-l'Achigan. Il veut particulièrement féliciter ses ex-coparoissiens qui ont fourni eux aussi une compagnie. Il rappelle que le capitaine de cette compagnie d'alors, M. Euclide Dugas, lorsque le clairon d'alarme a sonné, était à Chicago. Ce vaillant soldat s'empresse de retourner dans sa paroisse, à Saint-Jacques et de se mettre à la tête de sa compagnie pour voler à la défense du pays menacé.»

« Le révérend M. Prosper Beaudry, curé de la ville de Joliette, est invité par le président à adresser la parole.

« La religion et la patrie, dit-il, ont de profondes racines dans nos cœurs, et à maintes reprises, les Canadiens ont donné la preuve de leur dévouement à la religion et à la patrie. Chaque fois que le pays a été menacé, il a trouvé des bras pour le défendre. Nous sommes Français par les sentiments, par notre origine, par nos affections, mais nous sommes de fidèles sujets anglais, et il n'est pas nécessaire de parler l'anglais pour faire de nous des hommes loyaux, et je ne crois pas que l'Angleterre dans son immense empire trouve des hommes plus loyaux, plus dévoués que les Canadiens-français, quoiqu'ils parlent français. . . . Comme l'a dit un orateur, pour le Canadien-français, son cœur est à la France, et son bras à l'Angleterre. Si jamais notre pays était menacé, l'Angleterre

trouvera encore des bras nombreux pour le défendre, et des prêtres pour bénir ses étendards. »

« Le supérieur du collège de Joliette, le révérend C. Beaudry, C.S.V., adresse à son tour la parole. Les premiers du régiment de Joliette qui partirent pour repousser les hordes féniennes, sont trois élèves du collège de Joliette, MM. le Dr Sheppard, feu Arthur McConville et J.-U. Foucher. Dans nos maisons d'éducation, dit-il, nous cultivons la religion, mais aussi l'amour de la patrie. »

Nous pourrions ajouter à toutes ces autorités, les noms des maires Payment, d'Ottawa, Préfontaine, de Montréal, Parent, de Québec, dont les discours, lors du départ et du retour des contingents, sont empreints du plus pur loyalisme, ainsi que les noms de beaucoup d'autres, mais nous nous voyons obligé de nous arrêter ici, car, si nous voulions continuer sur *le loyalisme canadien*, notre volume n'y suffirait pas.

Enfin, et pour terminer, nous rappellerons que lors du jubilé de la reine, l'Eglise a été heureuse de recevoir chez elle tous ceux qui sont venus chanter avec nous : *Domine, salvam fac reginam !*





SON HONNEUR LE MAIRE PARENT.

FORMATION DES CONTINGENTS

EST sur le désir bien connu d'un grand nombre de Canadiens que le gouvernement a offert le service de nos troupes à l'Angleterre. Après tout, ce n'était pas une levée forcée, obligatoire, mais bien un enthousiasme voulu volontairement, par la majorité. Cela est tellement vrai que, si on les avait acceptés, on aurait trouvé dix mille volontaires et plus, lesquels seraient heureux de marcher encore aujourd'hui sur la trace glorieuse de leurs illustres devanciers.

Du reste, ce n'est pas le premier essai des Canadiens sur cette terre d'Afrique ; car, quand on a fait appel aux Canadiens, en 1885, pour aller relever, à Kartoum, l'héroïque Gordon, des volontaires sont aussi partis, aux applaudissements enthousiastes de tout le Canada, et voici ce que lord Wolseley disait d'eux à cette époque :

« Le Caire, 13 avril 1885.

« Au Gouverneur Général du Canada,

« Le marquis de Lansdowne.

« Milord,

« Les voyageurs canadiens attachés à la campagne d'Égypte sont tous retournés au Canada. Je tiens à cœur

d'exprimer à votre Excellence la haute appréciation que j'ai faite de leurs services, et de l'aide qu'ils ont rendue à l'expédition.

« A de rares exceptions, ils ont prouvé leur parfaite compétence comme bateliers. Ils ont travaillé admirablement bien et ont enduré les fatigues de cette rude campagne sans proférer un seul murmure de mécontentement.

« En plusieurs occasions ils ont déployé non seulement beaucoup d'adresse, mais aussi beaucoup de courage dans la navigation du Nil, à la fois difficile et dangereuse.

« J'éprouve un vif regret de ce que, dans l'exécution de leur tâche, quelques-uns d'entre eux aient été victimes des difficultés qu'ils avaient à vaincre.

« Les officiers, le colonel Denison en particulier, ont fait preuve de beaucoup d'énergie et de bonne volonté ; leurs services ont été de grande valeur.

« Qu'il me soit permis de demander à votre Excellence de communiquer cette lettre aux officiers et à tous les autres membres du détachement des *Voyageurs canadiens*, de même qu'aux autorités canadiennes.

« Certains journaux ont publié des rapports mal fondés allant à dire que les services des bateliers canadiens avaient produit des résultats fâcheux.

« Je désire enregistrer non seulement mon opinion, mais aussi celle de tous les officiers mêlés à la direction des troupes, et qui tous s'accordent à dire que les services des *Voyageurs* ont été de la plus grande valeur, que de plus, leur conduite a été excellente.

« Ils se sont fait une haute réputation parmi les troupes engagées sur le Nil.

« Ces dernières ont éprouvé une vive satisfaction de voir des Canadiens prendre part à l'expédition et partager avec elles les privations et les dangers de la campagne.

« La présence de Canadiens au moment où des soldats

anglais, écossais et irlandais étaient réunis, met en lumière les liens qui unissent toutes les parties de notre grand empire.

« En terminant, je tiens à exprimer à votre Excellence personnellement, mes sincères remerciements pour la peine qu'Elle s'est donnée dans le recrutement de ces *Voyageurs* et dans les arrangements auxquels il a donné lieu.

« J'ai l'honneur d'être, etc.,

« WOLSELEY,

« *Général.* »

J'ajoute en outre la dépêche suivante :

« Downing Street, 19 août 1885.

« Milord,

« Je suis très heureux de vous transmettre, afin qu'elles soient communiquées au gouvernement de votre Seigneurie, des copies des votes de remerciements passés à l'unanimité le 12 du courant par la Chambre des Lords et par la Chambre des Communes aux troupes expéditionnaires du Soudan (1884-85) ; ces votes reconnaissent la bravoure, la discipline et la bonne conduite des *Voyageurs canadiens* et de leurs officiers, et les services qu'ils ont rendus à l'expédition.

« J'espère que les mesures ordinaires seront prises afin de rendre publique l'action du parlement en cette circonstance.

« J'ai l'honneur d'être, etc.,

« FRED. STANLEY (1). »

Pourquoi donc cette différence d'opinion par quelques-uns, entre ceux partis en 1885, et ceux de 1899 ? . . .

(1) *Les voyageurs canadiens* à l'expédition du Soudan, ou quatre-vingt-dix jours avec les crocodiles, par GASTON-P. LABAT.

1895! 1899!

Ces deux dates resteront mémorables dans l'histoire du Canada !

Donc, l'Angleterre a accepté l'offre volontaire des Canadiens, et, après échange de dépêches entre les deux gouvernements, trois contingents sont partis. (1)

Voici la teneur des dépêches échangées entre le gouvernement d'Ottawa, lord Minto et M. Chamberlain.

« Selon la promesse faite par sir Wilfrid Laurier, à l'ouverture de la session, la correspondance concernant l'envoi des troupes canadiennes au Sud-africain a été déposée aujourd'hui sur la table de la Chambre. Il est clair maintenant d'après les informations que sir Wilfrid a demandées à lord Strathcona au sujet de ce que payent les autres colonies pour l'envoi des contingents, que le gouvernement n'avait pas l'intention de payer seul toutes les dépenses occasionnées pour le transport des troupes.

« La correspondance se lit comme suit :

« Une dépêche en date du 3 octobre 1899 et venant de l'honorable M. Chamberlain, a été soumise à la considération du comité du Conseil privé ; elle se lit ainsi :

« Le secrétaire d'Etat pour la guerre et le général en chef désirent que vous exprimiez votre haute appréciation du patriotisme du peuple du Canada, offrant d'envoyer des contingents dans le Sud-africain et que vous donniez les informations suivantes qui aideront à l'organisation des troupes, de manière à former des unités qui pourront répondre aux besoins militaires : 1^o cent vingt-cinq hommes devraient composer chaque unité ; 2^o ils peuvent être soit de l'infanterie, soit de l'infanterie montée ou de la cavalerie ; 3^o Tous devraient être armés de fusils 203

(1) Nous donnons à la fin du volume le départ de chaque contingent, ainsi que les noms de ceux qui en faisaient partie.

décimaux qui peuvent être fournis par le gouvernement impérial, si c'est nécessaire ; 4° chacun devra fournir son propre équipement et les soldats à cheval, leur monture ; 5° pas plus d'un capitaine et de trois subalternes pour chaque unité. Un officier d'un grade pas plus élevé que celui de major pourra commander toute la division. Quant aux nombres que l'on pourra employer, le secrétaire d'Etat pour la guerre se basera sur la nature même des offres, mais il désire que chaque colonie soit représentée d'une manière juste et équitable ; mais il ajoute toutefois qu'il ne pourra pas dépasser les besoins nécessaires si l'état-major doit employer toutes les troupes qui font partie des forces impériales. Il accepterait avec plaisir les unités, aux conditions suivantes : les troupes seront débarquées au port d'arrivée, en Afrique, avec équipement complet aux frais du gouvernement colonial ou des volontaires. A compter du jour du débarquement, le gouvernement impérial pourvoira au paiement d'après le tarif de l'empire, fournira l'équipement et les munitions, paiera toutes les dépenses pour ramener les troupes au Canada, paiera des pensions aux blessés et se chargera des compensations, aux taux alloués par le gouvernement impérial.

« Les contingents ne devront pas embarquer après le 31 octobre et devront être dirigés sur Cape Town où ils recevront les ordres nécessaires. Veuillez donner des informations, d'après les instructions ci-haut mentionnées, à tous ceux qui ont offert de faire une levée de volontaires. »

Signé, CHAMBERLAIN.

« Le très honorable sir Wilfrid Laurier, à qui cette dépêche a été envoyée, fait remarquer que le secrétaire des colonies, en réponse aux offres reçues des différentes parties du Canada exprimant le désir des militaires prêts à combattre pour Sa Majesté, a dit que des unités de cent

vingt-cinq hommes et quelques officiers seraient acceptées à leur arrivée dans l'Afrique Sud, pourvu que leurs dépenses soient payées par eux-mêmes ou le gouvernement colonial.

« Le premier ministre, vu le désir bien connu d'un grand nombre de Canadiens désireux de s'enrôler dans ces conditions, est d'opinion que les dépenses modérées de l'équipement et de transport de ces volontaires devraient être payées volontiers par le gouvernement du Canada, sans convoquer les Chambres, étant donné, surtout, que ces dépenses, dans de telles circonstances, ne peuvent constituer une dérogation au principe bien connu du gouvernement constitutionnel et de l'usage des colonies, ni établir un précédent.

« La Nouvelle-Zélande a déjà envoyé deux compagnies aux mêmes conditions et dans des circonstances analogues, le Queensland va envoyer deux cent cinquante hommes, l'Australie et la Tasmanie en envoient cent vingt-cinq chacune.

« En conséquence, le premier ministre recommande que le gouvernement prenne dans les entrepôts du département de la milice ce qu'il faudra pour équiper un certain nombre de volontaires n'excédant pas mille hommes et pourvoie à les faire transporter de ce pays au Sud-africain et que le ministre de la milice prenne tous les arrangements voulus à cet effet.

« Le comité prie votre Excellence de transmettre une copie certifiée de cette minute au très honorable secrétaire d'Etat pour les colonies.

« Le tout respectueusement soumis à l'approbation de votre Excellence. »

JOHN-J. MCGEE,

Secrétaire du Conseil Privé.

TÉLÉGRAMME DE M. CHAMBERLAIN A LORD MINTO.

16 octobre 1899.

Le gouvernement de Sa Majesté a reçu avec beaucoup de plaisir votre télégramme du 13 octobre me transmettant l'offre généreuse du Canada d'envoyer 1,000 hommes, ce qui est accepté avec reconnaissance.

CHAMBERLAIN.

LE COMTE DE MINTO A M. CHAMBERLAIN.

Ottawa, 2 novembre 1899.

La nouvelle des revers du Sud-africain a causé une profonde émotion au Canada ; mais partout on a le ferme espoir qu'il n'y a pas raison de s'alarmer. Mes ministres sont cependant prêts à agir d'après les données de votre dernière dépêche, et à envoyer immédiatement un autre contingent, si le gouvernement de Sa Majesté le juge à propos.

(Signé) MINTO.

M. CHAMBERLAIN A LORD MINTO.

Londres, 2 novembre 1899.

J'ai communiqué au secrétaire d'Etat pour la guerre, l'offre généreuse et patriotique de votre gouvernement d'envoyer un autre contingent. Sa réponse vous sera télégraphiée aussitôt que possible ; en attendant, je désire vous exprimer ma reconnaissance.

(Signé) CHAMBERLAIN.

M. CHAMBERLAIN A LORD MINTO.

Londres, 7 novembre 1899.

L'offre généreuse de vos ministres d'envoyer sans délai un second contingent pour servir dans le Sud-africain a

été prise en sérieuse considération par le secrétaire d'Etat pour la guerre et ses aviseurs militaires ; mais ils regrettent de ne pouvoir l'accepter dans les circonstances.

Le gouvernement de Sa Majesté prend cependant note de cette offre, et n'hésitera pas à s'en prévaloir, si les événements rendent la chose nécessaire.

Le gouvernement de Sa Majesté attache une grande importance à cette nouvelle preuve de sympathie et de bonne volonté de la part du Canada, et désire lui en exprimer sa reconnaissante appréciation.

(Signé) CHAMBERLAIN.

M. CHAMBERLAIN A LORD MINTO.

Londres, 16 décembre 1899.

Référant à ma dépêche du 7 novembre suivant une autre dépêche reçue des Nouvelles-Galles du Sud disant : « Est-ce que le gouvernement de Sa Majesté désire que les colonies anglaises envoient d'autres troupes dans l'Afrique-Sud ? » La dépêche suivante a été envoyée en réponse : « Prêt à accepter d'autres offres des colonies. Si de telles offres sont faites, elles seront préférées à celles de troupes à cheval. Les soldats devront être entraînés, être de bons tireurs et se procurer leur propre cheval. Communiquez ceci à vos ministres pour les guider au sujet de leur offre d'un second contingent que le gouvernement de Sa Majesté accepte avec plaisir.

(Signé) CHAMBERLAIN.

Si après tout cela quelqu'un est à blâmer, ne blâmons que nos exaltés d'enthousiasme, de patriotisme et de loyalisme, lesquels unissaient de gaieté de cœur « La Marseillaise » au « God Save the Queen. »

LE DÉPART DES CONTINGENTS

QUOIQUE beaucoup de personnes aient déjà assisté à un départ de troupes, nous ne croyons pas qu'elles aient jamais éprouvé le sentiment qui envahissait tous les cœurs à ce moment.

En effet, c'était le premier pas de nos soldats vers le champ de la gloire. . . . ou de la mort, et chacun était aussi anxieux qu'une mère qui voit son enfant commencer à marcher. Va-t-il tomber avant d'arriver au but? . . . Oui, ils sont arrivés au but, nos braves, et si quelques-uns sont tombés, du moins ils sont tombés glorieusement.

Honneur à eux ! Et pouvait-il en être autrement ? Non, car tant de vœux, de souhaits, de cœurs les accompagnaient et les protégeaient, que le Dieu des armées et de la victoire les a pris sous sa garde. Et ces vœux, et ces souhaits, et ces cœurs qui étaient leur *Mascotte*, leur porte-bonheur, s'exhalaient, se manifestaient depuis le Pacifique jusqu'à l'Atlantique. Voyez plutôt. . . Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto, Kingston, Hamilton, Ottawa, Montréal, Québec, Halifax, enfin tout le Canada déployant ses drapeaux sur la tête de tous nos soldats, pour les bénir, tout comme le Christ bénissait avant de partir ceux qu'il envoyait au combat. . . .

Nous ne nous attarderons pas à dire et à dépeindre tout ce qui s'est dit et fait à cette occasion, mais nous nous contenterons de citer les discours des principaux personnages qui, au nom de la population entière, ont salué le départ de nos braves.

N'ayant pas la prétention de vouloir donner au grand complet tout ce qui s'est fait et dit au sujet du *Départ des contingents*, nous nous contenterons d'en donner les principales lignes, car que ce soit le premier ou le dernier contingent qui parte, la manifestation a été égale en tous points, le sentiment patriotique, en la circonstance, étant invariable.

Nous nous étendrons cependant plus longuement sur le départ des *Strathcona*, car la générosité de son fondateur mérite une mention toute spéciale.

C'est donc au milieu des drapeaux qui flottent sur tous les édifices, des rues décorées de verdure, aux sons joyeux des musiques militaires, aux acclamations de tout le peuple que nous accompagnerons nos braves.

Après Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto, Hamilton qui ont fait royalement les choses, arrivons à Ottawa, et laissons la parole à sir Wilfrid Laurier qui, en la circonstance, a été l'interprète de tout le Canada :

« Que la Providence vous protège, dit-il, qu'elle vous protège sur le champ de bataille où peut-être vous verserez votre sang pour le drapeau qui protège ici vos libertés. Soyez fidèles à ce drapeau. Marchez sur les traces de vos concitoyens qui, déjà, ont fait honneur au Canada sur le sol africain. Rappelez-vous que vous serez là-bas les dépositaires de notre honneur national, rappelez-vous avant tout que vous êtes Canadiens. »

La péroraison de sir Wilfrid Laurier a été couverte par les applaudissements et les acclamations de la foule.



SON HONNEUR LE MAIRE PARENT ADRESSANT LA PAROLE AU CONTINGENT.

Sir Charles Tupper parla après sir Wilfrid durant trois quarts d'heure.

A Montréal, le maire Préfontaine s'exprime ainsi :

« La population de Montréal et celle de tout le Canada apprécient à sa juste valeur la liberté qu'assure le drapeau anglais, parce qu'elles en recueillent tous les bienfaits. Elles souhaitent que Dieu bénisse votre entreprise et vous accorde un prompt et triomphant retour dans les lointaines plaines de l'Ouest. Nous honorons le grand principe pour la défense duquel vous allez lutter ; nous aimons et respectons le glorieux drapeau, notre drapeau, sous les plis duquel vous allez combattre ; nous sommes fiers de voir le Canada fournir autant de vaillants et de courageux soldats pour combattre les combats de l'empire.

« Puisse votre traversée de l'océan être heureuse, et que chacun de vous réalise son désir de prouver, sous le feu de l'ennemi, quel cœur bat en sa poitrine ! Puissent votre patriotisme, votre loyauté, votre bravoure être à jamais un exemple pour les générations que l'avenir verra grandir sous les plis du glorieux drapeau de l'empire ! »

A Québec, c'est le maire Parent qui fait vibrer la note patriotique de la vieille cité française :

« Le maire et les citoyens de Québec, vous présentent les félicitations de la ville à la veille de votre départ pour le siège des opérations dans l'Afrique australe. Nous désirons encore une fois formuler aussi fortement que possible l'espoir que nous entretenons que vous saurez maintenir en Afrique la réputation proverbiale de la vieille cité de Québec pour sa loyauté à l'empire et à Sa Très Gracieuse Majesté la Reine.

« Nous vous communiquons le plus cordialement possible l'espoir que nous avons que vous débarquerez en Afrique australe en temps pour célébrer le triomphe des armes

anglaises et que vous aiderez à restaurer le prestige et la suprématie de l'empire dans ces contrées lointaines.

« Nous sommes sûrs que vous êtes dignes de représenter la valeur et l'esprit d'entreprise de notre pays et nous caressons l'espoir que vous, comme ceux de nos compatriotes qui vous ont précédés, puissiez avant longtemps rapporter de frais lauriers dans vos familles canadiennes. »

Enfin ! Halifax même sort de sa froideur britannique pour acclamer nos braves.

« Jamais les habitants de cette vieille cité militaire n'ont acclamé comme ils l'ont fait aujourd'hui, au départ des *Mounted Rifles*, pour le Sud-africain. C'est un événement qui ne sera jamais oublié.

« On n'aurait pu être plus démonstratif, si tous les soldats qui partaient par le *Milwaukee* avaient été des citoyens d'Halifax. Le peuple acclamait, chantait, criait et poussait des hourras depuis l'heure à laquelle le transport quitta le quai, jusqu'à ce qu'il eût dépassé la ville et pris la haute mer. L'enthousiasme était à son comble.

« Ceci s'expliquait en partie, par le fait que les volontaires ont fait beaucoup d'amis durant leur séjour ici. Ils étaient les bienvenus dans les meilleures familles, on fit tout pour leur prouver combien on appréciait leur zèle patriotique. Durant la marche, plusieurs dames dirent adieu aux soldats dans les rangs. Comme les volontaires arrivèrent à la barrière de l'arsenal de marine, l'honorable Dr Borden pria le colonel Steel de commander halte, et montant sur un gros banc de neige, le ministre de la milice lut un câblogramme de M. Chamberlain au gouverneur général, dans lequel il était dit : « La reine apprécie le grand zèle du Canada, et souhaite aux troupes un bon voyage et un heureux retour. »

« Ceci fut l'occasion de nouveaux hourras. Les divers corps de musique militaires jouèrent des airs patriotiques pendant que les troupes s'embarquaient. Il y avait plus de trois mille personnes à l'arsenal de marine. »

Voici quelques extraits détachés des manifestations qui ont eu lieu dans plusieurs villes :

« Calgary. — Les carabiniers montés de Calgary sont partis à cinq heures, hier soir. On leur a donné un chaleureux *send off*. »

« Saint-Jean, N.-B. — Les artilleurs de Woodstock, en route pour Halifax, ont eu une belle réception à la gare de Saint-Jean. Toute la ville s'était rassemblée à la gare.

« La banque du Nouveau-Brunswick a voté cinq cents dollars pour le fonds de secours du Transvaal. »

Galt, Ont. — Le fonds de souscription pour les cinq jeunes volontaires de Galt, s'est monté à trois cent vingt-cinq dollars en moins de trois jours. »

« A Ottawa, le train est arrivé, portant trois cents soldats. A midi quarante, le régiment, habillé de peaux d'ours, d'astracan, de buffle ; chaussé de bottes de peaux, de mocassins ; coiffé de toute façon ; portant mouchoir rouge au cou, et autres espèces de cravates, et présentant un aspect des plus chamarrés, est arrivé sur la terrasse, à pieds, précédé du colonel Herchmer, sur un beau cheval bai, et du capitaine Winter, d'Ottawa, adjudant pour aujourd'hui, et suivi de deux fanfares.

« Il y avait vingt-cinq mille personnes au moins. Les soldats ont formé trois ailes, au pied de l'escalier, en face de la tour centrale. Le gouverneur est arrivé à une heure et quart, avec lady Minto et deux aides de camp, précédé des dragons, commandés par le lieutenant Powell.

« Les acclamations faisaient résonner les échos les plus lointains. Lord Minto, précédé et suivi de douze officiers, a fait l'inspection des soldats, des cadets et des vétérans de 1876, s'arrêtant ici et là pour parler aux types les plus en évidence de cette troupe. Ensuite, le colonel Cotton, sortant du milieu de tous les officiers des régiments d'Ottawa, en grande tenue, a appelé en avant les quatre officiers-commandants, et le colonel Foster, du Génie ; les ayant rangés devant lady Minto, celle-ci, après un beau petit discours, leur a présenté à chacun une lance avec oriflamme vert foncée, avec bande blanche portant les mots *Canadian Mounted Rifles* en rouge, et les armes du Canada en coin. Lady Minto a fait allusion au service de son mari dans l'Ouest, et a dit qu'elle remettait ces lances en bonnes mains. Elle a terminé en souhaitant un heureux voyage. Le gouverneur et sir Wilfrid ont fait des discours.

« Le conseil municipal était présent ainsi que plusieurs ministres. »

Avant de continuer, nous croyons devoir ouvrir une page en l'honneur du colonel Gordon, le sympathique commandant du district de Montréal :

« Samedi soir, environ deux cents officiers en tenue de gala se pressaient dans la salle des banquets de l'hôtel Viger, pour rendre hommage au colonel Gordon, commandant du district militaire de Montréal, à l'occasion de son départ pour l'Afrique-Sud.

« L'empressement avec lequel tous les officiers du district militaire No 5 de Montréal ont répondu à l'appel des organisateurs, et le tact et le dévouement de ces derniers ont fait de cette démonstration un succès militaire sans précédent.

« Le colonel Cole présidait ayant à sa droite le lieutenant-

colonel Gordon. La partie musicale avait été confiée à l'un des meilleurs orchestres de Montréal.

« Après la santé de la reine, bue avec un enthousiasme indescriptible, le lieutenant-colonel Cole, en termes appropriés, a proposé celle du colonel Gordon. Dans quelques paroles très bien dites, il a rappelé la carrière pleine de succès du sympathique commandant.

« Ses paroles sur la loyauté du Canada ont soulevé les applaudissements de tous.

« Le colonel Gordon a été salué avec beaucoup d'enthousiasme, lorsqu'il s'est levé pour répondre.

« Il a remercié les officiers de cette marque d'estime et de sympathie. Trop ému pour pouvoir parler longtemps, il a prié les convives de croire à la sincérité de son amitié et de sa reconnaissance.

« La santé de Mme Gordon a été proposée par le lieutenant-colonel Labelle avec une galanterie bien française.

« Le populaire commandant du 65^{me} a parlé des mérites et du dévouement de Mme Gordon dans sa participation au fonds patriotique. Après avoir fait allusion au courage de Mme Gordon, et au chagrin qu'elle ressentait de son départ, il a parlé du grand vide que causerait l'absence du colonel. »

Comme nous l'avons dit plus haut, nous devons une mention toute spéciale aux *Strathcona*, tant pour louer leur *attitude martiale*, que pour rendre hommage à lord Mount Royal et Strathcona, ce distingué patriote qui est le père et le colonel du régiment.

Si je souligne les mots : *leur attitude martiale*, je ne veux certainement pas diminuer la valeur des autres troupes, mais ayant presque tous vécu longtemps dans la prairie, ils montraient par leur allure qu'en partant pour le Transvaal, ils allaient en pays de connaissance.

En effet, gens de la prairie ou du *Veldt*, ils sont presque cousins par la rude existence qu'ils y mènent.

« La cavalerie *Strathcona* a été passée en revue hier après-midi par Son Excellence le gouverneur général. Il y avait un grand nombre de spectateurs et plusieurs membres du parlement présents, entre autres, l'honorable Dr Borden, ministre de la milice ; sir Charles Tupper, MM. Monk, Davin, Clarke, Cargill, le marquis et la marquise de Hertford.

« Après l'inspection, une adresse de la part des citoyens de Sudbury fut présentée au colonel Steele et à ses hommes, ainsi qu'un riche drapeau en soie bordé de franges argentées, avec hampe en chêne poli décoré de nickel et de cordons d'or. Au centre de l'étendard sont inscrits les mots : *Strathcona's Horse*.

« Ce drapeau a été fait par les dames de Sudbury et avait été expédié à M. Klock, député de Nipissing au parlement fédéral. C'est ce dernier qui présenta l'adresse au colonel Steele, dont la réponse a été fort applaudie.

« L'honorable Dr Borden, sir Charles Tupper et M. Davin, M.P., adressèrent ensuite la parole et félicitèrent les soldats de leur bravoure et de leur belle apparence.

L'assemblée s'est dissoute aux cris de : vivent la reine et la cavalerie *Strathcona*.

Ce matin le contingent a paradé en face des édifices parlementaires. Mme Borden a distribué des guidons à chacun des membres. Lord et lady Minto étaient présents. Dimanche il y aura parade d'église. Les officiers des gardes à pied du gouverneur et le 43^{me} bataillon feront l'escorte d'honneur.

« Dix mille personnes au moins ont assisté, ce matin, sur le terrain des édifices parlementaires, à la parade du régiment de lord Strathcona.

« Le bataillon, après avoir parcouru les principales rues de la ville, est venu se grouper en face de l'édifice central pour recevoir des mains de Mme Borden, quatre drapeaux de la part des épouses des employés civils.

« La cérémonie s'est faite en présence du gouverneur et de lady Minto, de sir Wilfrid Laurier et des honorables MM. Mulock, Tarte, Borden, Blair, Mills et Scott. Il y avait aussi sir Louis Davis, sir Henri Joly, sir Charles Tupper, sir Alphonse Pelletier et la plupart des députés et sénateurs.

« Après la présentation des drapeaux, le gouverneur général adressa la parole aux volontaires. Sir Wilfrid Laurier parla ensuite et reçut une ovation. Il fit l'éloge du colonel Steele, commandant du bataillon. Ce militaire, comme commandant de la police à cheval du Nord-Ouest, a rendu au pays des services signalés, et il était difficile de choisir un meilleur soldat pour mettre à la tête des braves que lord Strathcona envoie à ses frais défendre le drapeau de l'empire sur le sol de l'Afrique.

« Sir Wilfrid, parlant ensuite à lord Strathcona, dit que le haut commissaire semble considérer ne posséder qu'à titre de *fidéi-commis* la fortune qu'il a amassée.

« Déjà il a donné une large partie de cette fortune pour la grande cause de l'éducation. Il ouvre aujourd'hui généreusement sa bourse pour la défense de l'empire et l'honneur du nom canadien.

« Sir Wilfrid a terminé en souhaitant bon voyage aux volontaires. »

« La fête que la ville de Montréal a célébrée, hier, en l'honneur des quatre cents braves Canadiens qui s'en vont en Afrique du Sud pour défendre le drapeau britannique, restera longtemps gravée dans la mémoire de la population de la métropole du Canada.

« Jeunes et vieux, hommes, femmes et enfants, se rappelleront la journée du 12 mars 1900. Ce sera pour l'histoire de notre pays un jour de gloire où l'étendard britannique a été salué et acclamé à outrance. Jamais, dans l'histoire de notre ville, il ne s'est vu un enthousiasme aussi universel que celui dont les citoyens de Montréal ont fait preuve pour acclamer ces quatre cents fils de Mars qui sont partis, hier soir, pour représenter le Canada et combattre avec leurs confrères du Canada qui les ont devancés. Le maire Préfontaine avait proclamé l'après-midi d'hier comme fête civique.

« Toute la population de Montréal, sans aucune distinction de nationalité ou de religion, s'est rendue à l'invitation du premier magistrat de la ville.

« On estime à cinquante mille personnes la foule qui était groupée sur le parcours de la procession d'hier.

« Il a été payé jusqu'à cinquante dollars pour avoir le droit d'occuper un endroit convenable pour voir passer le *Strathcona's Horse*.

« Le maire, le conseil municipal, et une foule de citoyens distingués étaient à la gare pour souhaiter la bienvenue au régiment.

« Dès que la foule aperçut les volontaires, il y eut une véritable explosion d'enthousiasme. La scène qui s'est passée alors est indescriptible ; les cris et les vivats mêlés aux sons harmonieux des airs patriotiques que jouaient les fanfares, étaient au-dessus de toute description. Lorsque la tête de la procession fut rendue au coin des rues Saint-Denis et Sainte-Catherine, elle aperçut la magnifique structure de l'université Laval couverte d'oriflammes de toutes les nations et de drapeaux anglais. Les autorités de Laval ont fait noblement les choses, et tous ont acclamé à outrance le régiment du *Strathcona's Horse*.

Les étudiants de l'université Laval étaient groupés sur

le portique de leur *Alma Mater*. Chacun d'eux portait un drapeau anglais et à maintes reprises, ils acclamaient les troupes défilant devant eux.

« Sur la façade de l'édifice, on remarquait les inscriptions suivantes : *Pour Dieu et l'empire* et *Dieu sauve la reine !*

« On ne saurait décrire ici l'ovation faite par les étudiants du McGill, qui étaient dans la procession, aux étudiants de Laval, en passant devant l'université. Les McGill ont acclamé leurs confrères par des vivats enthousiastes en criant *Whats the matter with Laval ? Shes all right, you bet !* et nos étudiants de Laval ont salué leurs confrères du McGill par des hourras frénétiques.

« Six cents personnes assistaient au banquet au Windsor, présidé par le maire Préfontaine. A sa droite étaient assis le colonel Steele, commandant du régiment *Strathcona* ; Mgr Racicot ; l'honorable juge Tait ; l'honorable juge Davidson ; le principal Peterson, de l'université McGill ; l'honorable A.-W. Ogilvie, sénateur ; l'honorable J.-J. Guérin ; l'échevin Faucher. A gauche, l'honorable M. Forget, lieutenant-gouverneur des Territoires du Nord-Ouest ; sir Alexandre Lacoste, juge en chef de la Cour du Banc de la Reine ; le colonel Roy, commandant du 5^{me} district militaire ; l'honorable Alphonse Desjardins ; l'ex-maire Wilson-Smith ; le colonel Ibbotson ; le commandant des Royal Scots.

« Après le toast à la reine, on a lu des lettres d'excuses de Mgr Bruchési, de l'évêque Bond, du lieutenant-gouverneur Jetté et autres. »

Puis, le maire Préfontaine, le principal Peterson, du McGill, Mgr Racicot, l'honorable juge Lacoste, l'honorable juge Davidson, l'ex-maire Wilson-Smith, l'honorable Forget et le colonel Steele ont prononcé des discours.

Nous nous contenterons de donner quelques extraits du discours du maire, lequel contient en substance les nobles sentiments exprimés par tous les autres distingués orateurs :

« Permettez-moi, en ce moment, comme Canadien-français, de déclarer qu'aucune portion de notre communauté cosmopolite n'éprouve un plus grand plaisir de votre visite, ne vous souhaite plus sincèrement que le succès et un complet triomphe couronne votre campagne dans le sud de l'Afrique, que les Canadiens-français de Montréal. Nous vous souhaitons bonne chance et victoire, parce que la reine et le drapeau pour lequel vous allez combattre sont aussi notre reine et notre drapeau. Les Canadiens-français ont eux-mêmes combattu pour l'*Union Jack* à Saint-Jean, à Plattsburg, à Bennington, à Saratoga, à Chateauguay, à la Butte-aux-Français, en Egypte, au Soudan, dans l'Afrique du Sud et ailleurs, et ils sont prêts à le faire encore aussi souvent qu'on aura besoin de leurs services.

« Bien plus, colonel Steele, officiers et soldats, les citoyens de Montréal sont fiers de vous à cause de l'œuvre que vous avez si noblement entreprise, et parce qu'ils croient voir en vous les hommes qu'il faut pour l'accomplir.

« Nous comptons sur vous, de même que sur vos camarades de l'infanterie à cheval, de l'artillerie de campagne et de l'infanterie qui vous ont précédés pour soutenir l'honneur et le renom du Canada, et d'après vos états de service, nous savons que nous ne serons pas désappointés.

« Ce pays, grâce à l'héroïsme de ses enfants, qui servent dans le premier contingent, a déjà cueilli une riche et impériissable moisson de gloire dans le champ de la malheureuse guerre actuelle de l'Afrique du Sud ; nous sentons

que nous pouvons en toute sûreté compter sur le régiment de *Strathcona* pour maintenir la réputation de bravoure et d'autres vertus militaires si noblement méritée par les braves Canadiens qui font partie du bataillon commandé par le lieutenant-colonel Otter.

« Nous vous suivrons avec intérêt et orgueil comme nous l'avons fait pour les différents corps recrutés en cette ville.

« Soyez certains que le peuple canadien vous suivra d'un œil sympathique à travers les immensités du continent noir, qu'il sera fier de vos sacrifices et de votre bravoure, qu'il se souviendra des souffrances que vous aurez endurées en faisant votre devoir. Nous vous accompagnerons par la pensée dans vos longues marches ; nous monterons la garde avec vous, dans les sables du désert africain, sous la merveilleuse et sereine clarté des constellations méridionales. Nous vous suivrons dans les ravins et sur les kopjes, sur les champs de bataille sanglants, où le sentiment du danger redonne une énergie nouvelle aux vaillants qui ont appris sous les plis de l'*Union Jack* à lutter en héros ; où la grandeur des circonstances donne une énergie de fer et des nerfs d'acier aux glorieux soldats qui, de l'Angleterre et de l'Irlande, de l'Ecosse et du Pays de Galles, de l'Afrique du Sud et de l'Australie, de la Nouvelle-Zélande, des Indes et du Canada, sont allés combattre pour notre noble et bien-aimée souveraine.

« Notre pensée vous suivra quand, dédaigneux du danger, vous marcherez à la victoire, à travers les plaines rocheuses et les montagnes, et chaque pas de votre marche glorieuse sera rythmé par notre prière qui montera, ardente, vers le Dieu des armées et de la justice, et qui lui demandera d'épargner votre vie et de donner à votre courage et à votre dévouement le succès qu'ils méritent. »

N'oublions pas non plus le colonel Steele, appelé à prendre la parole :

« Au moment où il se lève, il se trouve en face de ses deux petites filles, debout sur la table, qui lui présentent chacune un superbe bouquet. Il les embrasse tendrement, puis il renonce momentanément à ce plaisir pour se donner tout entier au devoir de faire l'éloge de ses soldats.

« Et d'abord, déclare-t-il, il était fort loin de s'attendre à une semblable démonstration quand il est parti d'Ottawa ; il ne sait comment en remercier la population de notre ville. Quoi qu'il en soit, il se sent fier, plus qu'il ne pourrait le dire, lui, obscur Canadien (cris : non ! non !) d'être appelé à l'honneur de commander le régiment des *Strathcona's Horse*.

« Il est impossible d'énumérer les qualités des soldats qui font partie de cette vaillante troupe.

« Il y a là des hommes qui sont venus du Yukon, de la rivière à la Paix, qui ont fait six cents milles de chemin pour venir s'enrôler.

« Le recrutement s'est fait avec une rapidité extraordinaire. Le colonel termine en disant qu'il doit se rappeler qu'il n'est qu'un soldat, et que le devoir du soldat est d'agir plutôt que de parler. »

« Le maire donne lecture d'un câblogramme de lord Strathcona, exprimant le regret qu'il éprouve de n'être pas au milieu de ses hommes en cette circonstance, et remerciant la population de Montréal de la réception qu'elle leur a faite.

« On joue une dernière fois le *God Save the Queen*, puis chacun se lève pour partir.

« Cette journée a été vraiment superbe à tous les points de vue. Montréal a rarement été témoin d'une démonstration aussi bien réussie.

« Le *Strathcona's Horse* est reparti vers huit heures, en route pour Halifax, pour l'Afrique du Sud, et qui sait ? pour l'éternité peut-être.

« Espérons toutefois qu'ils nous reviendront quelque jour, heureux de leur lointaine campagne et rapportant, en sus d'une grosse moisson de lauriers, un rayon de soleil d'Afrique pour souvenir. »

Les voici à Halifax :

« Halifax. — Le régiment *Strathcona* s'est embarqué vers cinq heures, hier après-midi, à bord du *Monterey*, dont le départ pour les côtes d'Afrique a eu lieu, ce matin, à cinq heures. L'embarquement s'est exécuté au milieu du plus grand enthousiasme. Immédiatement avant le départ des casernes, on a donné aux soldats lecture des câblogrammes expédiés par lord Strathcona. MM. Elder-Dempster avaient fait splendidement décorer le *Monterey*. Des discours furent prononcés par le général lord Wm. Seymour, le lieutenant-gouverneur Daly et le colonel Steele. Puis le Dr Borden lut le câblogramme suivant :

« Londres, à Borden, ministre de la milice, Halifax.

« Donnez, s'il vous plaît, lecture à mon régiment de la note suivante, que j'ai reçue du secrétaire privé de Sa Majesté, et à laquelle vous donnerez la publicité qu'il convient.

« Sa Majesté est heureuse d'exprimer sa confiance au régiment, avant son départ, et croit sincèrement que les soldats seront à la hauteur de leurs camarades canadiens, qui se battent si vaillamment, à l'heure présente, pour la cause de l'empire. La reine leur souhaite tous les succès et un prompt retour dans leurs foyers.

« Dans ma réponse au secrétaire de Sa Majesté, j'ai dit qu'officiers et soldats considéraient comme un privilège

l'honneur de servir et leur souveraine et l'empire ; qu'ils seraient toujours prêts à faire leur devoir comme Canadiens et comme loyaux sujets britanniques, afin de justifier la confiance à eux si gracieusement accordée par Sa Majesté.

« Signé, STRATHCONA. »

« Borden, ministre de la milice, Halifax.

« Veuillez exprimer au colonel Steele, à ses officiers et aux soldats, le grand désappointement que j'éprouve de ne pouvoir assister à leur départ. Je n'en suis pas moins personnellement heureux de leur souhaiter un bon voyage et un prompt retour, absolument certain qu'ils s'acquitteront bravement et crânement de leur service, faisant ainsi honneur à la Puissance et à notre bien-aimée souveraine.

« STRATHCONA. »

« Sur tout le parcours du défilé, les rues, les magasins et les maisons étaient envahis par la foule. La législation était en congé, et les membres des deux Chambres, ainsi que le conseil municipal, précédaient la procession, en voiture. Les *Strathcona* étaient immédiatement précédés du 66e Fusiliers de la princesse Louise, fanfare en tête. Venaient ensuite : le lieutenant-colonel Irving et la fanfare du régiment Leinster ; cent soldats du 63e Carabiniers, avec fanfare, fermaient la marche, suivis de milliers de citoyens et de quelques membres du régiment Leinster.

« Le contingent de cent hommes, destiné à aller remplacer, là-bas, les Canadiens tombés au champ d'honneur, a tout particulièrement attiré l'attention des spectateurs, et a été salué avec enthousiasme, pour sa mâle et fière allure.

« A cinq heures, l'embarquement, qui s'était opéré aux quais du gouvernement, était terminé, et le *Monterey*

s'éloignait lentement, le cap sur la mer. Les fanfares faisaient retentir, en notes vibrantes, l'hymne national, et l'enthousiasme de la foule ne cessa qu'au moment où l'ancre fut levée et le navire hors de vue.»

A CAPE-TOWN !

« Toronto. — Une dépêche de Londres, à l'*Evening Telegram*, dit :

« Un câblogramme de Cape-Town, dit que le transport *Sardinian* portant le contingent canadien est arrivé hier. A Cape-Town, les troupes canadiennes défilèrent dans les principales rues de la ville et le gouverneur lancera une proclamation faisant, de ce jour, une fête légale. »

« Cape-Town. — Sir Alfred Milner a lancé une proclamation au peuple de la colonie du Cap, dans laquelle il appelle son attention sur les preuves multiples que la reine ne favorise pas une nation aux dépens de l'autre.

« Cette proclamation a été lue dans les écoles, les églises et dans toutes les places publiques. »

« Ottawa. — La dépêche suivante a été reçue de la part de sir Alfred Milner, gouverneur de l'Afrique du Sud anglaise :

« Le Cap. — Viens de souhaiter bon voyage au contingent canadien ; tous bien et contents d'aller de l'avant. Le peuple ici a montré d'une manière irréfutable l'appréciation de sympathie pour le secours venu du Canada.

« MILNER. »

Enfin ! ils sont tous arrivés, sains et saufs, du premier jusqu'au dernier, sur le terrain de leurs exploits glorieux, et nous cédon's la place à leurs lettres écrites de leur sang, à la pointe de leur épée.

NOTICE

Nous prévenons le lecteur que nous avons élagué de ces lettres ce qui ne pouvait l'intéresser. Ces extraits sont insérés non par date, mais par classement, et sans préférence pour aucun de nos braves dont la gloire est égale du premier au dernier.



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL OSCAR PELLETIER.

LE LIEUTENANT-COLONEL PELLETIER

LE lieutenant-colonel Oscar-C. Pelletier, qui agit comme major dans le régiment canadien en Afrique, 1er contingent, et qui a été blessé à Paardeberg, est né à Québec, le 3 mai 1862. Il est le fils de sir Alphonse-P. Pelletier, K.C.M.G., C.P., C.R., président du sénat ; et de feu Mme Suzanne Casgrain, fille de feu l'honorable E. Casgrain, membre du Conseil législatif de Québec.

Il fit ses études au séminaire de Québec, et étudiait le droit à l'université Laval depuis un an, lorsqu'il embrassa la carrière militaire.

Le colonel Pelletier débuta comme trompette dans le régiment des hussards Queen's Own de Québec ; devint trompette-major ; puis fut versé au 9e Voltigeurs de Québec avec une commission de sous-lieutenant. Il fut promu bientôt au grade de lieutenant et adjudant du bataillon.

Il fut un des premiers cadets de l'école d'infanterie de Saint-Jean-d'Iberville, où il obtint un certificat de première classe.

Il fit ensuite un cours au collège militaire de Kingston, et c'est pendant ce cours qu'éclata l'insurrection de Nord-Ouest.

Il fit la campagne de 85 avec la Batterie B, et le 2 mai 1885, il était sérieusement blessé à Cut Knife.

Il fut nommé, en 1887, lieutenant d'artillerie dans la Batterie B, et ses supérieurs ayant remarqué ses capacités, son tact et sa bravoure, le recommandèrent pour la promotion de commandant de la division d'artillerie de campagne de la Batterie B.

Il alla alors à Aldershot suivre un cours et sortit avec distinction de cette école avec un certificat de première classe, le rendant apte au grade d'officier d'Etat-major de l'armée anglaise.

Durant son séjour en Angleterre, il suivit les grandes manœuvres de l'armée anglaise pendant quatre mois.

Il fut nommé en 1898, officier commandant du district militaire No 7 de la province de Québec.

Le colonel Pelletier a épousé en 1890 Mlle Alice Archer, fille de M. Jos. Archer, jr., marchand de bois, de Québec, et il est le père de six enfants vivants.

Le colonel Pelletier est un des rares officiers de la milice canadienne qui soit qualifié dans les trois branches de l'art militaire. Il possède en effet des certificats de première classe dans la cavalerie, l'artillerie et l'infanterie.

... Le lieutenant-colonel Pelletier, de Québec, parti pour le Transvaal avec le premier contingent, écrit de De Aar Junction à la date du 3 décembre 1899 :

« Nous nous attendons à chaque instant à livrer un engagement important près de Kimberley, et notre régiment a reçu ordre de se tenir prêt. Le général Joubert est à une distance d'environ vingt-cinq milles sur notre gauche, et nous sommes préparés à lui faire la réception chaude si fantaisie lui prend de venir nous rendre visite. Et il viendra, probablement, car De Aar est une place importante, tant par les nombreux magasins qu'elle con-

tient que par la situation qu'elle occupe sur la ligne de communication. Il est donc certain que nous aurons été au feu plusieurs fois lorsque vous recevrez cette lettre. Mais j'ai lieu d'espérer que Dieu me conservera à la vie et me rendra sain et sauf à ma famille lorsque la guerre sera terminée. Nous nous attendons à une rencontre après demain.

« Le canon gronde continuellement à quelques milles de nous. Le thermomètre est à 107 degrés de chaleur, de sorte que vous pouvez juger de ce que nous souffrons.

« La bataille de Modder River, la semaine dernière, a été terrible, s'il est permis d'en juger par le nombre extraordinaire de blessés qui ont passé par ici en route pour Cape-Town. Je vous assure que ce genre de procession n'est pas très gai.

« Tous les Canadiens sont en excellente condition d'esprit et de corps, très enthousiasmés, et impatientes de se mesurer avec les soldats de Joubert. Nous préparons à ce dernier une réception qui sera plutôt militaire que civile.

« Le piquet d'un régiment voisin du nôtre a capturé près du camp un individu que l'on croit être un espion. S'il ne peut donner une explication suffisante de sa présence en cet endroit, il sera immédiatement fusillé. La justice est prompte dans ses exécutions, ici. Elle ne perd pas son temps à tergiverser.

« Nous sommes sur pied jour et nuit et le peu de loisir que nous avons est consacré à dormir aussi promptement que possible. Il est étonnant de constater avec quelle bonne humeur et quelle gaieté nos Canadiens supportent les fatigues de la campagne dont aucune description ne peut donner une idée. »

... Il nous fait plaisir d'apprendre de source absolu-

ment impartiale que notre ami, le major Oscar Pelletier, s'est distingué par sa bravoure sur le champ de bataille. Voici un extrait d'une lettre du soldat McDermott, que nous empruntons au *Daily Telegraph*, de Saint-Jean, Nouveau-Brunswick, en date du 11 avril courant :

« . . . Les Canadiens et les soldats du régiment Gordon sont devenus très liés, les uns avec les autres, ayant combattu épaule à épaule, bivouaqué et marché ensemble pendant deux semaines. Les Gordons sont des soldats superbes. Ils sont sobres et très convenables, vous n'entendez jamais sortir de leurs lèvres aucune parole déplacée, et ils sont de fidèles camarades en toutes circonstances.

« Le régiment regrette beaucoup que le major Pelletier, qui commandait la moitié de l'aile droite du bataillon, ait été blessé au bras, pendant qu'il commandait, dans la matinée du 27 février. Le major Pelletier est brave comme un lion et est adoré des soldats, à cause de son admirable politesse pour tous. Sa blessure, heureusement, n'est pas dangereuse, et nous espérons le revoir dans quelques jours.

« Le Père O'Leary n'est jamais fatigué et s'attache à nous comme une sangsue. Il est le seul chapelain qui nous ait suivi partout. »

Afin de ne pas blesser la modestie du lieutenant-colonel Pelletier, lequel n'aime pas à ce qu'on parle de lui, nous nous contenterons de finir par un article du *Chronicle*, de Québec.

« On sait que le colonel Pelletier est l'idole des membres du contingent. Son courage en présence du danger n'a été égalé que par la connaissance de la tactique militaire qu'il avait déjà, ce qui lui a permis, en bien des circonstances, de sauver la vie de ses hommes qu'un officier moins expérimenté, moins soucieux, aurait sacrifiée



CHIRURGIEN ET BLESSÉ

inutilement. Toujours bienveillant, il maintenait cependant la discipline pour se faire respecter de ses hommes et se faire obéir sans murmure quel que fût le commandement donné, s'assurant ainsi leur estime et leur amour au point qu'ils le suivraient n'importe où. Et c'est ce qu'ils ont fait, et sa direction nous a valu une grande part de la gloire qu'ils ont conquise et qui jette tant d'éclat sur le Dominion.

« Canadien-français, il a prouvé sa loyauté de la manière la plus pratique, en laissant l'aisance et le confort de son *home* pour les montagnes abruptes du Sud-africain, abandonnant la position de commandant en chef de ce district. . . .

« Nous sommes fiers de lui et nous devrions le lui prouver d'une manière tangible en lui présentant un témoignage digne de l'homme et de l'occasion.

« Les noms du R. P. O'Leary, du Dr Fiset et du capitaine E. Turner seraient certainement dignes de figurer avec celui du colonel Pelletier en cette occurrence, car ils ont tellement mérité, que quiconque devrait être fier de pouvoir leur témoigner son admiration.

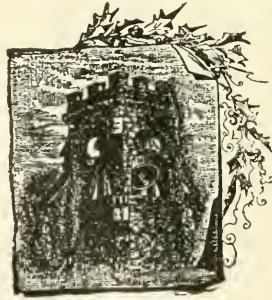
« Le Dr Fiset s'est conduit en héros. Toujours au plus épais de la mêlée, il a prodigué les ressources de son art aux blessés. Sans ses soins habiles, la liste des morts dans les rangs du contingent canadien serait, sans aucun doute, plus considérable. Il aurait gagné la croix Victoria plusieurs fois, si toute la vérité était connue.

« Le capitaine Turner s'est aussi distingué et il est l'un des héros de cette guerre. Il a accompli plusieurs actions d'éclat. Dans une circonstance entre autres, il n'a pas craint de se jeter à la nage pour traverser une rivière sous le feu meurtrier de l'ennemi, bien qu'il y eût peu d'espoir qu'il pût atteindre la rive opposée. »

Enfin, l'abbé O'Leary a prouvé qu'il était aussi vaillant soldat de son pays que du Christ !

Nous félicitons l'organe anglais de ces belles paroles.

Le Soleil les fait siennes avec le plus grand plaisir et fera tout en son pouvoir pour mettre à exécution une aussi excellente suggestion.





L'ABBÉ P. M. O'LEARY,
AUMONIER.

LE RÉVÉREND PÈRE O'LEARY

Du *Citizen* d'Ottawa :

« **O**N dit du bien de tous les chapelains qui sont allés en Afrique avec le contingent canadien.

Il est intéressant de noter que les protestants aussi bien que les catholiques font de grands éloges du Père O'Leary, le chapelain catholique romain. Il était ici, il était là, partout, et des plus bienveillants pour tous, sans égard à la croyance religieuse. A Paardeberg, le Père O'Leary a inhumé tous les morts. Un pauvre malheureux, un protestant, blessé et mourant, était assisté par le Père O'Leary. »

Le *Citizen* ajoute : « Nous nous joignons de tout cœur à cette expression d'admiration de la conduite du Père O'Leary à Paardeberg et ailleurs durant la guerre. En toute occasion, on l'a trouvé à son poste, et il a, par son caractère et son exemple, noblement fait preuve des

qualités les plus héroïques du ministre chrétien. Le *Citizen* croit que l'Angleterre et tout l'empire ont bénéficié de la présence parmi les troupes canadiennes, durant leur rude campagne contre l'ennemi, de la présence de ce zélé apôtre du Christ, faisant abnégation de soi-même, et il espère, puisque le moment approche où ce qui reste de nos *boys* en Afrique nous reviendra avec le bien-aimé chapelain catholique, qu'on prendra immédiatement des mesures pour prouver à ce bon père combien ses compatriotes ont hautement apprécié ce qu'il a pu faire, avec la grâce de Dieu, pour ceux des nôtres qui nous étaient si chers et que nous ne reverrons malheureusement plus. Le peuple du Canada devrait donner un témoignage national à ce vaillant disciple de l'Eglise militante. Nous espérons aussi que lorsque le temps propice en sera venu, ceux qui ont le privilège d'aviser Sa Majesté la reine en pareil cas n'oublieront pas les héroïques services qu'il a rendus. »

LETTRE DU R. P. O'LEARY, À SON FRÈRE.

« Expédition canadienne dans le Sud-africain, à bord du *Sardinian*, près des Tropiques. »

8 novembre 1899.

« Mon cher James,

« Comme j'aurai probablement la chance de mettre cette lettre à la poste des îles du Cap Vert, que nous atteindrons sans doute samedi, je profite des quelques moments de répit qui me sont accordés pour te donner de nouveaux détails sur notre voyage. Quand je t'ai écrit, la dernière fois, nous quittions la Pointe-au-Père, et depuis ce temps. le voyage a été très accidenté.

« D'abord, tout le monde semblait de bonne humeur, et, quoique nous eussions l'occasion de nous heurter sou-

vent sur le pont, — ce cher vieux *Sardinian* roule si bien — il n'y a pas eu la moindre friction désagréable. C'est à table cependant, que l'on s'amuse le plus, et, si ce n'était la rude besogne qui nous est réservée à chacun de nous, nous écrivions que nous prenons part à un beau et grand pique-nique.

A TABLE

« A la tête de notre table préside le colonel commandant et les autres officiers sont placés dans l'ordre suivant :

« Lieutenants-colonels Otter, Buchan, Pelletier et S. Hughes, major Drummond, lieutenant-colonel Drury, major Lessard, aumôniers Fullerton et O'Leary, major McDougall, colonel Denison, Mlles Pope, Russell, Affleck et Forbes, ambulancières (Nurses), aumônier Almond.

« D'après la composition de notre petite famille, tu peux juger de la bonne impression qui prévaut.

« Les pièces sont petites et étroites et plusieurs prennent déjà leurs quartiers de nuit sur le pont, car nous pénétrons dans les tropiques, et la chaleur est parfois très lourde, comme en juillet et août chez nous.

« Mon compagnon de cabine, l'aumônier Fullerton, me témoigne une grande amitié, et nous sommes déjà deux inséparables.

LE PREMIER CONTRETEMPS

« Notre premier contretemps s'est produit au sud de Terre-Neuve, mercredi matin. La mer furieuse a attaqué avec violence notre navire qu'elle a roulé en tous sens, brisant deux embarcations et bouleversant tout à bord. Le pont offrait le coup d'œil le plus lamentable. Il était à peu près impossible et même dangereux d'y passer. En outre, la pluie tombait à torrents. Le mal de mer était à

l'ordre du jour, et ce fut l'infime minorité qui résista au mal. Cependant, au plus fort de la tempête, je dus officier aux premières funérailles que nous avons faites en mer. Un pauvre soldat, Deslauriers, de la compagnie du capitaine Rogers, fut trouvé mort le matin. Le malheureux avait succombé à une syncope du cœur. Les funérailles eurent lieu dans l'après-midi et ce fut un spectacle impressionnant que je n'oublierai jamais, malgré les mouvements du navire, malgré le vent et la mer qui roulait sur nous ses vagues furieuses et qui balayait le pont. J'ai fait les prières d'usage sur le cadavre que l'on avait enveloppé dans un drapeau anglais. Lorsque j'eus prononcé les dernières paroles : *Requiescat in pace*, une sonnerie de clairons se fit entendre, et le cadavre fut jeté à la mer qui a ainsi englouti notre première victime.

SERVICE DU DIMANCHE

« Dimanche. — La température étant un peu plus clémente, nous avons eu le service divin sur le pont. Le service catholique eut lieu à 9.30 heures, et cent vingt hommes y ont pris part. La cérémonie a été très simple ; elle a consisté dans la récitation des prières du matin et dans la lecture de l'évangile du jour, suivies d'un sermon en français et en anglais.

« Malheureusement, une allusion que j'avais cru pique de faire à ces chers soldats sur leurs parents si loin, dont les prières ont été, sans nul doute, offertes dans plusieurs églises, pour notre sauvegarde, fut cause que la cérémonie se termina presque immédiatement. Pendant la récitation du rosaire qui suivit, plusieurs voix voilées tentaient, mais en vain, de répondre. La cérémonie se termina par la bénédiction que tous reçurent, tête nue.

« Depuis lundi la température est délicieuse et nous passons presque tout notre temps sur le pont.

« Les militaires font l'exercice presque continuellement et leurs progrès sont satisfaisants.

« Le soir, à sept heures, tous les hommes sont appelés sur le pont pour la récitation des prières. Cette scène est toujours impressionnante.

« Ensuite, les hommes demeurent sur le pont et passent leurs loisirs à chanter, à fumer et à se raconter des histoires, jusqu'à l'appel du clairon.

« La vie sur un vaisseau chargé de troupes, est toute une révélation pour moi et contraste fortement avec l'existence que l'on mène dans le paisible séminaire de Québec.

« D'après des instructions ouvertes après le départ du vaisseau, nous avons appris que nous devons nous rendre à Cape-Town, sans arrêt. Cette nouvelle nous a contrariés, car nous connaissions l'anxiété de nos bons amis qui allaient être de six à sept semaines sans apprendre de nos nouvelles.

SCÈNE SAISSANTE

« Novembre 11. — Nous espérons apercevoir les îles du Cap Vert au coucher du soleil et comme nous pourrions peut-être avoir la chance d'y déposer nos lettres, je saisis cette occasion d'ajouter quelques mots à cette lettre déjà longue et écrite dans des circonstances si diverses.

« Pendant ces derniers jours, notre vaisseau a été secoué par le vent, mais cependant la température est restée belle.

« Hier soir, nous avons eu un autre concert en plein air, très joli. C'était le tour de la compagnie d'Ottawa et tout a été très bien conduit par l'organisateur Rogers. Quelle scène saisissante c'était de voir toutes ces têtes découvertes et d'entendre ces voix chanter le *God Save the Queen*, pendant que les cœurs se portaient au loin, vers les amis absents. La lune brillait doucement sur cette scène paisible. Puisse-t-il en être toujours ainsi !

« Demain, sera le deuxième dimanche que nous passerons sur la mer et je dois préparer un sermon approprié. Je devrai vous dire au revoir, pour encore plusieurs semaines.

« Votre frère affectueux,

« P.-M. O'LEARY.

« P. S. — La chaleur est terrible parfois. La température de l'eau de la mer est de 82 degrés. Si ce n'était du vent, nos cabines nous rappelleraient les cachots de Calcutta.

A SAINT-VINCENT

« Dimanche, 12 novembre. — La température devient plus tropicale à mesure que nous approchons de l'équateur. Ce matin, à 8.30 heures, le thermomètre marquait 86 degrés et toute la journée, le mercure s'est maintenu à 90 degrés.

« Les cérémonies religieuses se sont faites dans l'ordre suivant : 9.30, catholiques romains ; 10.30, presbytériens ; 11.30, anglicans.

« Il est 11.30 heures, et nous nous préparons au repas après un concert donné par les officiers.

« P.-M. O. »

A UN DE SES AMIS.

Cap de Bonne Espérance, le 29 novembre 1899.

« . . . Je n'entreprendrai pas de vous décrire nos émotions à nous tous lors de notre départ du bon vieux Québec.

« Cette scène unique dans l'histoire de la vieille cité restera gravée à jamais dans la mémoire de ceux qui en ont été témoins.

« Nous en parlons encore bien souvent, réunis sur le pont, par ces belles soirées des tropiques, et nous nous sentons toujours le cœur gros d'émotion, comme au jour où nous avons laissé nos bons amis là-bas. . . . là-bas. . . .

« Tout alla bien jusqu'au surlendemain de notre départ. C'est alors, au sortir du golfe, que nous avons été pour la première fois, j'allais dire *au feu* — ce devrait être *à l'eau*.

« Neptune en courroux fit une protestation si énergique, pendant trois jours, contre cet envahissement de son royaume, que de guerre lasse il a bien fallu nous avouer vaincus.

« C'était notre première défaite. Nombreux, bien nombreux étaient les *hors de combat*.

« Sur ces entrefaites arriva un triste incident, le seul nuage qui était venu jusque-là assombrir la franche gaieté qui respirait partout. Nous avons à enregistrer notre première mort. Celle d'un nommé Deslauriers, d'Ottawa. C'était le 3 novembre, et la sépulture se fit le même jour.

« La tempête était à son plus fort ; la mer en furie se précipitait sur nous, avide déjà d'engloutir la proie ; au-dessus de nos têtes le tonnerre se faisait entendre en roulements formidables et c'est au milieu de cette convulsion de la nature que se fit la triste cérémonie. Le corps du malheureux, cousu dans un sac de toile, recouvert du drapeau, fut porté et appuyé sur le bord du bâtiment. Tout le régiment était rangé sur le pont, le commandant et les officiers en tête. Après les prières d'usage, au mots : *Requiescat in pace*, le corps disparut emporté par la mer, tandis que les clairons sonnaient un dernier adieu. Nous étions déjà un de moins. Si c'était le dernier ! ! . . .

« Notre vie de communauté, sans offrir les douceurs de paisible collège, n'est pas sans avoir ses attrait, et l'on s'y fait assez facilement. A l'exception du réveil qui se fait, non au son d'une innocente clochette, mais au bruit

de la trompette ou du tambour ; il n'y a pas à s'y méprendre, le sommeil est banni pour la journée ! Puis commence le tintamarre : cris de commandement, à vingt-cinq places à la fois : marches et contremarches sans fin, cliquetis d'armes, puis les trompettes qui se font entendre à chaque minute, et surtout l'exercice au tir des mitrailleuses qui nous arrachent les entrailles.

« Le soir venu — et quelles belles soirées nous passons au clair de la lune — tout comme dans les beaux jours d'automne du Canada, nous nous réunissons sur le pont pour écouter soit la musique de notre excellente fanfare, soit les improvisations, etc. . . . Nos Canadiens ont souvent la place d'honneur : Le *Brigadier* ainsi que l'*Alouette* semblent avoir captivé tous les cœurs, et on les demande toujours à outrance.

« Enfin nous arrivons au Cap de Bonne Espérance. »

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De Aar Camp, 500 milles au nord de Cape-Town,

4 décembre 1899.

« Eh bien ! nous voilà tout de bon en route pour la gloire. Nous sommes sous les ordres de lord Methuen et nous devons faire partie du corps expéditionnaire en destination de Kimberley où les Anglais sont assiégés à l'heure qu'il est. Les Boers sont à masser leurs troupes à Spysfontein où se livrera la bataille décisive de la campagne. Sera-ce un Waterloo ? . . .

« On a promis à nos *boys* de les placer au premier rang et naturellement leur chapelain ne sera pas au dernier.

« Nos soldats sont fiers de cet honneur qu'on leur décerne. Ce sera leur baptême de sang. Puissent-ils s'en montrer dignes !

« Le climat est horrible. Nous sommes campés avec plusieurs autres régiments dans une plaine sablonneuse, un vrai désert, entouré de rochers arides qui nous renvoient les rayons brûlants du soleil. C'est un vrai four. Puis, pour comble de bonheur, des coups de vent nous arrivent à chaque instant, soulevant une *poudrerie* de sable qui nous aveugle et nous étouffe.

« Jusqu'à présent, le métier de la guerre n'est pas ce qu'il y a de plus attrayant.

« Les habitants sont pour la plupart des Hollandais qui ne nous aiment pas beaucoup et des Caffres, dans leur état primitif — même *quant au costume* !

« Nous nous arrangeons tous bien dans notre tente, les quatre officiers canadiens et votre humble serviteur.

« De temps à autres nous sommes plus que le nombre réglementaire : les centipèdes, les fourmis et les lézards nous ayant pris en grande amitié ! La nourriture est bonne mais peu variée ; le biscuit de matelot et du café *ad libitum* en font les frais. Enfin, c'est loin d'être un pique-nique.

« Nous attendons d'un moment à l'autre notre feuille de route pour Modder River.

« On a eu hier la dernière bataille sanglante. Elle a dû l'être, si l'on en juge par les convois de blessés qui nous arrivent du front. De Modder River nous nous rendrons directement au feu, d'où je vous écrirai, si Dieu me prête vie. . . . »

Modder River, 12 janvier 1900.

« . . . Je suis revenu à Modder River, ou si vous le voulez à Magersfontein, la scène de deux des plus importantes batailles de la campagne : une victoire et une défaite, l'une et l'autre une boucherie.

« J'ai pu juger par moi-même de ce qu'est un champ de bataille fraîchement imprégné de sang humain. La rivière Modder est un tributaire du Vaal. D'où le Transvaal, pays situé au delà. Elle peut avoir mille pieds de large, et elle est bordée de berges hautes et escarpées ; un pont magnifique qui reliait les rives avait été détruit par l'ennemi, avant l'arrivée de l'armée anglaise, et les bords opposés avaient été mis en état de défense, au moyen de tranchées savamment pratiquées par des artilleurs allemands et fourmillant d'habiles tirailleurs, dix mille au moins.

« C'était en face d'un feu d'enfer que nos troupes ont dû descendre la rive sud, traverser la rivière à la nage, enlever la position ennemie à la baïonnette. A mesure qu'un régiment disparaissait, quasi anéanti par cette grêle de boulets, de bombes, de projectiles de toutes sortes, un autre prenait bravement sa place pour se faire foudroyer à son tour jusqu'à ce que la position fût emportée.

« Mais si le passage de la rivière Modder fut gagné au prix de flots de sang, que dirai-je de la bataille de Magersfontein, livrée seulement à quatre milles plus loin, et où l'armée anglaise a subi une défaite sans exemple dans ses annales militaires, depuis la guerre de Crimée.

« Je n'insisterai pas sur les détails que tout le monde connaît maintenant par la voie des journaux.

« La belle brigade écossaise, composée de quatre régiments en a le plus souffert.

« Dès la première décharge, leur général fut tué. Son corps criblé de balles fut trouvé dans la deuxième tranchée ennemie, entouré d'une poignée de braves qui avaient vendu chèrement leur vie.

« C'était pour tout dire un désastre, mais un désastre glorieux. En pouvait-il être autrement ?

« Depuis deux mois les Boers avaient fortifié cette rangée de collines escarpées, longue de cinq milles.

« Ils y avaient dressé des canons de siège à tir rapide et de longue portée de huit mille verges. La plaine était couverte de fil de fer barbelé, qui, dans la demi obscurité, jetait la confusion dans les rangs serrés de nos soldats. Aussi une victoire pour l'armée anglaise aurait été un vrai miracle. Eh bien ! c'est là maintenant que je suis, allant et venant au besoin, entre Magersfontein, Modder River, Enslin, Graspan et Belmont.

« Dans mes voyages, je m'amuse à recueillir des souvenirs éparpillés çà et là, sur les lieux du combat. Aussi quel musée intéressant je pourrais former si je n'étais à deux mille cinq cents lieues de chez nous. C'est dans une de ces excursions, où la curiosité m'avait entraîné au delà des avant-postes que j'ai reçu pour la première fois les compliments de MM. les Boers. C'était sous la forme de trois coups de canons, dirigés assez habilement. En entendant les cris perçants des projectiles passant au-dessus de ma tête, je me suis rappelé l'affaire des Horaces et des Curiaces. J'ai agi en conséquence.

« Que l'on dise donc maintenant que l'histoire ancienne ne sert plus à rien. . . . Nos Canadiens ne sont pas oisifs ; ils ont été chaleureusement félicités par le général en chef, pour leur affaire de Douglass. A environ quarante-deux milles d'ici, de concert avec les Australiens, ils ont pu s'emparer d'un camp retranché, faire quarante-huit prisonniers et enlever une grande quantité de provisions et de vivres.

« La santé de tous est relativement bonne, la mienne est excellente. On dit même que je rajeunis à vue d'œil. Mes cheveux blancs m'ont obtenu d'être traité un peu mieux que les autres. On m'a mis en possession d'une espèce de mesure trouée en tous sens par les balles, et d'où la nuit, couché sur le dos, je puis faire des observations astronomiques très intéressantes, tant le toit s'y prête facilement.

« Enfin, ma petite paroisse augmente et diminue par l'arrivée ou le départ des régiments anglais, et ce qui me fortifie et m'encourage beaucoup, c'est de voir réunis, autour de notre humble autel, des Canadiens, des Australiens, des Essex, des Cornwalls, des Ecossais, des Munsters, tous catholiques. . . . »

Bloemfontein, le 15 mars 1900.

Mon cher frère,

« Nous venons de compléter notre affreuse marche de cent milles ; une qui fera époque dans les annales militaires. Notre moyenne, pendant les derniers cinq jours, a été de vingt milles par jour, la plupart du temps à travers un pays dévasté et désert, où même l'eau était à prime. De te dire que les animaux et les hommes tombaient le long du chemin ne comporte qu'une faible idée des misères que nous avons dû endurer. Tu dois naturellement te demander comment j'ai pu résister. Eh bien ! je n'ai succombé que deux fois, et cela, seulement pendant quelques heures. J'ai accompli le trajet comme le plus jeune des nôtres, et sans plus grande fatigue.

« Je n'ai pas été malade physiquement parlant, pendant une seule journée, mais je portais une plaie au cœur souvent, hélas ! trop souvent. Jamais, jamais je n'oublierai les vicissitudes que nous avons éprouvées depuis le jour où nous sommes montés à l'assaut de l'ennemi à Paardeberg, jusqu'à ce que nous l'ayons chassé de son camp, un lundi soir que je n'oublierai jamais. C'était plutôt un mardi matin. Ces scènes terribles sont encore présentes à mon esprit. Si j'avais le talent d'un Détaillé, je les confierais au canevas.

« Imagine-toi le passage de la rivière Modder avec la crue de ses eaux, ou la charge insensée du dimanche soir,

le 18 février, au moment du crépuscule. Quelle peinture terrible ne pourrions-nous pas en faire ? Et puis, la dernière espérance, lorsque nos braves camarades, dans les ténèbres de la nuit, se tenaient par la main, au bout du bras, pour ne pas se perdre pendant qu'ils montaient à l'assaut des tranchées de l'ennemi.

« Mais parlons des scènes terribles après la bataille ! L'expression des figures tournées vers le ciel, quelques-unes ensanglantées, n'est pas à décrire. A un endroit, un pauvre malheureux ressemble à un enfant dormant d'un sommeil paisible. Plus loin, les traits contractés d'un autre donnent facilement la pensée de l'agonie, que l'on ne peut décrire, qu'il a dû endurer avant que le Tout-Puissant l'ait soulagé de ses souffrances, lorsque d'un moment à l'autre, le cri de rage semblait prêt à sortir du gosier du soldat étendu, la bouche et les yeux ouverts et les mains jointes lorsqu'il est tombé avec une balle dans le cœur.

« Mais ce n'est rien à côté de la sépulture triste et faite à la hâte de nos braves garçons. Ils avaient marché à côté l'un de l'autre et combattu ensemble. Leurs rangs n'ont pas été brisés par la mort. Côte à côte on les a déposés tendrement dans un sol étranger où ils dorment le sommeil éternel.

« J'ai vu tout cela, et j'y ai pris part, pourquoi ? Je ne le sais pas, mais j'ai été trouvé plus souvent au milieu de la mitraille qu'il n'était nécessaire. J'obéissais à une espèce de fascination que je ne pouvais maîtriser, et plus d'un pauvre diable m'a remercié, avec son dernier souffle, de m'être oublié moi-même pour le secourir.

« Les balles pleuvaient dru, ne semblant respecter personne, car j'en ai vu tomber plusieurs à mes côtés. Un fait particulier qui peut t'intéresser est le suivant. Pendant la bataille de dimanche, le feu de l'ennemi était terrible. Nous étions obligés de nous mettre à l'abri, le mieux que

nous pouvions, dans un pays découvert, avant que nous pussions monter à l'assaut, pendant que la fusillade serait moins vive. Je me trouvais caché en arrière d'une fourmilière avec l'un des soldats de Black Watch. Voyant que cet abri n'était pas suffisant pour en protéger deux, je me suis décidé à courir de l'avant pour me mettre à l'abri d'un petit monticule. Comme je me levais sur mes mains et genoux, me préparant à rejoindre mon nouvel abri en toute rapidité, l'on a tiré une seconde décharge, je me souviens que mon compagnon m'a dit : « Mon Dieu, monsieur, prenez garde. Que le Bon Dieu vous garde. » A ce moment, une décharge était dirigée vers nous. J'ai échappé au danger, mais le lendemain matin, j'ai trouvé mon compagnon dans la même position, toujours en travers de notre fourmilière hospitalière, mais percé au travers du cœur par les balles que l'on me destinait probablement. Sais-tu que je me suis trouvé coupable, lorsque je jetai la vue sur mon pauvre camarade d'une heure, mais d'un autre côté, si j'étais resté au même endroit, cette lettre ne te serait jamais parvenue.

« Un autre moment d'inquiétude a été celui où nous étions à quelques verges du laager, de bonne heure le matin. Oh ! comme ce feu d'enfer fauchait le monde ! Mais nous n'avons pas cédé le terrain, et lorsque le jour a paru, les Boers ont hissé le pavillon blanc, et se sont rendus. C'est un des meilleurs compliments que l'on puisse faire à la bravoure et à la valeur canadienne. Pendant que tous, parmi les membres des autres régiments, ne tarissent pas d'éloges à notre adresse, nous pouvons être fiers de nos braves garçons. Ils le méritent bien. »

Mon cher frère,

« Enfin, nous avons goûté au feu, et pour tout de bon, et bien que la journée nous ait coûté cher, nous serions

volontiers prêts à recommencer. Le Canada a droit d'être fier de ses nobles enfants. Cette terrible journée du 18 février a certes endeuillé plus d'un foyer jadis heureux, mais les êtres chéris qui là-bas pleurent les morts devront être dans une certaine mesure consolés par la pensée que tous ont fait leur devoir, tous, jusqu'au dernier. C'est l'hommage que leur rendent les régiments historiques, les vétérans des batailles, les Gordons et les Black Watch, les Argyles, les Seaforths et les Cornwalls.

« Oh ! cette charge furieuse contre un ennemi invisible, jamais je ne l'oublierai, et je n'essaierai pas de la décrire, pour aujourd'hui du moins. L'enfer déchainé n'en donnerait qu'une imparfaite idée. En avant ! en avant ! et nous nous précipitions à travers une grêle de balles, dans une atmosphère de mitraille. En avant ! et nous chargions follement, furieusement à travers les ronces africaines, buttant sur les camarades tombés, n'ayant qu'un but dans ce délire de sang et de destruction ; atteindre les retranchements ennemis. Et, dominant le bruit de la bataille, une acclamation farouche, remuait l'âme jusque dans ses profondeurs, ou plutôt un hurlement sauvage, traversait l'air embrasé, pendant que nos braves enfants bondissaient comme des tigres à travers la plaine.

« Le soir tomba sur notre victoire, et la nuit vint miséricordieusement jeter un voile sur les horreurs de ce glorieux champ de bataille. Et, dans la plus complète obscurité, car la moindre lumière provoquait le feu de l'ennemi, nous commençâmes la recherche des morts et des blessés, nous arrêtant partout où nos mains trempaient dans le sang. Du sang, du sang, encore du sang ! Et de tous côtés nous venaient de faibles gémissements, avec des appels déchirants. De l'eau, de l'eau, imploraient les blessés. Parfois, un ami buttait sur le corps de son ami, et quelle scène pathétique c'était ! « Tu diras à maman. . . »

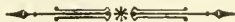
ou bien : « Ne me quitte pas ! Ce ne sera pas long ! » disaient les malheureux blessés, au milieu de leurs souffrances.

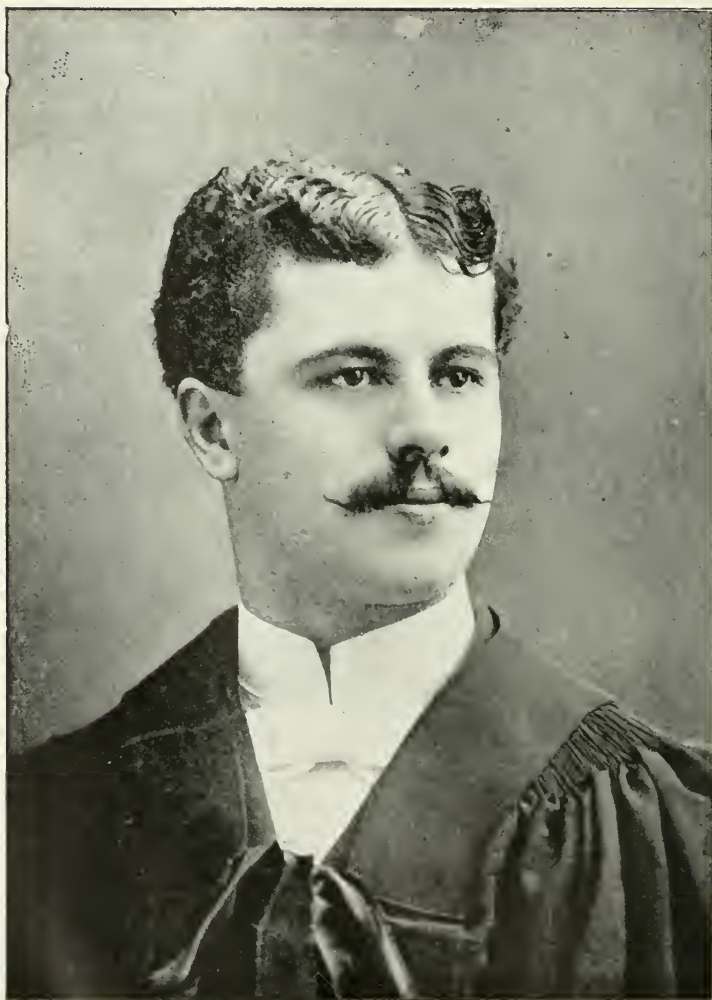
« La lune se leva sur cette scène de désolation et répandit ses calmes rayons sur plus d'une figure sereine et paisible dans la mort. Je restai tard sur le champ sinistre, avec quelques dévoués camarades, cherchant dans tous les coins et recoins les morts et les blessés, jusqu'à ce que, harassés, la force nous manquât. Et, nous jetant sur le sol, nous demandâmes au sommeil le repos et l'oubli. Ainsi firent la plupart des survivants. A peine échangeait-on une parole, car tous étaient rendus à bout par la marche forcée (de vingt milles), de la nuit précédente, et la fatigue de cette interminable journée.

« Lundi matin, nous rassemblâmes nos morts et nous les enterrâmes côte à côte dans une grande fosse — ils étaient dix-huit — pendant que je demandais aux anges du Seigneur d'en prendre soin, quand nous serions loin de ce pays, plein pour nous de si dramatiques souvenirs. Qu'ils reposent en paix, ces nobles et courageux enfants !

« Mais il faut finir. Mon cœur saigne, quand ma pensée évoque les sanglants tableaux que j'ai contemplés et les tragiques événements dont j'ai été le témoin.

« PETER O'LEARY, Ptre. »





CAPITAINE EUGÈNE FISET,
CHIRURGIEN-MAJOR.

LE CHIRURGIEN MAJOR FISET

« **L**E ministère de la milice vient de recevoir une importante dépêche du colonel Otter commandant du premier contingent, datée de Paardeberg le 27 février, au sujet de la bataille livrée à cet endroit le 18 février dernier.

« Le colonel fait les plus grands éloges du capitaine Fiset, chirurgien, attaché au régiment. Notre jeune compatriote s'est signalé par un bel acte de courage, sous le feu de l'ennemi. Non seulement il courut panser le capitaine Arnold dangereusement blessé, mais encore il poussa le dévouement jusqu'à prendre le brancard sur lequel était le blessé, à le transporter loin de l'ennemi malgré la pluie de mitraille qui pleuvait sur lui. Le capitaine Fiset a encore rendu tous les services possibles aux autres blessés. Le colonel Otter loue en outre le zèle entreprenant et intrépide du chapelain O'Leary, qui n'a cessé et le jour et la nuit de porter secours et prières aux blessés sur le champ de bataille. »

LE CHIRURGIEN MAJOR FISET À SON PÈRE.

Belmont, le 18 janvier 1900.

« . . . La semaine dernière, j'ai été choisi pour accompagner une colonne volante que nous avons envoyée à quinze

milles d'ici, pour déloger un corps de Boers qui nous enlevait nos troupeaux et nos chevaux. Je ne suis revenu qu'hier.

« Nous avons eu deux hommes de tués et quatre de blessés, mais nous ramenons quarante-deux prisonniers et seize blessés. C'est la deuxième expédition de ce genre que j'accompagne, et maintenant je suis tout à fait habitué à soigner mes malades sur le champ, sans trop de tendances à saluer bas les balles qui sifflent si gentiment au-dessus de nos têtes. Je n'ai pas encore une seule égratignure et commence à croire qu'il n'y a aucun danger.

« Nous partons encore demain du côté de l'Etat Libre d'Orange, nous ne reviendrons pas probablement avant six jours, c'est pourquoi je me hâte de t'écrire. Je commence à être passablement ennuyé de ce soleil torride, de ce sable mouvant et la vie que nous menons ici serait bien abrutissante si je n'avais l'heureuse chance d'accompagner nos colonnes volantes. De plus, la vie coûte cher, ici, en diable, et la solde est petite. J'oubliais de te dire que je suis seul maintenant en charge de mon régiment, le chirurgien major Wilson a été nommé « P. M. O. », dans un hôpital. Le colonel Otter me témoigne une grande confiance, ce qui me rend la vie plus agréable, mais j'ai bien de l'ouvrage. Nous avons les fièvres typhoïdes depuis quinze jours, et j'ai dû envoyer dix-huit de mes malades à Orange River ; heureusement c'est une forme légère. Pour ma part, je ne me suis jamais porté si bien, j'ai un peu maigri à cause de la chaleur, aussi j'en bénis le Seigneur, car je ne trouverais pas cela drôle du tout d'être malade si loin des miens.

« Le *Principal Medical Officer* des Australiens, au camp ici avec nous et dont j'ai fait l'ouvrage huit jours durant, a écrit à son ami personnel, le général Hutton, notre major général en Canada, et je crois que ce rapport n'est

pas de nature à me nuire. Je travaille dur et ferme pour faire mon devoir.

« Je ne puis en écrire plus long aujourd'hui, on vient me chercher, le commandant me demande ; de plus il faut que j'aille à douze milles d'ici à cheval, visiter un de nos avant-postes qui est là en permanence. J'ai maintenant deux magnifiques ponies à ma disposition et suis devenu un bon cavalier. Je pense souvent à vous tous, surtout pendant nos belles soirées, quand je puis goûter un peu de repos. Les parades du matin sont très intéressantes de ce temps-ci, au point de vue de la clinique, et il y a beaucoup de variété.

« A bientôt.

« EUGÈNE. »

HOMMAGE À UN CAMARADE.

Springs, 8 juillet 1900.

Dr Léonidas Larue, Québec.

Mon cher confrère,

« Vous ne sauriez croire combien j'ai été surpris tout autant que peiné de lire dans nos ordres régimentaires du jour, le bulletin annonçant la mort de mon ami Lucien, votre malheureux fils. Quand nous sommes partis de Bloemfontein, il y a trois mois, il était de retour de l'hôpital depuis quelques jours. Malgré son apparente bonne santé, je lui conseillai fortement de ne pas accompagner le bataillon, et je portai son nom sur la liste des convalescents ; il semblait alors reprendre des forces tous les jours, et je ne m'attendais jamais à le voir devenir une des nombreuses victimes de ces terribles fièvres entériques, qui ont causé tant de ravages dans nos rangs.

« Je considère comme un devoir pour moi de vous offrir mes plus sincères sympathies dans le malheur qui vous frappe. J'ai toujours essayé de me montrer son ami, durant son séjour en Afrique, et lui ai toujours rendu avec joie tous les petits services que je pouvais lui rendre. J'ai été témoin de son excellente conduite dans le régiment ; je sais par moi-même et par ses officiers commandants qu'il s'est conduit en brave à la bataille de Paardeberg, et que sa blessure est la preuve la plus éclatante de sa noble conduite.

« Mes compagnons d'armes d'origine française, le lieutenant-colonel Pelletier, MM. Leduc et Peltier, et tous ses camarades se joignent à moi pour vous offrir nos sympathies les plus vives, et compatir à votre malheur. Et si cela peut vous consoler quelque peu, soyez assuré qu'il est mort en bon chrétien et estimé de tous ses camarades. Pour ma part, j'ai perdu en lui un bon ami, et c'est de tout cœur que je prends part à votre douleur.

« Votre bien dévoué,

« EUGÈNE Fiset,

« Chirurg. major R. C. R. »





SCEUR SAINT-ANTOINE-DE-PADOUE,
NÉE DESROCHES,
De la Pointe-aux-Trembles.
UNE VICTIME DE LA GUERRE.

SI nous mettons ici Sœur Saint-Antoine-de-Padoue, c'est que nous sommes heureux de prouver que le dévouement de la femme canadienne ne le cède en rien à celui des Canadiens.

SŒUR SAINT-ANTOINE-DE-PADOUE

UNE VICTIME DE LA GUERRE

UNE RELIGIEUSE DE QUÉBEC DÉCÉDÉE EN AFRIQUE

« Le 3 mars de la présente année, un dimanche, à l'hôpital d'Escourt (Natal), s'est éteinte dans le Seigneur Sœur Saint-Antoine-de-Padoue, née Desroches, de la Pointe-aux-Trembles, supérieure du dit hôpital.

« Elle fit sa profession religieuse le 7 août 1889, à l'Hôpital-Général de Québec, et dans le courant de 1893, elle quittait ce monastère pour l'Afrique du Sud. Elle demeura pendant six ans au Sanatorium Berea de Durban, puis se rendit au couvent d'Escourt, où elle venait d'être nommée supérieure.

« Elle ne devait pas y séjourner longtemps. La guerre apporta aux religieuses un surcroît d'occupations et de fatigues, occasionné par le grand nombre de blessés con-

fiés à leurs soins. Sœur Saint-Antoine, dit un journal d'Escourt, était des plus empressées et des plus attentives auprès des malades et des blessés ; oublieuse d'elle-même, elle ne songeait qu'aux pauvres souffrants, et prolongeait souvent tard dans la nuit ses travaux et ses veilles.

« Cet excès de fatigue épuisa ses forces, et le 3 mars, entourée de ses compagnes, assistée par Mgr Jolivet qui lui donna les derniers secours de la religion catholique, elle payait de sa vie son beau dévouement à la grande cause de la charité.

« Elle était âgée de trente et un ans et cinq mois. Elle emporte l'estime de tous ceux qui ont eu le bonheur d'apprécier la bonté et l'affabilité de son caractère.

« Les funérailles ont eu lieu le lendemain. Tous voulurent y assister et prouver ainsi leur affection et leur gratitude envers la regrettée défunte. Les Dublin Fusiliers étaient présents avec leur fanfare — en tout trois cents personnes.

« La chapelle se trouvant trop petite, le service funèbre fut chanté sous la vérandah du Sanatorium par Mgr Jolivet, vicaire apostolique de Natal.

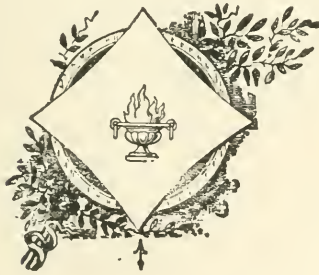
« Le cercueil fut transporté de la chambre mortuaire à l'église par les membres du corps médical de l'armée et du Sanatorium ; et de là au cimetière par le personnel de l'hôpital civique.

« La cérémonie fut pleine de grandeur, et l'émotion profonde des assistants, ajoute le journal d'Escourt, se trahit par des larmes.

« C'est la première victime choisie parmi la phalange héroïque de nos religieuses canadiennes, parties depuis sept ans pour se dévouer aux soins des malades dans les missions lointaines de Natal. L'esprit de foi qui leur a fait abandonner leur patrie, leur famille, et le cloître où elles ont prononcé leurs vœux de religion, en les signalant à

l'admiration du monde, a jeté sur notre nationalité canadienne un rayon plein de gloire.

« Le nom de Sœur Saint-Antoine-de-Padoue sera inscrit dans les *Annales* de nos martyrs comme dans le cœur reconnaissant des populations africaines qu'elle a su édifier par ses exemples, auxquelles elle a prodigué, avec sa vie, les soins incessants de sa charité et de sa tendresse religieuse. » *La Semaine Religieuse de Québec.*



LE MAJOR J.-E. PELTIER

(DU 65^e BATAILLON)

LE capitaine J.-E. Peltier, de la compagnie F, du deuxième régiment Royal canadien, est une figure bien connue. C'est un des braves qui ont maintenu, haut et ferme, la vaillante renommée du 65^e Bataillon, dont s'honore la ville de Montréal.

Voici quelques extraits de lettres qu'il a écrites à sa famille et à ses amis :

Camp de Belmont, 11 décembre 1899.

« . . . J'en voulais, de la guerre. Eh bien ! j'en ai à mon goût. Nous sommes arrivés le 30 novembre à midi, et depuis ce jour, nous voyageons en chemin de fer, nous campons ici et là. Ceux qui aiment la poussière, la chaleur, etc., peuvent être heureux ici. Mais jamais de ma vie je n'ai vu tel pays ; ils n'y a pas d'arbres, pas d'herbe, pas de verdure, mais des montagnes, toujours des montagnes à perte de vue, et des plaines qui ressemblent à de vrais déserts. Ci et là, on voit des autruches perdues au milieu des rochers. En passant, ça a l'air royalement bête ces oiseaux-là, avec leur col allongé, leurs grandes pattes !

« Nous apprenons qu'une grande bataille se livre à

l'heure actuelle, à quelques milles d'ici, à Modder River, et nous sommes loin d'être sûrs du succès de nos armes. Les Boers sont fortifiés d'une façon étonnante, sur les kopjes qui sont de vrais Gibaltars. On m'annonce que la brigade écossaise s'est fait écraser et que le général qui la commandait a été tué. Le bataillon connu sous le nom de Black Watch, et qui s'appelle le 42^e Ecossais, est presque complètement anéanti. Il ne reste qu'une douzaine d'officiers. D'autres bataillons ont subi le même sort. Comme tu le vois, nous avons affaire à une forte armée fermement retranchée. Je ne te dis qu'une chose, nous serions bien chanceux de retourner vivants au pays.

« Ce matin, vers trois heures, nous avons eu une alerte. Il faisait noir. Cinq minutes après l'alerte, nous étions sous les armes. Il faisait froid : nous avons même les doigts engourdis. Nos hommes prennent cependant très bien les choses ; ils sont bien disposés à vendre chèrement leur vie. Quant à moi, je suis bien décidé à faire mon devoir, arrive que pourra. L'honneur du Canada, j'aime à le croire, ne sera pas terni par ses fils en ce moment sur le sol de l'Afrique.

« Cette après-midi nous avons capturé cinq Boers dans la montagne. Nous espérons retirer d'eux des informations utiles.

« Nous sommes soumis à un régime très sévère. Le réveil sonne à trois heures a. m. C'est dur en grand, comme on dit chez nous, mais cela est nécessaire, car nous nous attendons à une attaque d'un moment à l'autre. Si nos succès ne sont pas meilleurs d'ici à une couple de semaines, nous serons alors entourés d'ennemis, et il est bien probable que nous aurons nos pertes comme les autres. Nous nous attendons à ce résultat, sans trembler. Nous vaincrons ou nous tomberons en braves.

« Belmont a été le théâtre d'un rude combat, il y a un

mois environ. Sous les kopjes, nous trouvons nombre de chevaux morts, etc. Nous montons la garde au milieu de ces dépouilles en décomposition. Ce n'est pas très sain, je ne te dis que cela.

« Ce matin, encore, j'ai trouvé le cadavre d'un Boer sur le bord d'un rocher ; je l'ai fait couvrir de pierres et de cailloux. C'est le seul moyen que nous avons ici sur les montagnes, d'enterrer les morts. Il y en a beaucoup d'inhumés de cette façon ; on trouve des bras, des jambes, des têtes, etc. ; ce n'est pas joli ; les peureux et les nerveux en ont tout leur raide. Il y a des soldats de nos amis qui ouvrent les yeux. Ce spectacle les étonne et les attriste ; ils ne pensaient pas assurément voir de leurs yeux des champs de bataille couverts de cadavres. C'est la guerre avec toutes ses horreurs. . . .

« Je profite de cette lettre pour souhaiter un *Merry Christmas* et une bonne année à tout le Canada. Nous allons trouver cela curieux de passer le jour de Noël en pleine chaleur. . . .

« Ton ami,

« J.-E. PELTIER. »

Modder River, 24 février 1900.

Train d'ambulance.

« Ne vous alarmez pas ; je ne suis pas blessé du tout. Mais j'ai eu la malchance d'attraper un coup de soleil. Cela ne m'a pas empêché de prendre part à la grande bataille de dimanche, le 18 courant, à un endroit appelé Paardeberg Drift, sur la Modder.

« Je vais d'abord vous donner tous les détails de notre campagne depuis notre départ de Belmont. Dimanche, le 11 : Partis de cette station à sept heures p. m., nous sommes arrivés à Gras Pan à huit heures et demie et nous

avons couché à la belle étoile. Comme tous les soirs depuis notre départ, le réveil a sonné à trois heures du matin, et à quatre heures nous étions en marche pour Ramsdam, situé à quinze milles plus loin. Cette marche n'a pas été pénible par l'espace à franchir, mais il faisait une chaleur si atroce ! Pas un air, pas un souffle de vent pour nous rafraîchir ! C'était terrible. Nous sommes arrivés à destination à deux heures et demie de l'après-midi ; j'étais exténué, rendu. C'est là que j'ai été touché par le soleil brûlant. Je suis tombé comme un caillou et je suis resté assez mal jusqu'au soir. Cela ne m'a pas empêché de continuer notre marche, à quatre heures le lendemain matin. Il nous fallait faire encore quinze milles pour atteindre Riet River. A trois heures de l'après-midi nous nous sommes reposés jusqu'à quatre heures du matin suivant.

« A cet endroit, il m'a fallu laisser un de mes caporaux, le jeune d'Orsonnens, fils du colonel de ce nom. Il avait les pieds ensanglantés et ne pouvait plus marcher. Ce pauvre garçon aurait mieux fait de continuer son chemin, car deux heures après notre départ, il a été fait prisonnier avec le reste du personnel d'hôpital ; une partie du convoi fut aussi capturée. Je n'en ai pas entendu parler depuis ; je ne sais pas ce qu'il est devenu.

« Enfin, nous avons continué notre marche sur Jacobsdale, que nous avons pris après un engagement de deux heures, sans avoir perdu plus de cinq ou six hommes. Personne des nôtres n'est tombé. Il était cinq heures quand nous sommes entrés dans cette espèce de village. Nous en repartîmes le soir, à neuf heures et demie, pour une autre marche forcée, afin de couper la retraite au général Cronje, qui avait laissé au plus coupant sa fameuse, trop fameuse place retranchée de Magersfontein, y abandonnant presque tous ses bagages. La marche a duré

toute la nuit. Ma compagnie formait l'avant-garde ou autrement ouvrait la marche de la colonne. Nous sommes arrivés à Klipt Drift juste huit heures trop tard pour lui couper la retraite.

« En arrivant, je fus envoyé aux avant-postes ; j'y suis resté jusqu'à quatre heures. A cinq heures et quart, nous sommes partis pour la nuit ; c'était le samedi soir. Nous avons marché toute la nuit et nous sommes arrivés à Paardeberg Drift à cinq heures et demie, salués par les canons boers qui tiraient sur nous pendant que nous prenions notre position. Nous avons parcouru trente-trois milles pendant notre nuit.

Il semblait que nous avions droit à une couple d'heures de repos, très bien mérité, mais à l'instant l'ordre fut donné de distribuer une bonne ration de rhum, et en avant, au feu ! Cela s'est fait dans le temps de le dire. Nous voici encore en marche, cette fois bien sur l'ennemi, car nous entendions son feu très nourri et dirigé sur nos troupes déjà engagées.

« Pour nous rendre à notre position, il nous a fallu traverser la rivière Modder à pied, malgré le courant qui atteint une vitesse de neuf milles à l'heure. Vous comprenez si nous en avons *arraché* ; de l'eau jusqu'au cou, et même par-dessus la tête pour plusieurs ; mais cela n'était que le commencement. A peine étions-nous sortis de l'eau et avions-nous escaladé la côte, que nous voilà sous les balles de l'ennemi. Ça pleuvait dru, je vous le dis ; il fallait voir cela. A cent verges plus loin, vers sept heures, le premier Canadien a été frappé à l'épaule ; la bataille a continué jusqu'à neuf heures du soir. Je n'ai pas pu diriger ma compagnie durant toute la journée, le soleil étant trop fort pour moi. Cependant, je suis resté sur le champ de bataille tout le temps. J'ai eu une fière chance, car vers cinq heures, les balles tombaient comme de la grêle. J'ai reçu une

balle à travers mon helmet, à un pouce de la tête et une autre a emporté une partie du renfort de ma chaussure du pied droit. . . .

« Franchement, c'est peu gai un champ de bataille !—un vrai champ de bataille — pas comme ceux qu'on nous montre sur les images ! On voyait les Canadiens tomber, les balles sifflaient de chaque côté de la tête, soulevaient le sable. Le sifflement des balles devient désagréable à la longue. Puis rester toute une journée couché sur le ventre, sans bouger, cela devient fatigant, vous pouvez le croire ; au moindre mouvement que nous faisons, nous recevons de tous les côtés une vraie grêle de balles. J'en connais quelque chose, car je me suis promené d'un bout à l'autre de la compagnie, pour le seul plaisir de voir. A ce moment-là on nous saluait libéralement d'une couple de salves. . . .

« J'ai eu onze blessés dans ma compagnie ; heureusement que personne n'a été tué. . . .

« C'est affreux à entendre le bruit des canons et de la fusillade, les différents sons de ces coups de feu ! Et puis l'effet produit sur l'ennemi !

« La bataille a cessé vers neuf heures dimanche, pour recommencer le lundi matin vers cinq heures. On nous a laissés nous reposer jusqu'à cinq heures du soir. Alors il a fallu aller aider aux camarades aux prises avec les Boers.

« Nous sommes restés toute la nuit à protéger une batterie qui a tiré tout ce temps sur les Boers. J'étais fier de voir avec quelle habileté nos soldats lançaient les obus au beau milieu de l'ennemi. Mais en même temps, je pensais que cette canonnade devait causer la dévastation et la mort. Nos soldats ont lancé deux cents bombes dans le laager des Boers, qui contient, dit-on, un grand nombre de femmes. Il paraît que Mme Cronje est avec son mari.

A présent, ils ne peuvent que se rendre ou mourir, car ils sont cernés. C'est bon pour eux, n'est-ce pas ?

« Tout de même, je vous dis que ce n'est pas beau la guerre pour tout de bon ; je vous en dirai davantage dans ma prochaine lettre. . . .

« Votre fils affectueux,

« J.-E. PELTIER. »



LE MAJOR T.-L. BOULANGER

(1st Q. F. B. C. A.)

Prétoria, Transvaal, 5 mai 1900.

A MM. L.-J. Demers & Frère,

« **D**ÉPUIS la prise de possession de Johannesburg, notre marche vers Prétoria a été forcée, si l'on prend en considération le manque de nourriture, pour hommes et chevaux, ainsi que le manque d'eau. Quand nous fûmes arrivés à six milles de Sprout, nous apprîmes que nous aurions de l'opposition, mais nous ne savions sur quel point. Notre division d'artillerie fut immédiatement mise en batterie pour bombarder les crêtes qui entourent Prétoria ; nous sommes restés en action jusqu'à quatre heures de l'après-midi, sous une pluie de balles Mauser. Je vous avoue que cela devenait très incommodant ; le pire c'est que nous ne pouvions découvrir d'où venaient ces projectiles, quand un soldat d'infanterie vint nous dire qu'il avait vu remuer quelque chose sur notre flanc droit ; nous retournâmes immédiatement deux pièces sur cet endroit, et après avoir lancé dix ou douze obus, le feu a cessé ; un bataillon d'infanterie fut envoyé pour occuper ces hauteurs, cela a terminé les

opérations de la journée. Nos pertes sont insignifiantes, trois ou quatre blessés. Mon cheval a reçu une balle qui lui a traversé une jambe et est allé s'aplatir sur l'os de l'autre. Je ne sais si je pourrai m'en servir. Je me suis rendu, ce soir-là, au bivouac à pied. Le lendemain, lord Roberts avait été informé que la ville se rendait, de sorte que tout notre corps d'armée était en *Review Order* pour recevoir le général Botha. Mais, il appert qu'on avait eu une assemblée très orageuse, la veille au soir et on en serait venu à la conclusion de retraiter. Vers les dix heures du matin, un messenger est venu nous informer que le général Botha était parti et que la ville était libre. Ordre fut donnée à la 15^e division de prendre possession de la ville. Notre brigade d'artillerie s'en fut bivouaquer près des casernes de l'artillerie transvaalienne.

« A propos de ces casernes, il ne s'en trouve pas de plus belles, de plus spacieuses au monde ; elles peuvent contenir au delà de mille chevaux et plus de trois mille hommes. Tout est moderne, arsenaux, hôpital, bains, abreuvoir, le tout éclairé à l'électricité. Tous nos officiers en ont été étonnés. Dans un des magasins, nous avons découvert près de trois mille fusils de tout modèle, que les troupes transvaaliennes avaient capturé sur leurs ennemis à différentes époques. Tous les officiers sont logés aux places occupées par les officiers transvaaliens : un rang de jolis petits *cottages* tout neufs avec jardins encore tout en fleurs.

« Prétoria est une jolie ville située entre un cercle complet de montagnes ; on y accède par un col formé par la rivière Aapies, qui se jette dans la rivière Crocodile. Les rues sont larges et droites. Les bâtisses publiques sont très jolies. Les résidences sont somptueuses, toutes entourées d'arbres et de fleurs. Le jardin des plantes est de toute beauté, malgré que nous soyons en hiver. Les

hôpitaux sont spacieux et des mieux outillés. L'école publique est un immense bâtiment avec toutes les améliorations modernes. Les religieuses de l'ordre de Lorette ont la plus grande école de la ville, elles possèdent un des plus beaux terrains. J'ai fait la connaissance du révérend Père Beaudry, O. M. I., qui agit comme chapelain des religieuses et curé ; c'est un charmant homme. Il a fait la campagne du Zuberland, il était à Majuba Hill en 1881, et à la bataille de Colenso et Spion Kop, il est Français et connaît très bien le pays.

« Nous ne savons pas combien de temps nous resterons ici ; nous sommes immobilisés à cause de nos chevaux qui n'en peuvent plus. »

19 mai.

A M. Edmond Bélanger,

marchand de la rue Notre-Dame.

« . . . Nous ne savons guère quand la guerre finira. Nous ne pouvons avancer bien vite en besogne, car les Boers ont fait sauter tous les ponts et détruit le chemin de fer. Comme il nous est impossible de nous procurer de provisions dans le pays, il nous faut rebâtir à tout prix avant d'avancer.

« Nous sommes dans un bien drôle de pays : des plaines sans herbes et des rivières sans eau.

« On reproche aux Boers d'être arriérés. Il n'y a rien de surprenant à cela. Ils sont isolés dans l'intérieur, ayant pour tout moyen de communication avec le littoral un minuscule chemin de fer insuffisant au trafic et dont les taux sont exorbitants, inabordables.

« J'ai visité plusieurs fermes boers ; elles sont admirablement bien tenues et mesurent de deux mille à quinze mille

acres carrés. Les Boers élèvent des troupeaux considérables. Ils ont les plus beaux moutons du monde.

« Nous arrivons à la région des mines, de ces célèbres mines qui ont tant fait parler d'elles. J'ai hâte de constater *de visu* si ce que j'en ai lu était exagéré ou non.

« Je jouis toujours d'une excellente santé, mais je l'ai échappé belle à la bataille de Brantford. Un obus boer a passé si près de moi que j'ai entendu son sinistre sifflement. Il nous a démonté une pièce, tué un homme et blessé quatre autres. C'était mon troisième engagement. . . . »

Prétoria Club, Prétoria, 4 juillet 1900.

A M. Carrier, rédacteur de *L'Événement*.

« . . . Vous avez dû apprendre aussi que lord Roberts n'est pas loquace. Il a tellement surveillé les nouvelles que le général Tucker, le commandant de notre brigade, ignorait même où nous allions la veille d'une marche. Les quelques correspondants accrédités n'ont rien eu à communiquer à leurs journaux respectifs, excepté ce qu'ils voyaient pendant la marche.

« Vous avez dû remarquer que, depuis notre départ de Kroonstad, ç'a été une marche forcée continuelle. Quand nous sommes arrivés en vue de Prétoria, nos chevaux se tenaient à peine.

« Notre division n'a fait que passer à Johannesburg. Cette ville ne m'a pas impressionné beaucoup. C'est peut-être parce que j'étais fatigué. En retournant au Canada, je me propose d'y arrêter.

« Je ne vous parlerai pas de la chaleur du jour et du froid de la nuit, ni des privations qu'il a fallu endurer. Ce que je veux vous dire, c'est qu'il était temps que nous arrivions à Prétoria. Vous allez me demander comment il

se fait que nous y soyons arrivés si vite? Cela est dû à ce que lord Roberts a profité des chicanes des Boers, pour pousser l'ennemi l'épée dans les reins. Ils avaient à retraiter aussi vite que nous avancions. Conséquemment ils n'avaient pas le temps de s'assembler, de discuter et de se demander mutuellement s'il était opportun de défendre telle ou telle position.

« Maintenant un mot des célèbres défenses de Johannesburg et de Prétoria :

« D'abord Johannesburg n'avait aucun travail de défense. Quant à Prétoria, ses défenses se résumaient à quatre petits forts sur le sommet des montagnes qui entourent la ville, vous comprenez que si les Boers avaient fait mine de défendre leur capitale, il nous eût été facile de bombarder ces forts, puisqu'ils étaient faciles à isoler ; ils nous apparaissaient entre le ciel et le sommet des montagnes.

« Une chose que les Boers avaient oubliée en bâtissant ces forts, c'est celle-ci : S'ils avaient défendu Prétoria, nous forçant à faire le siège de cette ville, nous aurions d'abord bombardé les forts, et tous les projectiles qui auraient manqué leur but, c'est-à-dire tous les obus tirés trop haut, seraient tombés dans la ville où ils auraient causé des dommages considérables. Lorsqu'ils se sont aperçu de cela, ils ont préféré se retirer dans les montagnes, au nord de Prétoria. Vous voyez qu'une principale partie de leurs défenses se trouve inutile. Cependant elles ont dû coûter des sommes fabuleuses.

« Les Boers ici sont complètement indifférents et ils ont profité des premiers jours de notre arrivée pour déposer les armes.

« Il y a une chose que tous les étrangers ignorent. C'est que le père Kruger, que tout le monde respecte, parce qu'il est vieux, aurait dû se retirer depuis dix ans. Pour

se maintenir à la présidence, il dépensait de l'argent. Il faisait élire qui il voulait.

« Tous les employés publics étaient des Hollandais nouvellement arrivés au pays ; de sorte qu'il avait ses créatures. Joubert qui était un honnête homme, a passé sa vie à le combattre.

« Aujourd'hui, Anglais, Hollandais et autres disent que si Joubert avait été à la tête du peuple boer, ils n'auraient pas à déplorer la guerre, ni la perte de leur pays, et que les mines d'or qui environnent Prétoria, et qui sont aussi riches que celles de Johannesburg, seraient encore en pleine opération ; ils ajoutent que les Boers à qui ces mines appartenaient seraient maintenant riches.

« Le père Kruger avait peur, en développant ces mines, qu'un trop grand nombre d'étrangers vint s'établir dans le pays, de sorte que les Boers qui ont versé des sommes considérables pour obtenir le droit de miner, ont perdu leur capitaux.

« Je suis un de ceux qui admirent les Joubert, les Botha, les de Villiers, les Dewet et tant d'autres. Mais pendant que ceux-ci étaient à défendre leur patrie sur les champs de bataille, les quelques préférés ont enlevé le trésor et la conséquence, c'est que les soldats boers n'ont pas reçu de paye. Leurs femmes et leurs enfants crèvent de faim. Ils vivent à la ration, comme nous.

« Les deux petits peuples boers ont bien fait leur devoir en combattant pour garder leur indépendance ; mais la tête était pourrie. Ils sont nombreux les Boers qui estiment que leur gouvernement n'était pas un gouvernement national puisqu'il était composé d'étrangers. Tous ces employés publics hollandais ont déjà demandé la permission de s'en aller, et tous les jours ils partent en aussi grand nombre que les convois peuvent en contenir, et cela à la grande satisfaction d'un grand nombre de Boers qui main-

tenant voient la porte ouverte pour eux ; car ils ne sont pas tous ignorants, tant s'en faut.

« Au moment où je termine ma lettre, j'apprends que Botha vient encore de rompre le cercle qu'on lui avait préparé depuis dix jours. C'est la troisième fois qu'il nous joue ce tour.

« Vous avez aussi appris, sans doute, que Dewet avait détruit le pont sur la rivière Rhenoster, capturé nos malles et tous nos vêtements d'hiver, et qu'il en avait fait un feu de joie. A ce sujet notre ami et canadien Girouard a dit sa façon de penser au général Kitchener. Il est le seul officier qui parle au général Kitchener ; tout le monde en a peur ; je vous dis que c'est un *canayen*, celui-là !

« Nos carabiniers montés, avec le général Hutton, sont partis ce matin, pour une destination inconnue. . . .

« T.-L. BOULANGER, major. »

Nous croyons devoir clore les lettres du major en mentionnant ici le nom de son fils, Georges Boulanger, jeune homme âgé de dix-neuf ans, aux avant-postes sous le général Tucker.

A la délivrance de Mafeking, il était trompette sous les ordres du major J.-A. Hudon.

C'est le cas de dire : tel père, tel fils !



LE CAPITAINE C. K. FRASER

(DU 53^e BATAILLON)

COMMANDANT DE LA COMPAGNIE E DU PREMIER CONTIN-
GENT CANADIEN, À SON FRÈRE, LE MAJOR
H. L. FRASER, DE SHERBROOKE.

Paardeberg Drift, 20 février 1900.

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« JE suppose que vous avez entendu parler avant
aujourd'hui de notre bataille de dimanche, le 18.
« Nos blessés seront dirigés sur Kimberley, cette
après-midi, et je n'ai que le temps de griffonner ce billet,
que j'enverrai mettre à la malle, à Kimberley. Nous avons
eu une chaude journée dimanche, mais, Dieu merci, je
suis épargné. Nos pertes ont été très fortes, vingt morts
et soixante-trois blessés. De ma compagnie, seulement
trois ont été trouvés morts et huit blessés. Je vous écrirai
de nouveau aussitôt que possible. »

Paardeberg Drift, 23 février 1900.

« De telles choses sont survenues depuis dix jours que
je ne sais pas par où commencer. Nous quittâmes Bel-
mont, lundi, le 12, et bivouaquâmes à Gras Pan, ce soir-là,

quittant le lendemain, à quatre heures du matin. Nous avons marché douze milles et campé le reste du jour, à Ram Dam, sur la rivière Riet. Ce fut une très pénible marche, sous un soleil brûlant ; bon nombre d'entre nous tombèrent, frappés d'insolation, mais j'ai résisté très bien à la chaleur. Nous sommes restés là, ce soir-là, pour repartir le lendemain matin, à quatre heures, avec toute la 19^e brigade, sous le commandement du brigadier-général Smith-Dorien, la brigade navale, une batterie de mortiers et de cavalerie. Nous, les Canadiens, marchions sur la gauche des deux gros canons de marine. Notre halte suivante fut à Waterval, distant de douze milles, que nous quittions le lendemain matin, à trois heures, pour marcher sur Wegdrai. Ce fut une marche plaisante, le temps étant frais. A Wegdrai, nous avons opéré notre jonction avec la 9^e division, sous le commandement du général Colville, et atteignons Jacobsdal le même soir, à neuf heures, pour faire une marche de quatorze milles, à Klip Drift, où nous restâmes tout le jour pour repartir encore le soir pour faire une autre course de vingt milles. Ce fut la plus longue et la plus harassante marche que nous ayons faite, et nous étions presque tous sur les dents. Nous nous étions à peine reposés un instant que nous fûmes appelés sous les armes. Nous avions à traverser la rivière, ayant de l'eau jusqu'aux épaules et nous former pour l'attaque sur la rive nord de la Modder River. Les compagnies A, B et C, formèrent la ligne de bataille, et les compagnies D et E, la réserve, en seconde ligne. Le branle-bas a commencé vers neuf heures et nous sommes restés couchés dans le soleil, toute la matinée. Nous avons reçu l'ordre dans la ligne de bataille. Les balles sifflaient tout autour de nous et un de mes hommes fut frappé à l'épaule. Je ne peux vous donner une description exacte du feu terrible auquel nous étions exposés. Afin d'attein-

dre la première ligne, nous devions passer par-dessus le sommet d'un coteau, et lorsque nous l'eûmes atteint, nous avons couru cent verges et nous nous sommes couchés. Je trouvai le pauvre capitaine Arnold frappé à la tête. Un des deux ambulanciers, en le transportant, fut aussi frappé, car Arnold avait été blessé quelque temps avant notre arrivée, sur le flanc de la colline. Je le fis transporter par deux de mes hommes. Ma position suivante fut à huit cents verges des Boers, derrière un bouquet d'arbres, et la fusillade, ici, était simplement terrifiante. Deux de mes hommes furent frappés. Je rencontrai Hodgins et quelques officiers, et ce fut alors que nous chargeâmes. Les Boers étaient retranchés le long de la rivière, derrière de petits buissons et il était impossible de les voir. Ce fut une erreur d'essayer de prendre leur position d'assaut, car elle était inexpugnable. Les Gordons étaient sur notre droite, les Cornwalls sur notre gauche. Un pauvre garçon reçut une balle dans le pied et je fus obligé de couper sa guêtre, de le déchausser et de bander la plaie du mieux que je pus. Il souffrait horriblement et comme tous les brancards étaient occupés pour transporter les blessés, ce ne fut qu'après deux heures de recherches que je pus en trouver un pour le transporter.

« Nous avons tiré, après notre charge, jusqu'à ce qu'il fit nuit et nous nous retirâmes. Les pertes des Boers doivent avoir été très fortes, car notre artillerie a tiré dans leurs retranchements, tout le jour durant. Ils se retirèrent pour se retrancher une couple de milles plus haut, dans la rivière.

« Vous dirai-je notre fatigue quand l'ordre fut donné de se retirer pour bivouaquer ? Les blessés furent transportés durant la nuit, et le lendemain matin, nous sommes allés enterrer nos camarades. Ce fut une scène affreusement poignante.

« Nos blessés sont tous très bien et ont été dirigés hier vers Modder River, dans des wagons. Ce pauvre Arnold est mort hier, à l'hôpital. Nous avons maintenant une armée de quarante mille hommes, et Roberts, Kitchener et French sont ici. Cronje tient toujours, et on apprend que des renforts sont en route pour le secourir. Je crois que le plan de Roberts est d'attirer autant d'ennemis que possible de Ladysmith et d'ailleurs. Je ne crois pas que la guerre dure longtemps, quand nous aurons fini avec Cronje. Notre brigadier nous a félicités le lendemain de la bataille, disant qu'il était fier de nous et que notre charge a été parfaite. »

Thaba N'Chu, 2 mai.

« . . . Quand nous avons quitté Bloemfontein, il y a dix jours, nous pensions être absents trois ou quatre jours seulement ; mais nous sommes restés jusqu'ici à la poursuite de l'ennemi, qui fait en sorte de toujours nous échapper. Nous avons eu plusieurs escarmouches ces jours derniers. Mercredi, le 25 avril, nous en sommes venus aux mains avec un petit corps de Boers retranchés sur une chaîne de kopjes ou collines. Notre régiment a attaqué de front. Les compagnies G et H étaient au premier rang, E et F au deuxième, C et D au troisième et A et B au quatrième.

« Les autres régiments ont dirigé leur attaque contre la gauche de l'ennemi. Le feu de l'ennemi a été bien nourri pendant quelques minutes, mais n'a pas duré, et nous n'avons perdu que peu de monde : un soldat de la compagnie H tué, le colonel Otter et deux soldats blessés. Ma compagnie est sortie indemne de l'engagement.

« Le 28 avril a été pour nous une journée d'épreuve. Nous avons levé le camp à quatre heures du matin et,

après une marche de douze milles, sommes arrivés à Eden Kop, où l'ennemi nous a tiré dessus toute la journée, sans trop d'effet, cependant. Vers cinq heures de l'après-midi, nous avons reçu l'ordre d'escalader le Kop, sur un flanc duquel se trouvaient les Boers. La colline est haute d'au moins quinze cents pieds et ce n'était pas chose facile que d'arriver au sommet. Une fois rendus là nous avons presque immédiatement reçu l'ordre de revenir sur nos pas, ce que nous avons fait. Il commençait déjà à faire nuit, et nous sommes retournés à Thaba N'Chu à la faveur des ténèbres. Ayant perdu notre route, nous avons fait un détour inutile de quatre ou cinq milles, par une route affreuse ; la fatigue nous avait gagné tous les membres quand nous sommes arrivés à Thaba N'Chu, à onze heures du soir. Le lendemain, un dimanche, nous nous sommes reposés toute la journée, oubliant les fatigues et les tribulations de la veille. Nous avons de nouveau levé le camp lundi matin et sommes maintenant rendus à huit milles de Thaba N'Chu, dans la direction de Wynberg.

« Lundi après-midi et mardi matin nous avons livré un combat assez sérieux, qui s'est terminé par la fuite de l'ennemi. Les Boers occupaient une colline escarpée, à notre gauche, et une autre position en face de nos lignes. Ils avaient cinq canons. Notre compagnie E a servi d'escorte à une batterie d'artillerie jusqu'à trois heures de l'après-midi, alors que nous avons reçu l'ordre de nous porter, avec le reste du régiment, à l'appui des Gordons, qui avaient chargé l'ennemi sur la gauche.

« Nous avons dû parcourir un mille de terrain plat avant d'arriver au Kop, et l'ennemi, tout le temps qu'a duré la marche, a fait pleuvoir sur nous des balles et des boulets. Chose étrange, nous n'avons perdu que quelques hommes. Un pauvre gars de la compagnie D, fils du colonel Cotton, d'Ottawa, a été tué. Nous avons passé la nuit sur la colline



MAJOR T. L. BOULANGER.

MAJOR J. E. PELTIER.

CAPTAIN C. K. FRASER.

où nous avons failli geler. Les Boers occupaient le versant droit, et nous le gauche. Nous nous attendions à un bombardement pour le matin suivant, mais heureusement la plupart des Boers décampèrent durant la nuit, et, au matin, il nous fut facile de déloger ceux qui restaient. Nous fîmes plusieurs prisonniers. L'ennemi a dû subir des pertes considérables, car nous avons trouvé sur nos pas plusieurs cadavres, y compris celui du commandant boer.

« C. K. FRASER,

« Capitaine. »



FEU M. LUCIEN LaRUE

« **M**. LUCIEN LARUE, dont nous annonçons la mort, hier, n'était âgé que de vingt-cinq ans. C'est bien jeune pour mourir, quand la vie aurait pu avoir pour lui tant de charmes et quand tout dans l'avenir semblait lui sourire.

« M. LaRue aimait beaucoup la vie militaire. Il était lieutenant dans le 87^e bataillon, il avait aussi été sergent dans le 9^e Voltigeurs, et il avait fait son cours militaire à Saint-Jean. Depuis six ans, il était employé à la Banque Nationale. C'était un excellent sujet qui jouissait de la confiance de ses chefs.

« La dernière lettre du défunt, adressée à sa sœur, était datée du 13 mai, de l'hôpital Adinburg, Norvals Pont. Il écrivait : « Me voici de nouveau à l'hôpital, après en être sorti le premier avril. Je souffre du rhumatisme cette fois ; je ne suis pas le seul. Une quarantaine de mon régiment souffrent du même mal. J'en veux à mon ami le Dr Fiset, qui m'a laissé en arrière de mon régiment à Bloemfontein, au moment où il partait pour la conquête de Prétoria. . . . Les fièvres font bien des victimes dans notre régiment. Pour notre compte, nous avons à déplorer la mort de

vingt-cinq camarades durant notre séjour à Bloemfontein, et un grand nombre sont dans les hôpitaux. Notre excellent chapelain, le Père O'Leary, a eu les fièvres lui aussi ; il a beaucoup maigri. On doit, dans quelques jours, le transporter à Capetown, pour sa convalescence. Le régiment le regrette beaucoup depuis son départ, tant il était aimé des catholiques comme des protestants. Aux dernières nouvelles que j'ai reçues, mon ami Fiset était souffrant, mais il ne voulait pas quitter son régiment, qui a besoin de lui. Les médecins de l'hôpital me promettent une guérison complète dans quelques jours.» Il terminait cette lettre en disant : « A bientôt. »

« Hélas ! cette chère illusion qu'il caressait de revoir son pays, d'embrasser sa famille, elle lui a été refusée.

« Dans une lettre précédente, il parlait de ses projets d'avenir. On lui avait offert une commission dans l'armée anglaise, et il se demandait s'il l'accepterait ou non. Mais avant tout il voulait revoir la patrie.

« Il avait si bien conquis la confiance de ses chefs qu'ils lui offrirent la position de sergent dans son régiment : il la refusa pour une raison qui fait le plus grand honneur à ses sentiments délicats comme à son bon cœur. Il craignait, écrivait-il encore, d'être obligé quelquefois d'avoir à sévir contre des camarades, et cela lui répugnait. « Je suis parti soldat avec eux et je reviendrai soldat avec eux, » disait-il. Voilà un langage qui lui fait le plus grand honneur.

« Singulière coïncidence : Lucien LaRue est décédé le jour même de notre fête nationale, le 24 juin. Pendant que nous nous réjouissions, en proclamant notre attachement à la France et notre fidélité à l'Angleterre, lui, — ce vaillant, ce brave, — mourait pour la défense de l'empire britannique. Honneur à lui, honneur à sa famille, honneur à notre ville et à notre race !! » *Le Soleil.*

JOURNAL DE LUCIEN LARUE

A bord du *Sardinian*, 31 octobre.

« Voici mon premier moment de repos, depuis notre départ de Québec. J'aurais voulu jeter quelques notes sur le papier dès hier soir, mais la chose n'était pas possible, vu que mon lit se trouve situé au plafond du second étage du bateau et qu'il n'y a pas de lumière. Du reste, nos bagages ne sont pas encore débrouillés et je n'ai pas encore réussi à mettre la main sur mon sac blanc qui contient mon papier, mon encre, tout ce qu'il me faut pour écrire. En bon soldat, je m'accommode de tout : à défaut de papier, je jette à la hâte, mes impressions sur le revers d'une carte d'Afrique, de ce pays où nous devons trouver peut-être la mort, mais sûrement la gloire pour ceux qui survivront.

« Au moment où nous avons quitté Québec, j'étais profondément ému. Je n'étais pas le seul non plus. Bien des circonstances contribuaient à nous émouvoir : d'abord nous quitions la patrie, nos parents, peut-être pour toujours ; et, puis la belle démonstration que la ville de Québec nous avait faite, la chaude sympathie que sa population nous avait témoignée, nous avaient profondément bouleversés.

« Fort heureusement, nous fûmes bientôt arrachés à ces idées sombres par le commandement. Il fallut voir aux bagages, se préparer au souper, et, ce n'est qu'à neuf heures du soir que j'ai pu monter sur le pont du navire, humer le bon air. Je me rappelais qu'au mois de juillet dernier je descendais le même fleuve avec plusieurs amis ; aujourd'hui, quel changement ! Me voilà à bord du *Sardinian*, au milieu de onze cents hommes, partant pour la guerre. La vie est ainsi remplie de contrastes.

A neuf heures et demie, j'avais peine à me tenir debout tant j'étais fatigué. Je me jetai sur mon lit et je pris un sommeil réparateur, si bien que, deux heures après, lorsque le clairon annonça l'heure du coucher, je me levai précipitamment, croyant que c'était le réveil. Je montai à la hâte sur le pont où l'on me ramena de mon illusion.

« 1er novembre 1899.

« La mer commence à se fâcher ; nous avons un commencement de tempête. Un bon tiers des hommes souffrent du mal de mer. Les officiers ont fait distribuer des citrons et des oranges aux malades. Dieu merci, je suis bien et j'espère tenir bon jusqu'au bout. Cela va me valoir la faveur d'être attaché au service de l'hôpital.

« En bon voyageur que je suis, en arrivant à bord, je me suis mis au mieux avec le cuisinier, qui de temps à autre me passe des petites *douceurs*. La nourriture est bonne.

« Après le souper, j'ai rencontré sur le pont, une vingtaine d'Écossais de Toronto, réunis en cercle. Ils m'ont invité à me joindre à eux. Ce sont de charmants compagnons et bien déterminés à faire leur devoir en Afrique.

2 novembre 1899.

« Il fait une véritable tempête. La plupart des officiers et les trois-quarts des soldats sont malades. Quant à moi je me porte comme un charme. Je viens justement de porter secours à mon camarade Hudon qui était disparu de notre cercle depuis hier midi. Je l'ai trouvé blotti dans un coin du navire, exténué, pouvant à peine parler. Il n'avait pas mangé depuis hier matin, et personne n'avait remarqué son absence. Avec l'aide du lieutenant Leduc, je l'ai transporté à l'hôpital.

« 3 novembre 1899.

« C'a été une triste journée pour nous. Le deuil est à bord, la mort a déjà saisi l'un de nos camarades, Deslauriers, de la compagnie d'Ottawa. Il a succombé, hier soir, à une maladie de cœur, malgré tous les soins des docteurs Wilson et Fiset.

« Je viens d'assister à ses funérailles. Quel pénible spectacle ! A quatre heures, sa compagnie se mit sous les armes pour lui rendre les derniers honneurs. Le corps avait été placé dans un hamac dans lequel on avait mis un poids destiné à le faire enfoncer. La dépouille mortelle de notre camarade avait été enveloppée dans les plis de ce drapeau anglais pour lequel il était prêt à donner sa vie. Sous l'éclatante lumière du soleil couchant, M. l'abbé O'Leary lut les prières ordinaires, puis, le corps glissa dans la mer, et la vague mugissante rompait seule le silence solennel qui existait sur le pont. Le *Sardinian* reprit aussitôt sa course.

« La brise est très forte et soulève la mer d'une façon terrible. Les vagues s'élèvent jusqu'à une hauteur de quarante pieds et viennent quelquefois nous abîmer. Ça vaut un beau bain d'orage.

« 5 novembre 1899.

« C'est dimanche aujourd'hui. Nous venons d'entendre la messe ; c'était un spectacle imposant. Nous sommes deux cent cinquante catholiques romains à bord. Après avoir récité le chapelet, M. O'Leary nous a fait un joli sermon, commentant l'évangile approprié à notre cas.

« Nous voici maintenant à une grande distance de Québec ; il fait un vrai temps d'été. C'est charmant d'être bien et de pouvoir rester sur le pont.

« 7 novembre 1899.

« La journée d'hier a été très occupée, je n'ai pas eu un instant pour écrire. Il est bon d'observer que l'on nous fait faire, à tour de rôle, des exercices militaires, pendant trois heures par jour. Les médecins nous ont tous vaccinés et le perruquier nous a enlevé la chevelure ; les Boers n'auront pas de chance à nous prendre aux cheveux.

« Une agréable surprise nous attendait après ces opérations. Le commandant fit appeler notre compagnie et remit à chacun de nous la somme de vingt-cinq dollars provenant de la généreuse souscription faite par les citoyens de Québec. Québec nous poursuit de ses bienfaits jusqu'au milieu de la mer.

« L'harmonie et la bonne entente qui règnent à bord sont admirables. On dirait que nous sommes tous des frères et que nous avons toujours vécu ensemble. Nos officiers nous traitent très bien : à part les rations qui sont abondantes l'on nous fait distribuer des fruits, des cigares, du tabac et des cigarettes. Dimanche dernier l'on nous a donné pour dessert un superbe *plum-pudding*.

« Ce matin, à six heures, ma compagnie, composée de cent vingt-cinq hommes, a été appelée sur le pont. C'était le moment du bain. Le capitaine a fait diriger sur nous les tuyaux des pompes, et je vous prie de croire que l'eau coulait à flot. J'aurais voulu avoir un kodack pour photographier ce spectacle aussi amusant que pittoresque.

« Nous espérons toucher dimanche aux îles Canaries pour faire du charbon et prendre de l'eau fraîche. Cela nous permettra de jeter nos lettres à la malle. »

« Buena Vista, 3 Anchor Bay, Cape-Town, Dec. 1st, 1899.

« Dear Sir,

« Your son wished me to post the enclosed note. The note speaks for itself.

« Your son was enjoying the best of health, and seemed quite contented.

« His corps was greatly admired here, and thousands of people went to the station to bid them *au revoir*.

« We out here appreciate to the fullest extent the aid we are receiving from our fellow colonists, but sincerely hope that they may soon be safely restored to their friends.

« Yours sincerely,

« ROBERTS SHAW. »

(*Traduction.*)

« Cher monsieur,

« Votre fils désire que je vous adresse la lettre ci-incluse. Cette lettre parle par elle-même.

« Votre fils était en parfaite santé, et paraissait bien content.

« Sa compagnie a été grandement admirée ici, et des milliers de personnes se rendirent à la gare pour lui souhaiter au revoir.

« Nous apprécions tous ici dans sa plus grande étendue l'appui que nous recevons de nos concitoyens coloniaux, mais nous avons la sincère espérance qu'ils pourront bientôt retourner sains et saufs au milieu de leurs amis.

« Votre bien sincère,

« ROBERTS SHAW. »

Voici maintenant ce que Lucien LaRue écrit à son père :

« Cape-Town, 1er décembre 1899.

« Mon cher père,

« Nous partons dans dix minutes pour la campagne ; on nous dirige sur Kimberley. Nous avons eu une réception

enthousiaste à Cape-Town, le gouverneur de la ville était en tête de la population. L'état-major du général Buller préside à notre départ aujourd'hui.

« 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ heures a. m., 2 décembre.

« En chemin de fer.

« Nous voilà partis en route pour Kimberley. Nous avons laissé Cape-Town, à trois heures p. m., hier. Entre Cape-Town et Prince Albert station, nous avons rencontré trois trains portant les pauvres soldats blessés venant de Kimberley. Le pays que nous parcourons est vraiment enchanteur et nous en admirons à loisir pour le moment toutes les beautés. Il fait très chaud. . . .

« . . . Nous aurons à faire face à l'ennemi demain. Quel sera notre sort? . . . Dieu le sait; cela suffit au soldat chrétien décidé à accomplir son devoir, et nous sommes tous bien déterminés à faire honneur au drapeau.

« Prince Albert Road Station, 2 décembre 1899.

« 11 heures du matin.

« Enfin ! nous y sommes. Nous avons l'honneur d'être sur le terrain ennemi depuis quelques minutes. Un quart d'heure d'arrêt à cette station du chemin pour prendre le *lunch*, et nous continuons notre marche en avant.

« C'est demain que nous rencontrons les Boers ; à la grâce de Dieu ! . . . Nous sommes tous bien portants et prêts à sacrifier nos vies pour l'honneur du Canada.

« Belmont, dimanche, le 11 février.

« . . . Nous partons pour Jacobsdale avec les trois meilleurs régiments que l'Angleterre possède : les Seaforth, Gordon et Blackwatch Highlanders.

« Nous serons mis aussitôt sur la ligne de feu. . . La lutte sera chaude, car l'Angleterre veut en finir le plus vite possible, et je me demande combien reviendront sains et saufs du combat.

« Pour moi, je suis prêt pour le drapeau et pour Dieu, et si je n'en reviens pas, je prierai Dieu de te rendre heureux sur tes vieux jours que j'aurais voulu entourer de mes soins. . . »

A SA SŒUR.

« Belmont Station, 13 février.

« . . . J'étais de service aujourd'hui quand on m'a appelé par mon nom. C'était la poste qui était distribuée.

« Te dire le plaisir que ta lettre m'a fait, tu ne saurais le croire : je pleurais, je riais, je sautais, et mes confrères croyaient que je recevais une lettre de *ma blonde* ! . . . »

LA BATAILLE OÙ IL FUT BLESSÉ RACONTÉE PAR LUI-MÊME

LE NOBLE JEUNE HOMME REVIT TOUT ENTIER DANS CES LIGNES

« Hôpital Naauwport, 3 mars 1900.

« Mon cher père,

« Comme tu le vois, je t'écris de l'hôpital où je devrai passer quelque temps grâce à une *politesse* de nos amis les Boers. J'espère n'être pas retenu trop longtemps, car, malgré que je sois très bien traité ici, c'est une vie ennuyeuse et monotone après l'existence que j'ai menée depuis mon arrivée dans ce lointain pays d'Afrique. On a beau dire, la vie militaire malgré ses fatigues et ses périls a aussi ses charmes. Il y a bien, sans doute, l'ennui, le regret d'être éloigné de tout ce qui nous est cher ; mais d'un autre côté le désir de faire honneur à son pays, à sa



LUCIEN LARUE,
BLESSÉ A PAARDEBERG.
Mort en Afrique du Sud le 24 juin 1900.

race, la pensée de conquérir un peu de gloire sur le champ de bataille nous met au cœur un courage que l'on ne saurait peut-être pas soupçonner tout d'abord.

« Ce que je désirais depuis si longtemps, voir une vraie bataille, entendre le sifflement des balles, le grondement des canons, s'est enfin réalisé. En effet, j'ai vu la mort de près et j'ai connu tout ce qu'il y a d'horrible, de pitoyable sur un champ de bataille, les plaintes et les gémissements des blessés, les convulsions des mourants, leurs suprêmes adieux à ceux qu'ils ne verront plus, leurs prières à celui qui est le Dieu des batailles. Ce spectacle est inoubliable une fois qu'il nous a été donné d'en être le témoin comme je l'ai été à la bataille de Paardeberg, le 18 du courant.

« Laisse-moi maintenant te donner les détails de cette rencontre dans laquelle les soldats canadiens se sont tant distingués et qui s'est terminée par la capture du général Cronje et de sa vaillante armée. . . .

« . . . Le moment est solennel, l'heure est décisive. Nous formons d'abord la troisième ligne de feu : les Gordons, les Black Watchs, les Cornwalls, les Highland Light Infantry forment les premières lignes de feu en front et en flanc. L'artillerie se tient à notre gauche avec deux gros canons de la marine royale. Aussitôt les Boers concentrent leurs forces sur nous. Dix minutes après que nous avons ainsi pris position, les Boers ouvrent le feu sur nous, les balles sifflent à nos oreilles et nous ôtent toute envie de dormir. Il est facile de voir que la partie va être chaude des deux côtés. Cependant ce bruit des balles nous électrise, nous enrage presque, et nous rétorquons de notre mieux. Le premier qui tombe blessé à la tête, est le capitaine Arnold de la compagnie A du régiment canadien. On le place sur un brancard (*stretcher bearer*) et on le transporte hors des lignes. Hélas ! son exemple fut suivi par d'autres ; à toute minute nous

voyons **tomber** de nos braves Canadiens, les uns blessés légèrement, les autres grièvement.

« Une demi-heure s'était à peine écoulée depuis le commencement de la bataille et voilà la pluie qui se met de la partie ; elle fouette tous ceux que les balles ont épargnés. Deux hommes de ma compagnie qui ont été blessés sont transportés en lieu sûr. Sur les dix heures du matin le feu augmente ; les Boers sont retranchés dans un coin de la rivière, abrités par des tranchées naturelles ; d'autres sont montés dans les arbres et tirent sur nous sans être aperçus. Seuls nos canons peuvent les atteindre. Les balles pleuvent littéralement au-dessus de nos têtes ; à chaque minute il tombe des morts et des blessés, leur nombre augmente toujours. A onze heures notre ligne avance de quatre cents verges, nous ne sommes plus qu'à douze cents verges de l'ennemi. A ce moment les Boers se mettent à concentrer leur feu sur notre ligne. Nous restons fermes, pas un recule ; le devoir est là, il faut vaincre ou mourir. Pendant ce temps-là, notre artillerie fait des dégâts considérables dans les tranchées des Boers : nos canons maxim lui prêtent main forte avec succès.

« A une heure, nous avançons de quatre cents verges. Les morts et les blessés se comptent alors par centaines. C'est horrible à voir. La fusillade ralentit du côté des Boers et nous nous demandons s'ils ne sont pas à retraiter, ou s'ils n'attendent pas plutôt le moment propice pour recommencer le feu. A quatre heures les Boers recommencent l'attaque d'une façon terrible. Nous sommes couchés par terre et c'est quelque chose de lamentable que les cris et les gémissements des blessés qui parviennent à nos oreilles. Nous ne pouvons pas leur porter secours, la bataille se continue, terrible, meurtrière.

« Il est cinq heures et notre vaillant et brave commandant, le major Oscar Pelletier, donne ordre à la compa-

gnie F de marcher à pas redoublés dans la première ligne du feu. Celle-ci obéit à l'instant à son chef qui donne l'exemple de la bravoure et du devoir. C'est à ce moment que nous voyons la mort approcher, mais nous courons au-devant en vrais soldats. A peine avais-je fait vingt pas qu'une balle m'atteignit à l'épaule droite et que je vis un flot de sang sortir de ma blessure.

« Le major Oscar Pelletier, toujours si bon pour ses hommes, me félicite de mon courage et me crie au milieu de la mêlée qu'il allait envoyer un brancard pour me faire transporter hors des lignes du feu, mais le nombre des morts et des blessés se multiplie, la besogne des ambulanciers devient de plus en plus considérable. Il fallait bien se résigner, savoir attendre. Aussi, ce n'est qu'à huit heures du soir, après la bataille terminée que je fus, avec les autres, transporté en lieu sûr. Ce n'est qu'à trois heures le lendemain que ma blessure fut pansée.

« Les médecins se prodiguaient, mais le nombre des blessés était si grand qu'ils ne pouvaient suffire, malgré leur dévouement et leur bon vouloir.

« Notre régiment seul a compté dans cette journée vingt-cinq morts et quatre-vingt-dix blessés. Parmi les blessés aujourd'hui, il n'y a que le fils du colonel Hudon et moi de Canadiens-français.

« N'importe si nous avons eu de la misère, si nous avons versé du sang, nous nous en consolons en songeant que nous avons remporté la victoire et mis Cronje prisonnier avec une partie de son armée. Puisse cet événement hâter la fin de cette guerre meurtrière. Dans cette journée du 18 les Anglais ont eu trois cent cinquante morts et quatre-vingts blessés.

« J'aimerais beaucoup te donner beaucoup plus de détails, mais je me sens trop affaibli. Dans quelques jours je pourrai t'écrire plus au long. Ne prends pas d'inquiétu-

de, ma blessure va bien, elle commence à se cicatriser et j'espère pouvoir sous peu reprendre mon service et rendre le change aux Boers. C'est si beau la revanche, quand on est militaire. . . .

Bloemfontein, 8 avril.

« . . . Je t'avouerai que ceux de mon régiment qui ont eu à combattre sans interruption depuis le 18 février et qui n'ont pas été blessés dans ces batailles ont plus de mérite que mes camarades et moi, blessés à la première bataille de Paardeberg ; car ceux-là ont eu à souffrir de la faim, de la soif, des fatigues et de la maladie. Quand je te dirai que quelques-uns d'entre eux se trouvaient fiers quand ils pouvaient trouver un mouton mort de maladie, ou bien de la fleur mêlée de boue et d'eau qu'ils faisaient cuire dans de la graisse de bottes. . . C'est la plus dure campagne qui se soit jamais vue jusqu'à ce jour, disent les officiers anglais. Mon régiment reviendra au Canada avec les lauriers de la victoire, car nous avons fait de l'ouvrage qui a réussi. Notre brigade ainsi que notre division a été victorieuse jusqu'aujourd'hui. A ma compagnie (F) revient l'honneur d'avoir capturé Cronje et quatre mille prisonniers ; à mon régiment, d'avoir repoussé l'ennemi jusqu'à trente millés de Bloemfontein, et j'ose espérer que nous serons victorieux jusqu'à Prétoria, où là nous pourrions chanter tranquillement la chanson composée par mon cher ami Donohue : *The Jolly Musketeers*, chanson qui égaie nos marches et nous donne de l'électricité dans les jambes. . . . »

A SON ONCLE.

« Bloemfontein, 16 avril.

« . . . Depuis ta lettre du 6 février, bien des choses se sont passées, et je me demande comment il se fait que je

n'aie été que blessé quand bien d'autres sont morts à mes côtés. . . Blessé par une balle Mauser, je n'ai ressenti aucune douleur si ce n'est le choc violent que j'ai éprouvé et la perte de sang qui m'a fait tomber sans connaissance sur le champ de bataille, lors de notre premier engagement à Paardeberg. Lorsque le major Oscar Pelletier, à cinq heures, nous donna l'ordre de renforcer la ligne de feu, je partis d'un bond, tout joyeux ainsi que mes confrères, pour faire notre bonne part, comme les compagnies en avant de nous.

« Il n'y avait pas vingt verges de parcourues que j'étais frappé : trois tours sur les talons et je suis tombé la tête à la renverse sur une ruche de fourmis. Je perdis connaissance, et ce n'est qu'à huit heures du soir que je fus transporté dans un hôpital temporaire, où l'on comptait le lendemain huit cent quarante blessés et deux cent cinquante morts dans une seule journée.

« Hier, pour la première fois, les conséquences de la guerre m'ont fait frémir.

« Belmont, où nous sommes campés, a été le théâtre d'une sanglante bataille le 25 novembre dernier, dans laquelle les Boers ont eu le dessous, ayant perdu beaucoup des leurs, et dans l'affolement n'ayant pu enterrer leurs morts. Nous étions anxieux, mes amis et moi, de voir le champ de bataille.

« Nous sommes partis trois, et il n'y avait pas dix minutes que nous marchions, que l'on trouvait, à moitié enterrés, dix-sept Boers, la tête sortie de terre rongée par les insectes. . . .

« C'était horrible à voir ! »

A SA SŒUR.

Bloemfontein, 26 avril.

« . . . Je viens causer quelques instants avec toi, car je suis seul ici, mon régiment étant parti depuis quatre jours contre le combat les Boers.

« Lorsque le régiment s'est formé pour la parade avant le départ, je m'étais mis dans les rangs pensant qu'on ne m'apercevrait pas. A l'inspection, on me fit sortir des rangs ne me trouvant pas assez fort pour entreprendre la marche. Aussi j'enrage !

« Quoique les nouvelles soient bien difficiles à avoir, je puis te dire que lord Roberts ne peut plus se passer des Canadiens, tant il apprécie leur courage, leur bravoure et leur endurance. . . . »

A SON PÈRE.

« . . . J'ai oublié de te dire que quelques minutes avant de traverser la Modder River à pied, le 18 février, pour prendre notre position sur le champ de bataille, le général Smith-Dorien, brigadier général de notre division, est venu trouver le colonel Otter et lui a dit : « *I am proud that your regiment, the Royal Canadian, under my command to-day belong to the same Empire that I belong* », et continuant : — « *No, no, I want to say : That I am proud to belong to the same Empire that the Royal Canadian belong. . . .* »

« Lors de notre inspection à Belmont par le même brigadier, il avait aussi dit au lieutenant-colonel Otter « qu'il était honoré d'avoir sous son commandement le régiment canadien. » Enfin, des félicitations nous arrivent de toutes part : par lord Roberts, Kitchener, Hector Macdonald, etc., et par les journaux du Cap. . . . Malgré les lauriers que nous emporterons au Canada, cent cinquante ou deux cents manqueront à l'appel à notre retour, et il nous restera à sympathiser avec les pauvres familles qui auront à déplorer la perte d'un fils ou d'un parent. »

Généreux et vaillant Lucien ! Il est du nombre, et mettons sur sa tombe ainsi que sur celles de ses compa-

gnons d'armes tombés au champ d'honneur, ces vers du poète :

« Et les peuples encor n'ont rien vu de plus beau,
Qu'un brin de laurier vert sur un jeune tombeau ! »

UNE ÉPITRE ÉMOUVANTE

SA DERNIÈRE LETTRE.

« Wynburg Hospital, 7 juin 1900.

« Mon bien cher papa,

« Me voilà rendu à Wynburg Hospital depuis hier matin, soit douze milles au sud-est de Cape-Town. Les médecins voyant que je ne pourrais me rétablir à Norval's Pont, ont décidé de me transporter ici, en attendant que je prenne le premier bateau hôpital en partance pour Southampton ; les médecins prétendent que la guérison rapide de ma blessure est la cause de ce rhumatisme qui me fait souffrir depuis bientôt deux mois, et qu'aussitôt sur la mer je ressentirai un bien sensible. Tous mes confrères blessés comme moi à Paardeberg et revenus au régiment après leur guérison ont dû, après une première marche, retourner à l'hôpital, souffrant d'empoisonnement du sang ou d'inflammation de leurs blessures.

« La guerre tire à sa fin, l'enthousiasme est à son comble. Lord Roberts a fait son entrée triomphale dans Johannesburg et Prétoria avec mon régiment, fort de trois cent cinquante hommes, le second régiment canadien et les gardes. Kruger, son état-major et ses troupes se sont retirés dans les montagnes au nord de Prétoria. Je m'attends de laisser Cape-Town dans six jours en route pour Southampton, Netley's Hospital. . . .

« . . . Je suis sans nouvelles de la famille depuis deux mois, le régiment ne sachant, j'en suis bien certain, où me trouver.

« Pour la première fois, depuis mon départ de Québec, hier soir, je couchais dans une maison. J'ai pu me reposer à mon goût, étant couché dans un bon lit. . . .

« . . . Ne t'inquiète pas de ma maladie, je ne crois pas que j'en souffrirai longtemps. . . . »

Non, il n'a pas souffert longtemps, le brave enfant, car il est mort dix-sept jours après, le jour de la Saint-Jean-Baptiste, alors que nous célébrions notre fête nationale, et nul doute qu'au moment où son âme s'envolait vers Dieu, son cœur se portait vers le Canada !

Mais tirons un voile glorieux sur ce triste souvenir, et laissons parler les journaux, car ce qu'ils disent de ce pauvre Lucien s'applique aussi à Borden, Cotton, McQueen et tous ceux qui sont morts là-bas ! . . .

SUR UNE TOMBE DE PATRIOTE

Voici l'hommage que dépose sur la tombe de feu Lucien LaRue le *Chronicle* de cette ville :

« Le soldat Lucien LaRue, de cette ville, qui a été blessé à Paardeberg, et que l'on nous annonce maintenant avoir succombé à la fièvre entérique, a donné sa vie pour son pays et pour sa reine, aussi absolument que s'il eût été tué sur le champ de bataille. Son nom est digne d'être inséré parmi les héros de la nation, car il a répondu à l'appel aux armes, il a bien rempli son devoir de soldat et il est mort en soldat. Nous qui jouissons des privilèges et des immunités achetées aux prix de semblables jeunes, ardentes et patriotiques vies, nous estimons comme un précieux héritage la mémoire de ceux qui ont combattu et

qui sont morts pour le drapeau que nous aimons tant. Québec a déjà fourni trois noms à l'armée des héros morts — Witty, LaRue et McQueen — et bien qu'ils soient morts, ces hommes vivent encore comme une inspiration pour l'accomplissement d'actions nobles et patriotiques. »

MORT AU CHAMP D'HONNEUR !

Le Soleil publie à l'occasion de la mort du fils de notre ami, le Dr Léonidas LaRue, de Québec, un article remarquable dont nous nous plaisons à citer les passages suivants :

« Que la mort de ce jeune homme soit donc une leçon pour les fanatiques qui nous dénoncent comme des sujets déloyaux, parce que nous continuons à aimer la France, tout en restant fidèles à l'Angleterre. Voici un enfant de Québec, de cette vieille ville française, un Canadien-français lui-même, appartenant à l'une de nos meilleures familles, qui abandonne une jolie position à la banque Nationale, pour aller défendre le drapeau britannique. Après toute espèce de privations et de misères, il est blessé ; il va plus tard mourir à l'hôpital, loin de tous ceux qu'il aime. Et c'est en face de pareils dévouements, de pareille générosité que l'on oserait accuser notre race de déloyauté ? Allons donc ! Est-ce que le sang versé par les nôtres n'est pas plus éloquent que les flots d'encre répandus par ceux qui nous insultent ?

« Pauvre Lucien LaRue ! Il est mort au moment où nos soldats sont sur le point de revenir. Il ne connaîtra pas les joies du retour. Cette voie triomphale, cet innombrable peuple, ces acclamations semblables au bruit de la mer, les fleurs sur les armes victorieuses, ces soldats si

graves au milieu de leur gloire, si brillants dans leurs habits fatigués, si modestes sous leurs blessures, il ne verra pas cela. Ces acclamations enthousiastes de notre patriotique population qui retentiront, au retour de nos soldats, comme une ode immense pleine de fierté et d'amour de la patrie, il n'aura pas la douce satisfaction de les entendre. Comme il a dû penser à tout cela quand il a vu la mort inéluctable ; comme il a dû penser aussi aux siens, à son pays ! Il est mort la pensée vers son pays, comme le héros dont parle Virgile : « *Et dulces moriens reminiscitur Argos.* »

Qu'il repose en paix dans ce lointain pays ! Son souvenir restera cher à ses amis et glorieux pour sa patrie.



LETTRE DU SOLDAT LUCIEN VALLÉE

(FILS DU GOUVERNEUR DE LA PRISON)

ÉLOGES DU COLONEL PELLETIER. — NOTES DE LA BATAILLE
DE PAARDEBERG. — LES BOERS ONT PEUR DES
CANADIENS ET CROIENT QUE NOS SOL-
DATS SONT DES SAUVAGES.

« Camp de la 19e Brigade, près Bloemfontein,

« Afrique-Sud, 21 mars 1900.

« Ma bien chère maman,

« **F**INFIN ! je trouve quelques instants pour vous écrire. Depuis plus d'un mois je me suis trouvé dans l'impossibilité de vous donner de mes nouvelles. Le 13 février nous partions de Graspan, il va sans dire à pied, pour couper la retraite de l'armée de Cronje et secourir Kimberley.

« Mon bataillon forme partie de la 19e Brigade de la 9e division, dont il est le 4e régiment. Les autres régiments dans notre brigade sont : Les Gordon Highlanders, Duke of Cornwall Light Infantry et les King's Shropshire Light Infantry. Nous avons marché pendant quatre jours, de quinze à vingt milles par jour, et après quelques coups de canon nous avons pris Jacobsdale. Nous sommes partis

dès le lendemain en route pour Kimberley, mais après quelques jours de marche nous dûmes changer de direction, une estafette nous ayant avertis que Kitchener était à la poursuite de Cronje. Cette journée-là nous nous étions reposés à peine depuis quelques heures lorsque nous fûmes forcés de repartir à cinq heures p. m., et faire une marche forcée de vingt-trois milles durant la nuit. Le lendemain, 18 février, l'ennemi étant en vue, nous nous arrê tâmes à Paardeberg Drift vers les cinq heures a. m. Sans même prendre de repos ni déjeuner nous traversâmes la rivière Modder, nous avions de l'eau jusqu'au cou, je vous assure que plusieurs des petits faillirent se noyer.

« L'artillerie royale nous avait précédés dans l'attaque afin de nous permettre de contourner les flancs des Boers. Une de nos compagnies, aidée des Gordons, s'empara immédiatement de trois petits kopjes que l'ennemi occupait et par ce fait le cerna complètement, sa retraite lui étant coupée d'autre part par la rivière. En moins d'un quart d'heure nous avons traversé la rivière avec les Cornwalls et deux compagnies de Shropshires et nous nous avancions en ligne de tirailleurs vers les Boers. L'artillerie vint occuper les trois petits kopjes et nous, nous attaquions l'ennemi de tous les côtés à la fois. Pendant toute la journée nous avons essayé de les déloger de leur position, mais en vain, ils étaient trop fortement retranchés, les rives de la rivière, minées par l'eau, les mettaient à couvert de notre feu. A chaque moment je voyais tomber de mes camarades et j'avais bien peur que la balle suivante ne me fût fatale. Nous étions couchés à plat ventre par terre sans pouvoir remuer, de crainte d'être un point de mire. Nous étions déjà mouillés jusqu'aux os lorsque pour comble un orage s'abattit sur nous vers les onze heures. Le capitaine Pelletier qui était déjà malade depuis quelque temps, fut pris d'une indisposition

et perdit connaissance, nous fûmes obligés de le transporter à l'hôpital; cependant, notre brave capitaine revint nous rejoindre dans l'après-midi. Tous les quarts d'heure nous avancions d'une trentaine de pas et les Boers reculaient toujours. Dans l'après-midi nous fîmes deux charges à la baïonnette qui eurent un effet terrifiant sur l'ennemi. J'ai encore à l'idée les lamentations d'un pauvre Cornwall qui venait d'être blessé à mes côtés, on se préparait à le porter en arrière lorsqu'il reçut une nouvelle balle entre les deux épaules! Il mourut trois minutes plus tard.

« Le feu cessa à la tombée du jour, vers les huit heures, nous retraits nous alors du côté de l'hôpital pour y passer la nuit. Faute de provision, nous dûmes manger nos rations d'urgence. Ces rations sont contenues dans une petite boîte de ferblanc, divisée en deux, d'un côté quatre onces de cocoa et de l'autre quatre onces de viande concentrée; cette portion est supposée suffisante pour maintenir la force d'un homme pendant vingt-quatre heures? Nous n'avions qu'une couverture pour trois ou quatre hommes.

« Le lendemain, nous eûmes un bon repas; ensuite on fit l'appel... Hélas! je vous assure, ma bien chère maman, que le lendemain d'une bataille est bien plus triste que le jour même du combat. Au nombre des joyeux camarades qui nous suivaient la veille, chantant les gais refrains du pays, plus de cent manquaient à l'appel de leur nom!... Ils étaient tombés en héros au champ d'honneur, burinant une nouvelle page de gloire dans les fastes militaires de notre cher Canada.

« Après l'appel, une partie des hommes fut employée toute la matinée à enterrer les morts et ramasser les blessés qui étaient restés sur le champ de bataille. Quel triste spectacle s'offrit à nos yeux en parcourant le théâtre de la veille! Gamelles d'un côté, gourdes de l'autre; uniformes

épars, des morceaux de charpie et de bandages répandus partout. Et nos pauvres blessés, quelle souffrance n'ont-ils pas endurée durant cette horrible nuit? Pour nos morts offrons une prière au Dieu des combats et remercions-le ensemble de la protection qu'il m'a accordée. Plusieurs de nos hommes qui avaient été blessés la veille, ont succombé durant la nuit, qui a été bien froide.

« Les Boers se servent indubitablement de balles explosives, car plusieurs de nos morts avaient des blessures énormes. Un nommé Lester, de Montréal, qui demeure près de chez nous, a reçu, dans la bouche, une balle dont l'explosion lui a fracassé le crâne. En tout, nous avons eu vingt-cinq morts et plus de quatre-vingts blessés. Le capitaine Arnold, qui avait été blessé grièvement, est mort plus tard de ses blessures.

« Ce devoir accompli auprès de nos morts et blessés, nous avons pu nous reposer le reste de la journée. Je vous assure que nous méritions bien ce petit *farniente*, après avoir été trente-six heures sans nous reposer et rien manger.

« Le 20, nous avons eu une autre escarmouche, avec les mêmes Boers. Ils avaient un canon Nordenfeldt (*one pounder*), qu'ils pointèrent sur nous, et dans le cours de la journée, trois hommes furent blessés. Nous passâmes le reste de la semaine en avant-postes et devoirs divers. Nous avons nos repas très irrégulièrement, sans compter que nous étions à la demi-ration depuis notre départ de Graspan, et l'eau était très rare. Nous avons deux biscuits (*hard tack*) par jour.

« Le temps des pluies est commencé, et tous les jours, il pleut; comme nous bivouaquons partout où nous allons, et que notre couverture est notre seul abri, nous sommes presque toujours trempés jusqu'aux os.

« Le 25, nous reçûmes l'ordre d'aller occuper les tranchées près des positions boers. Nous devons passer

quarante-huit heures en devoir ; mais, le soir, un contre-ordre survint de faire une attaque de nuit. Profitant de l'obscurité, les Gordons vinrent nous rejoindre dans les tranchées, nous avions ordre de ne point leur parler ni de faire de bruit, afin de ne pas donner l'alarme. Nous nous sommes préparés toute la soirée et à deux heures du matin, le 27, nous sortions des tranchées, la baïonnette au canon. Les Gordons restèrent dans les tranchées. Nous nous avançâmes en deux lignes de tirailleurs ; le rang de serre-file portant des pelles et des piques, devait nous creuser des tranchées pendant que nous attaquerions. Nous avons marché à peu près sept cents verges, lorsque nous fûmes reçus par une vive fusillade provenant des tranchées boers, qui n'étaient qu'à vingt pas de nous environ.

« En moins de temps qu'il n'en faut pour le dire, tout le monde était étendu par terre. Nous avions ordre formel de ne point tirer afin de ne pas donner notre distance, mais, malheureusement cet ordre fut enfreint par quelques-uns de nos hommes. Le soldat P. . . qui se trouvait à mes côtés, tira deux coups et au deuxième il reçut une balle dans le coude ; s'il n'eût pas tiré, certainement qu'il n'aurait pas été blessé. Les Gordons qui étaient dans nos tranchées se mirent aussi de la partie en envoyant plusieurs volées qui eurent leur effet, ce qui nous permit de retraiter vers les retranchements préparés pour nous par notre rang de serre-file. Là nous continuâmes le feu jusqu'au matin. Vers les six heures nous aperçûmes un Boer qui faisait des signes avec un mouchoir blanc ; le feu cessa et il s'avança vers nos lignes, il nous dit qu'ils (les Boers) voulaient se rendre. Leur reddition fut acceptée par lord Roberts, sans conditions. Nous fîmes plus de quatre mille prisonniers y compris le fameux général Cronje, c'est jusqu'à présent la plus importante capture

de la guerre, et un grand nombre de transports, provisions, munitions, deux canons Maxim et quatre Krupp.

« Dans cette bataille, nous avons perdu treize hommes tués et plus de quarante blessés. Je vous assure que c'est seulement à cette bataille que je me suis senti énervé, car un de mes camarades a été tué raide à ma gauche et un autre à ma droite a reçu cinq balles, il est mort dans l'avant-midi. Dans ce dernier engagement, ma compagnie à elle seule a eu six morts et dix blessés.

« Les Boers ont une peur terrible des Canadiens, ils nous prennent tous pour des sauvages ; nous sommes à prime, dix schellings sont offerts pour un Canadien, mort ou vif. Je crois que c'est cette peur qu'ils avaient de nous qui les a forcés à se rendre.

« Quand, après la bataille, nous nous sommes avancés dans le laager des Boers nous y avons trouvé quantité de provisions que nous avons fait disparaître en fort peu de temps, car nous étions minés par la faim, ayant été à la demi-ration depuis notre départ de Graspan.

« Nous avons passé quelques jours dans le laager ; pendant ce temps, nous faisons l'inventaire de notre capture et donnions la sépulture à nos morts.

« Le 7 mars, nous avons fait un grand déploiement de troupes pour déloger les Boers de deux positions qu'ils occupaient de chaque côté de la rivière Modder, Osfontein et Poplar Grove. Notre mouvement a parfaitement réussi et après quelques coups de canon, l'ennemi abandonna sa position ainsi qu'un canon Creusot (modèle 90 lbs.) Nous avons fait cinq cents prisonniers et capturé un certain nombre de transports. Dans cette journée nous avons marché plus de vingt-trois milles et avons forcé la retraite d'une cavalerie nombreuse qui tenait notre avant-garde en échec. Après nous être reposés pendant une journée, nous avons marché sans opposition jusqu'à Bloemfontein, où

nous sommes maintenant. Bloemfontein n'a presque pas fait de résistance.

« Depuis que nous sommes partis de Graspan, nous avons fait au delà de cent quatre-vingt-dix milles.

« Notre bataillon a reçu les compliments les plus flatteurs de toutes parts ; des télégrammes de félicitations nous arrivent encore tous les jours. Le généralissime lui-même. Lord Roberts, nous a dit : « Que nous pouvions marcher la tête haute et fière, que nous étions les égaux de n'importe quel régiment anglais. »

« Dans toutes ces différentes batailles, c'est le lieutenant-colonel Pelletier, de Québec, et le lieutenant Ogilvie, qui se sont montrés les plus braves.

« Quant à moi, je ne puis pas dire que j'ai eu peur, car j'allais au feu, à vrai dire, sans songer à la gravité de la situation ; je prenais cela plutôt pour un exercice que pour la réalité. J'ai été étonné de moi-même. Vous pouvez parler sans crainte de moi ; j'ai toujours suivi mon régiment partout, j'ai assisté à toutes les batailles et n'ai jamais tiré en arrière. . . .

« 1er avril.

« Bloemfontein est une très jolie ville sise dans une vallée et entourée de montagnes ; elle n'est fortifiée que par deux forts situés sur ces montagnes ; les rues sont larges et très bien pavées.

« Hier, notre régiment est encore parti pour la ligne de combat. Il paraît que les Boers sont à vingt-cinq milles d'ici et qu'ils sont au nombre de vingt mille.

« Les Anglais ont eu un échec, ce matin. Lord Roberts a reçu un ultimatum lui donnant vingt-quatre heures pour évacuer Bloemfontein, mais il n'a pas beaucoup l'air de s'occuper de cela.

« J'ai suivi le régiment quatorze milles, mais j'ai dû

revenir sur mes pas ; mes chaussures étaient défoncées et je souffrais de rhumatisme dans les jambes. Je suis revenu à Bloemfontein, chanceux de rencontrer une voiture en chemin. Arrivé à la ville, il était huit heures du soir, et je n'avais pas mangé depuis le matin ; j'allai frapper à une porte pour me renseigner où je pourrais me procurer à manger, mais la dame qui vint me répondre me fit entrer et me servit un succulent souper. Je devais être chez des personnes très riches ; la maison était somptueusement meublée ; dans la salle à dîner, un pan de mur était couvert de belles fresques. Je suis retourné au camp vers dix heures et demie, et j'ai dû me coucher sans couverture, pas même de capote, la mienne étant restée sur les fourgons du train.

« Vous devez remarquer que ma lettre est pas mal décousue ; j'ai eu à la reprendre tant de fois.

« J'ai envoyé par la poste une boîte de chocolat de la reine ; je me la suis procurée pour cinq schellings, pour remplacer la mienne, qui m'avait été volée, dans le temps. Dans la boîte, vous trouverez un certain nombre d'enveloppes que j'ai ramassées dans le laager des Boers, après la bataille du 27 février.

« J'ai reçu les journaux et vos lettres datées du 25 février, ainsi que les cigarettes, qui m'ont fait un énorme plaisir. Les cigarettes n'étaient pas trop sèches, mais elles étaient passablement aplaties ; n'importe, quand on est à la guerre et que l'on ne peut s'en procurer qu'à deux schellings le paquet, ça fait du bien. Nous payons des prix fabuleux pour nous procurer les moindres douceurs ; ainsi, nous payons le beurre, trois schellings ; le sucre, deux schellings, et encore, ce n'est que de la cassonade ; un petit pain, comme chez nous, vaut deux schellings. Comme vous le voyez, avec notre prêt, il nous est bien difficile de satisfaire des appétits de Gargantua. Mais, après tout, je m'en console en



LUCIEN VALLÉE.

songeant qu'il y a sous la calotte des cieux bien des êtres plus malheureux que nous sous ce rapport. Quant à moi, je suis content, heureux et joyeux. A la guerre comme à la guerre ! . . .

« Le capitaine Peltier est encore bien malade et n'a pas rejoint le régiment. . . .

« Le colonel Pelletier, qui a été blessé à la bataille du 27, est revenu au régiment. Je vous assure que c'est un *brave*.

« Excuser le papier sale ; on n'a pas toujours les mains propres.

« Je vous embrasse de tout cœur, ma bien chère maman, et vous prie de croire à la sincère affection de

« Votre fils tout dévoué,

« LUCIEN-C. VALLÉE,

« Caporal à la Cie F, R. C. R. I. »



Lettre typique d'un soldat canadien-français
à son frère

RÉAL HUOT, un des volontaires canadiens-français en Afrique, écrit la lettre suivante à son frère. Cette lettre ne manque pas d'intérêt :

« Cape-Town, 27 février.

« Mon cher Alphonse,

« Je t'écris de ma tente, pour te donner un peu de mes nouvelles. Elles sont très bonnes. Je suis en bonne santé. Je n'ai pas été malade, et je suis résigné à mon sort. Si je meurs sur le champ de bataille, j'aurai vu beaucoup avant de mourir. Les gens ici nous voient d'un bon œil, et font tout ce qu'ils peuvent pour nous. Ils sont très polis. Je n'ai jamais tant mangé de fruits que je l'ai fait cet hiver. Mes officiers sont bons pour moi, jusqu'à présent, et les hommes aussi.

« Hier on nous a fait mettre dans notre poche, au cas où nous mourrions sur le champ de bataille, un papier portant le nom du parent ou de celui auquel nous voulions léguer nos biens. C'est ton nom qui se trouve sur mon feuillet, et je l'ai adressé à l'hôtel Riendeau, Montréal. Laisse ton adresse à ce dernier endroit, si tu quittes Montréal, au cas où je mourrais, et écris-moi. Il serait

trop long de te donner en détail ce que je vois tous les jours, en fait de belles choses ici. Si j'ai le bonheur de revenir au Canada, j'en aurai long à te conter. C'est pour ainsi dire, un vrai cirque nouveau tous les jours. Si je retourne, j'aurai quelques souvenirs à te donner. J'attends une lettre de toi.

« Nous partons d'ici demain pour Kimberley, distance de sept cents milles. Comme tu le vois, nous voilà bien partis. Tous les hommes sont aussi bien disposés que moi à mourir pour la reine.

« Mon cher Alphonse, c'est un beau pays, mais il fait très chaud. Il n'est pas possible que les nègres soient blancs, et j'ai grand peur que nous ne devenions comme eux.

« Donne-moi des nouvelles de tous. J'aurais voulu t'écrire plus au long, mais tu comprends, mon cher Alphonse, je n'ai pas une minute à moi, et pas de place. Nous sommes les uns sur les autres. Les lettres doivent mettre un mois pour se rendre, de sorte que pour avoir une réponse à la présente, cela va prendre deux mois. Donc, ne tarde pas à me répondre.

« Je suis content. Je rencontre des soldats par trois mille et quatre mille tous les jours, de toutes nationalités. C'est un joli coup d'œil, mais je te dis qu'une guerre comme celle-là, ce n'est pas drôle. Que ça fait du tapage tout ce bagage ! Je suppose que lorsque je recevrai ta réponse, nous aurons fini de nous battre.

« On vient d'apprendre la nouvelle que Cronje vient d'être pris avec tout son monde et ses canons. Nous avons salué cette nouvelle pendant deux heures.

« Je suis ton dévoué,

« RÉAL HUOT,

« Canonnier batterie E, R. C. A. »

LES SOLDATS HUOT ET GOSSELIN AU «SOLEIL»

« Carnarvon, 6 avril 1900.

« A M. Ernest Pacaud,
« rédacteur du *Soleil*.

« Cher monsieur,

« Il y a déjà longtemps que je voulais vous écrire, mais le temps m'a manqué. Aujourd'hui, vu la grande chaleur et les mauvais chemins, nous nous sommes arrêtés de bonne heure.

« Nous avons perdu, ce matin, cinq chevaux. Ils sont tombés raides morts dans le chemin.

« Partis de Victoria West, le 13 mars, nous sommes arrivés à Carnarvon, le 17, après une longue marche à travers les montagnes.

« Nous avons eu ici une très belle réception. Les dames nous avaient préparé un superbe repas. Il y avait du café, du pain, du beurre et des gâteaux. Après avoir pris un bon souper, nous avons pris un repos bien mérité.

« Nous sommes repartis le 21, continuant notre marche à travers des montagnes étrangères pour nous. Enfin, nous sommes arrivés à Van-Wyks-Vki, le 23, après avoir parcouru la distance de cent quarante milles, depuis Carnarvon à Van-Wyks-Vki.

« Toutes les maisons sont désertes, les rebelles ont chassé la population. Même quand nous sommes arrivés, les gens d'ici étaient avertis de quitter la ville dans vingt-quatre heures ou de les suivre. Une grande joie régnait dans cette ville quand nous sommes arrivés.

« Je crois que ces rebelles sont comme nos corbeaux au Canada : il n'y a pas moyen de les rejoindre.

« Le plus drôle pour nous, c'est de voir des maisons plâtrées avec des briques d'un pied carré sur à peu près

huit pouces d'épais, mais faites avec de l'engrais de mouton. De plus, nous nous chauffons avec ces briques qui valent le charbon. Nous n'avons pas besoin de vous dire que le bois est rare. Nous ne voyons pas un seul arbre. Ce serait trop long de tout énumérer ici, mais nous en gardons des notes.

« A Van-Wyks-Vki, nous avons eu un orage durant la nuit. Nous pensions que c'était le déluge. Nous n'avions pas de tente et il faisait très froid. Le lendemain matin nous avions tous l'air très piteux, mouillés jusqu'aux os et à moitié gelés. Aussi nos pauvres chevaux en ont eu leur part. Ils ont barboté dans la boue toute la journée. Nous nous sommes couchés sur des portes de hangar et sur tout ce que nous pouvions trouver.

« Nous croyions prendre un bon repos, mais la pluie nous réveilla sur les onze heures. Nous avions une toile en caoutchouc sur nous et en moins de dix minutes, nous avions une petite rivière de chaque côté de nous. Les officiers nous donnèrent alors la permission d'habiter les maisons vides, ordre qui a été exécuté avec empressement par tous les soldats.

« Comme les chemins étaient impraticables, nous sommes restés là jusqu'au 2 avril.

« Le 1er avril, un homme du nom de Bradley est mort malgré tous les bons soins de nos médecins et de nos officiers. Il venait d'Ottawa et appartenait à la batterie D, nous l'avons enterré le lendemain au pied de la montagne. Les batteries D et E, les West Australians, Canadian Mounted Rifles, New-Zealand, la Imperial Yeomanry et les Derby, précédés de douze trompettes ont battu la marche. Ils ont tiré six rondes de cartouches blanches et ensuite les trompettes ont sonné « *The last post* ! » Nous avons mis chacun une pierre sur son tombeau. Nous avons aussi fait des couronnes avec des fleurs des champs que l'on a

déposées sur sa tombe. Un des soldats de la batterie D lui a fait une superbe épitaphe en pierre. Nous nous rappellerons longtemps cette scène.

« Le matin, dix minutes après notre départ, les soldats allaient aussi enterrer un de leurs morts pendant la nuit.

« Le 3, nous avons reçu l'ordre de partir immédiatement pour retourner ici à Carnarvon. Nous avons fait le trajet en trois jours, après une marche bien pénible. Nos voitures de transport ont souvent eu besoin de nos hommes, à peu près tout le temps, pour les tirer, quoiqu'il y eût de huit à dix mulets par voiture. Vous pouvez juger vous-même de l'état des chemins.

« Nous avons échangé ici les malades. Nous avons repris ceux qui étaient mieux et laissé d'autres à leur place, parmi lesquels un de nos amis, M. Miller, ancien soldat de la batterie B, de Québec, connu parmi les amis sous le nom de Sunny Miller. Il s'est fait tordre le pied entre la roue et la garde d'un canon. Il croit pouvoir nous rejoindre dans trois semaines, mais nous avons bien peur qu'il ne le puisse pas, car la jambe est enflée.

« La plupart de nos hommes ont été malades, mais ils sont assez bien maintenant. La cause en était l'eau. Nous aimerions bien à avoir une tasse d'eau qui coule dans les rues de Québec pour nous donner bonne bouche, car l'eau ici est dégoûtante et très rare. Nous partons demain pour une autre direction. On nous dit qu'il faudra marcher cent cinquante milles dans les montagnes.

« Nous sommes toujours prêts, car nous avons hâte de faire feu.

« Nous sommes en parfaite santé.

« EDGAR GOSSELIN,

« RÉAL HUOT. »

NOBLE ENFANT !

IL ENVOIE UN LOUIS AU « SOLEIL » POUR FAIRE CHANTER
UNE MESSE DE REQUIEM POUR LE REPOS DE L'ÂME
DE SON PÈRE ET DE SA MÈRE DÉFUNTS.

« Réal Huot, soldat du premier contingent canadien
au Sud-africain, nous adresse la touchante lettre suivante :

« De Aar, 6 mai 1900.

« Mon cher M. Pacaud,

« Je viens vous prier de me rendre un service. J'espère
que vous ne me refuserez pas.

« Je vous envoie en même temps que la présente un
mandat-poste au montant de cinq piastres pour faire chan-
ter une messe de *requiem* pour le repos de l'âme de ma
mère et de mon père défunts.

« Veuillez être assez bon de téléphoner au révérend
M. Gosselin, curé de Charlesbourg, pour lui demander de
chanter une grand'messe pour le repos de l'âme de feu
Gaspard Huot et de son épouse, Angèle Laberge, recom-
mandée par leur fils, Réal Huot, en guerre au Sud-africain.

« Pour la messe et le téléphone, cela devra vous coûter
environ trois piastres. Vous garderez la balance pour votre
trouble. N'oubliez donc pas d'ajouter à l'annonce que les
parents et amis sont priés d'y assister.

« Rien de bien étrange ici si ce n'est que les régiments
d'infanterie qu'il y avait ici sont partis pour les avant-
postes.

« Quant à nous de l'artillerie, nous nous attendons à
partir d'une minute à l'autre. On envoie les jeunes en
avant tâter le terrain en attendant que nous, les vieux,
nous allions leur envoyer des *beans* avec nos jolies pièces.

« Notre ami, René Miller, que nous avons laissé à

l'hôpital de Deelfontein, nous est revenu assez bien quoique encore un peu douillet, mais il brûle cependant du désir d'être bientôt aux avant-postes et de faire le coup de feu.

« Au moment où je vous écris, nous venons d'enterrer un Canadien d'Ottawa, appartenant à la batterie D, du nom de Picket. Il est mort de la fièvre entérique.

« Mon camarade Gosselin est en parfaite santé ainsi que les autres Canadiens-français.

« Nous avons un hôpital à vingt-huit milles d'ici appelé Imperial Yeomanry Hospital, où il y a au-dessus de six cents malades. La plupart sont atteints de cette fièvre dangereuse qu'on appelle fièvre entérique. Il y a beaucoup de mortalité.

« Nous sommes ici depuis trois semaines. Je crois qu'ils ne nous ont gardés si longtemps que parce que nous avons besoin de repos. Nous commençons à engraisser et ne demandons pas mieux qu'à aller encore de l'avant.

« Je vous enverrai bientôt une autre lettre et je tâcherai de vous donner des détails plus intéressants sur les mouvements du contingent.

« Des saluts à tous et veuillez me croire,

« Votre dévoué,

« RÉAL HUOT,

« Canonnier de la batterie E. »

Cette lettre admirable prouve un cœur d'agneau sous une enveloppe de lion, comme, du reste, tout cœur canadien.

Après l'insertion des principales lettres de nos *braves*, et afin de ne pas tomber dans des redites, — car beaucoup de ces lettres se ressemblent — nous croyons devoir nous

contenter de n'insérer que quelques extraits les plus saillants de ces lettres, et cela sous la signature de leurs auteurs. Nous espérons donc que ceux-ci ne nous en voudront pas, car, comme nous l'avons dit au commencement de cet ouvrage, il nous faudrait au moins dix volumes pour donner entière et pleine satisfaction à chacun. Du reste, tous leurs noms sont burinés dans l'ouvrage, et quels qu'ils soient, ils appartiennent tous à l'histoire.

LE SERGENT GRATTON

(DU 65^e BATAILLON)

La Presse a reçu la communication suivante de Bloemfontein. Cette communication est signée par les soldats suivants : E. Lamoureux, Jos. Rémy, E. Charbonneau, A. Tessier, A. Tansey, Thomas Donohue, Jos. Plamondon, F. Lescarbeau, E. Jobin, L. Vallée, W. Duhamel, L. Dolbec, L. LaRue, G. D'Orsonnens, J. Touchette et J. Tapin.

« Monsieur le rédacteur,

« Nous, soussignés, membres de la compagnie F, des Canadiens Royaux, avons l'honneur de vous adresser cette communication, espérant que vous lui accorderez une cordiale attention. Hier soir, après être entrés dans nos tentes pour consulter les journaux de Montréal, nous avons appris la triste nouvelle de la mort du père de l'un de nos compagnons d'armes. Le coup a été rudement ressenti par nous tous et spécialement par le sergent Gratton, le fils du défunt. Pour la première fois depuis son enrôlement comme volontaire d'Afrique, nous avons vu sur sa figure les traces d'une grande peine et d'un profond désespoir. A travers tous les périls et toutes les

batailles, ses bonnes dispositions ont toujours été un sujet d'encouragement pour ses camarades de section, et nous, comme membres de cette section, sous son commandement, nous pouvons dire sans crainte de contradiction qu'il n'y a pas dans les rangs des Canadiens Royaux de soldat plus brave et plus valeureux.

« Sachant que vous vous êtes vivement intéressé au bien-être de chacun de nous, surtout de ceux que nous avons laissés dans le besoin au pays, nous nous unissons pour vous demander de secourir et d'aider la famille de neuf enfants laissée aux soins d'une mère âgée, avec son vaillant fils, le seul qui ait atteint l'âge d'homme et qui se dévoue, sur le sol africain pour la défense du drapeau de son pays, à 8,000 milles des siens qu'il ne peut secourir. Nous osons espérer que, la famille vous ayant montré ses besoins, vous lui prêterez une bienveillante attention, et nous, les compagnons du sergent Gratton, vous offrons nos plus sincères remerciements. »

Cette communication qui prouve leur esprit de corps fait honneur à nos braves.

Le sergent Gratton était appelé *The Iron Sergeant* (le sergent de fer) par ses camarades, et voici ce qu'on rapporte de lui :

« Au premier coup de feu des Canadiens, on lui fit remarquer qu'il pâlisait. Aussitôt, il détrempe une poignée de terre avec l'eau de sa gourde, se barbouille le visage pour cacher sa pâleur et, maîtrisant ses nerfs, mène héroïquement ses soldats à la charge. »

« . . . L'ordre fut donné de se former en ordre de bataille ; pour cela il fallait traverser la rivière Modder, qui se prolonge jusque-là. Les ponts et les bateaux étant détruits ou enlevés, il fallut entreprendre de traverser

à la nage, ce qui présentait quelques difficultés, avec la carabine en bandoulière et tout notre bagage sur notre dos.

« Je termine, mes forces m'abandonnent.

« La bataille? Oh! c'était terrible! terrible! Des cris *help me. . . help me, I'm wounded*. Les balles pleuvaient; un bruit confus de canons, coups de carabine, charge à la baïonnette.

« Le sol jonché de morts et de blessés, des cris confus, désespérés. Epouvantable! Terrible!

« Ne craignez rien, je vais guérir dans peu. . . .

« Mais voici l'hiver. . . L'hiver, oh! quelle nostalgie s'empare de moi à ce mot magique, j'avais toujours pensé que l'hiver ne pourrait pas exister sans la neige immaculée qui couvre durant quelques mois de l'année notre beau sol canadien. Si mon cœur n'était pas si triste à la pensée de mon exil, je pourrais chanter avec transport, de concert avec notre poète canadien :

« O Canada, mon pays, mes amours ! »

mais en ce moment, je serais plutôt porté à chanter l'air triste de la complainte du Canadien errant, qui confiait aux flots muets ses peines et ses ennuis, tandis que moi je puis, par le moyen de la malle, transmettre mes peines à des amis qui ne m'oublient pas.

« Cependant, mes lettres semblent aller plus librement vers le pays que les vôtres ne viennent vers moi, car depuis un mois, pas une nouvelle canadienne! Je ne puis me mettre dans la tête que vous m'avez oublié si longtemps, les lettres sont arrêtées quelque part, peut-être s'amusement-elles en chemin, c'est pardonnable; elles viennent de si loin, elles méritent un repos à leur arrivée en Afrique. . . .

« JOS. DESJARDINS,

« Caporal. »

« Bloemfontein, 25 mars 1900.

« Durant le trajet, le colonel Oscar Pelletier, aussi gai que brave, nous exhortait à chanter de nos chansons canadiennes qui retrempaient notre courage et nous faisaient oublier nos fatigues. Nous traversâmes à la nage cette rivière Modder, où je faillis me noyer, ainsi que plusieurs de mes camarades. . . .

« Nous approchâmes des tranchées boers et nous reçûmes le commandement : « Chargez à la baïonnette ! » C'était un spectacle horrible. Au pétilllement de la fusillade, au grondement des canons, s'ajoutaient les cris des blessés, la voix tonnante des commandants. L'air était embrasé et déchiré par les éclairs qui, partant des tranchées boers, semaient la mort dans nos rangs. Les soldats tombaient comme des épis mûrs, et j'eus le chagrin de voir plusieurs de mes amis victimes de cette sanglante journée. Cette lutte cessa vers huit heures du soir. Plusieurs blessés furent laissés sur le champ de bataille, car l'obscurité était trop grande pour pouvoir les trouver. Nous nous retirâmes un peu plus loin de cet endroit, témoin de cette lutte acharnée ; ce soir-là, nous couchâmes à la belle étoile. Le lendemain, je visitai le champ de bataille ; c'était un triste spectacle que de voir tous ces soldats, victimes de leur amour pour la patrie, baignant dans leur sang. . . .

« EUSÈBE JOBIN. »

« Nous avons quitté Belmont pour Maple Leaf où nous sommes campés. Car maintenant, nous faisons partie de la 6e division sous le commandement de lord Methuen et nous sommes embrigadés avec les Black Watch et les Gordons. Nous avons la certitude maintenant d'aller à l'attaque de Magersfontein ; mais en attendant, nous fai-

sons toujours des tranchées et autres travaux. Cela nous embête beaucoup, car nous aimerions bien nous battre le plus tôt possible afin d'en finir au plus vite et de retourner au Canada.

« A. CHATEL. »

« . . . A part la chaleur qui est intense parfois et du sable qui nous aveugle, nous ne sommes pas trop mal ici. La nourriture est abondante et nos officiers, entre autres nos officiers canadiens-français sont bien bons pour nous, car ils cherchent à nous éviter toutes les petites misères qui sont l'apanage du soldat devant l'ennemi. . . .

« JEAN D'AMOUR. »

« . . . Le lieutenant-colonel Lessard avait été chargé de distribuer les articles et provisions généreusement ramassés pour le confort de la troupe durant le voyage. Il fut un véritable dispensateur des biens terrestres, même en pleine mer, sachant se multiplier pour remplir sa tâche. Il s'en est acquitté dignement à la satisfaction générale.

« Le lieutenant-colonel Pelletier est d'une sollicitude toute particulière pour son demi-bataillon, l'aile gauche du régiment, et il ne manquera pas dans cette circonstance de faire sa marque comme excellent soldat et brillant officier. . . .

« LIEUTENANT. »

« . . . Arrivés à près de vingt verges de leurs tranchées nous fûmes reçus par une vive fusillade. En moins de temps qu'il n'en faut pour le dire, tout le monde était couché à terre et les Gordons qui étaient restés dans les tranchées ouvrirent le feu sur l'ennemi. Pendant ce temps, les Boers se cachaient et nous retournions vers nos tranchées.

« Le caporal Wythie, de la citadelle de Québec, qui se trouvait à mes côtés, a été tué raide avant de battre en retraite. Je l'avais poussé et il ne me répondait pas. Quand le jour fut venu, j'appris qu'il était mort. Le feu fut maintenu contre les Boers jusqu'au matin, et c'est alors qu'ils montrèrent leur pavillon blanc. Mais nous avons battu l'armée de Cronje, la plus importante capture de la guerre.

« Quel triste spectacle que ce lendemain d'une bataille ! Des camarades qui nous suivaient la veille, gais et dipos, vingt-six manquaient à l'appel au nombre desquels se trouvait un officier et plus de quatre-vingts étaient blessés. . . .

« JOSEPH PLAMONDON. »

« . . . J'ai failli me noyer, ayant mis le pied dans un trou profond. J'ai disparu sous l'eau et perdu presque connaissance. Mais cela n'est rien en comparaison du temps que nous avons passé sous le feu des Boers. Je t'assure qu'il ne fallait pas trop montrer la tête, car les balles tombaient dru.

« A certain moment, on aurait dit qu'il pleuvait du plomb et que l'air était rempli de taons, tant ça sifflait. Mais aussi, de notre côté, nous ne restions pas inactifs. Notre position était meilleure que celle de l'ennemi. Les Boers étaient bombardés de trois côtés à la fois par notre artillerie. Dans l'après-midi, nous avons eu une terrible tempête de pluie. Le tonnerre s'est aussi mis de la partie. Nous sommes restés sur le champ de bataille jusqu'à la tombée de la nuit. On nous a alors servi un biscuit et une tasse de thé ; c'est tout ce que nous avons pris durant toute la journée. Nous avons couché à la belle étoile, et il faisait froid. Nous couchons comme cela depuis que nous sommes partis de Belmont. . . .

« LOUIS LÈVEILLÉ. »

« . . . Les apparences, au moment présent, ne sont pas favorables pour nous, quant à la possibilité d'un engagement avec les Boers, mais tout étant tranquille depuis si longtemps, ici, et ne nous trouvant qu'à quelques milles de l'ennemi, caché dans sa plus formidable position, nous espérons que lord Roberts ne nous oubliera pas, et que les Canadiens Royaux seront appelés à prendre leur place sur le front de bataille. . . .

« THOS. DONOHUE. »

C'est ce Donohue qui a composé la chanson « *The Jolly Musketeers*, mentionnée par Lucien LaRue.

« . . . Nous sommes toujours anxieux d'aller au feu, un peu au moins, pour avoir une idée de la guerre. Cela nous donnerait un peu de distraction, car il y a déjà six semaines que nous sommes ici. Jusqu'à présent, nous avons travaillé cinq ou six heures par jour, et le reste du temps se passe à nous reposer sous nos tentes. . . .

« Je t'ai envoyé des plumes d'autruche que j'ai obtenues chez un fermier des alentours. J'espère que tu les a reçues. Les autruches ici sont en quantité et aussi communes que les canards au Canada. . . .

« LÉONARD DOLBEC. »

« Depuis notre départ de la ville, nous avons toujours été en marche et je vous assure que nous n'avons pas toujours eu tout ce que nous aurions voulu. Pendant quarante-trois jours, nous avons manqué de pain, parce que nous étions trop éloignés des lignes de communication.

« Cependant, nous n'avons rien à reprocher au gouvernement anglais, il a fait son possible pour nous venir en aide.

« . . . Nous avons repoussé les Boers dans près de vingt engagements sur les lignes, bien qu'ils eussent de meilleures positions et une pleine connaissance du terrain. Je les crois mauvais tireurs, la plus grande partie de leurs boulets n'éclatent pas, ce qui indiquerait ignorance de leur part.

« Ils se font battre sur toute la ligne et sont en train de perdre une république qui vaut beaucoup d'argent, car le sol est très propre à la culture et les montagnes sont remplies de mines d'or et d'argent.

« Un homme qui voudrait travailler ici pourrait se faire un bel avenir en peu de temps. . . .

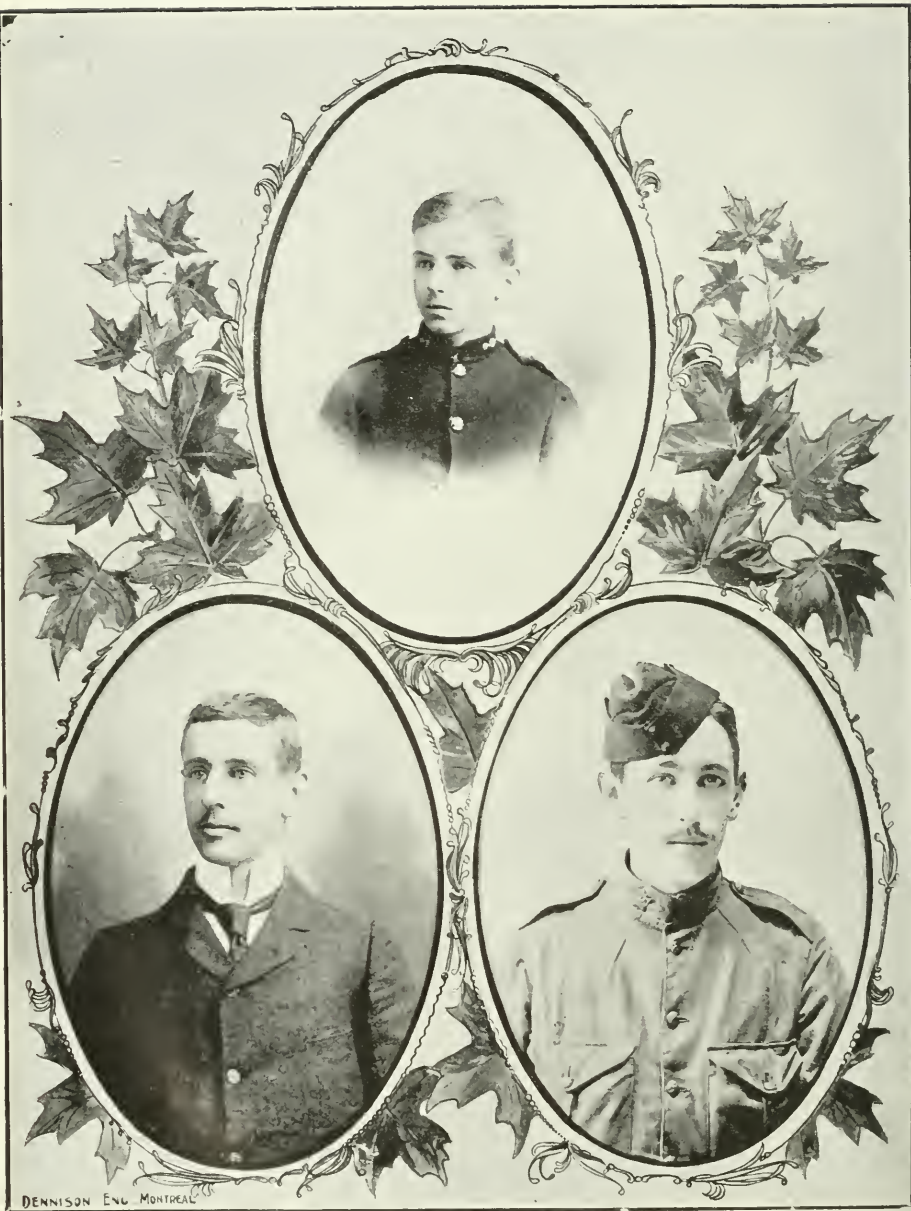
« ALBERT BOUCHARD. »

« . . . Nous avons eu beaucoup de longues marches, de misères et de fatigues et à essayer des combats pour nous rendre ici. Ainsi, nous nous sommes battus à maintes reprises avec les Boers. . . .

« Oh ! mes chers amis, c'était effrayant de voir les champs de bataille par lesquels nous sommes passés. Je vous en donnerai des détails à mon retour. Les balles tombaient comme grêle, et plusieurs de nos camarades ont été blessés d'une manière épouvantable. Nous avons perdu beaucoup de monde, par le feu et par la maladie. Le climat ne nous va pas du tout. Le jour il fait excessivement chaud et les nuits sont fraîches ; la rosée tombe comme une grosse gelée blanche au Canada. Sans parler des orages qui sont très fréquents. Je n'ai jamais vu tomber de la pluie comme elle tombe ici. C'est ni plus ni moins qu'un déluge. En un instant le terrain se trouve inondé, mais comme c'est un pays sablonneux l'eau se retire très vite. . . .

« CHARLES H. TWEDELL,

« Caporal. »



TROMPETTE GEO. W. BRADLEY.

A. J. TURNER.

H. MONTIZAMBERT.

GEORGES WASHINGTON BRADLEY

Quelques mots sur le jeune et vaillant enfant dont la photographie est dans ce livre.

« Cape-Town, 30 août.

« Tous les Québécois sympathisent avec vous pour la perte de votre fils. Il était l'orgueil de notre batterie.

« OGILVIE. »

Voici, du reste, ce qu'écrivit Réal Huot :

« Vryburg, 29 août 1900.

« A M. Ernest Pacaud, écr.

« Cher monsieur,

« C'est avec une bien grande douleur que je vous écris ces quelques mots pour vous apprendre la mort de notre trompette, le jeune Georges B.adley, de Québec, et fils de l'avocat Bradley. Il est mort des fièvres, à Kimberley, lundi le 28 août. Le soldat Bradley, tout jeune encore, joli garçon, aimable, était la coqueluche de la batterie. Officiers comme soldats rencontraient Bradley toujours avec joie, car il s'était tant fait aimé par son jeune âge et ses manières polies. Sa mort cause un deuil général parmi tout le camp. Chacun se rencontre et se dit : c'est bien malheureux pour Bradley. Les plus sincères condoléances sont offertes à la famille. . . .

« J'oubliais de vous dire que toute la batterie a souscrit un montant assez élevé pour ériger un monument à la mémoire du jeune Bradley, dans le cimetière catholique de Kimberley. Ce sera très certainement le plus beau du cimetière. . . . »

« Maple Leaf Camp, Gras Pan,

« Orange Free State, 5 février 1900.

« . . . Nous avons quitté Belmont le 1er février et nous nous sommes rendus ici. Nous ne sommes plus qu'à dix-sept milles en arrière de l'armée de French et nous espérons tous que nous serons à l'avant, lors de la prochaine rencontre. Je vous enverrai tous les détails, si j'en reviens vivant. . . .

« Quant à combattre les Boers, je dois vous annoncer que j'ai déjà eu l'occasion de les rencontrer, et je ne demande que de les rencontrer de nouveau

« JOSEPH HUDON. »

Ce brave garçon qui date sa lettre de « *Maple Leaf Camp*, » — nom donné par les Canadiens — et qui restera en Afrique autant que leur bravoure, est ce même Hudon qui fut blessé avec Lucien LaRue, à la bataille de Modder River, le 18 février.

« Notre dernière étape fut Belmont, d'où je t'écris ces lignes. Nous sommes ici depuis une semaine. Nous sommes tous impatients d'aller de l'avant. Nous ne savons pourquoi on nous fait faire de si courtes étapes, car sans forfanterie, nous désirons tous voir l'ennemi. . . .

« F.-X. LESCARBEAU. »

« Belmont, 7 décembre 1899.

« Nous sommes maintenant à Belmont, c'est-à-dire en face de l'ennemi. Jour et nuit nous restons sous les armes, la carabine au poing et les munitions à portée de la main en cas d'alerte. La tâche est ardue, mais nous y

résistons facilement, car nous sommes bien traités et surtout bien nourris. Nous n'avons pas à nous plaindre des officiers.

« Nous sommes tous impatients d'en venir aux mains et de montrer aux Boers ce que nous savons faire.

« Je suis sur le premier rang avec deux de mes compatriotes, Gratton et Bagot. Nous battons la marche. . . .

« Demande donc aux journaux de ne pas publier de ces absurdes plaintes venant de certains soldats que je ne veux pas nommer, qui refusent d'avancer et se disent malades. Dis-leur de déclarer au public que les braves du 65^e ne sont pas tous comme cela. Nous avons contribué à la capture du drapeau de l'Etat Libre d'Orange, ainsi qu'à celle de Cronje et de ses formidables soldats. . . .

« JOE TAPIN. »

« . . . Nous avons pris part à trois batailles consécutives, après avoir fourni une très longue marche forcée. Le 18 février, nous avons fait, durant la nuit, une marche de vingt-quatre milles, et à six heures du matin, nous étions au feu. La bataille a duré jusqu'à huit heures du soir, sans interruption ; nous n'avons eu le temps ni de manger, ni de boire, durant cet épouvantable engagement. Le contingent canadien a eu vingt-quatre tués et quatre-vingt-trois blessés, à cette bataille du 18 ; le 20, nous avons pris part à un nouveau combat, qui a duré de dix heures à six heures ; cinq Canadiens ont été blessés ; enfin, le 27, nouvelle bataille qui a duré toute la nuit, et au cours de laquelle quatorze Canadiens ont été tués et quarante-huit blessés. C'est à cette bataille que le général Cronje s'est rendu avec trois mille cinq cents hommes.

« Les vivres nous font presque complètement défaut. L'on ne nous donne qu'un biscuit par jour, de la viande rarement.

« . . . Vous ne pouvez vous faire une idée de l'horreur d'une bataille, comme l'une de celles auxquelles nous avons assisté. La vue d'un camarade qui tombe à nos côtés frappé mortellement d'une balle, crée des impressions de tristesse et d'épouvante qu'il est impossible de décrire. . . »

« TOUCHETTE. »

« . . . Il y a déjà une journée que nous sommes partis d'Halifax, par un gros vent et un froid de chien. Mais aujourd'hui le temps est changé et nous avons de la pluie. Un gros vent soulève la mer et il fait une tempête à laquelle nous ne sommes pas accoutumés. En général, nous sommes très malades et nous avons bien du trouble avec nos chevaux. Ces pauvres bêtes font tout leur possible pour se tenir debout mais plusieurs succombent aux secousses qu'elles éprouvent, et il nous faut, tout malades que nous sommes, essayer de les relever. Beaucoup de nos chevaux se blessent et quelques-uns se cassent les jambes. Ces derniers sont aussitôt tués d'un coup de pistolet et jetés ensuite à la mer. Quelle pénible nécessité d'avoir à en agir ainsi avec des bêtes qui nous sont si chères ! . . . »

« ARTHUR LAROQUE. »

Nous n'en finirions pas si nous voulions transcrire toutes les lettres qui nous sont parvenues de tout le Canada, car on peut dire sans crainte que chaque soldat a au moins écrit une lettre, ce qui ferait une moyenne de trois mille lettres. Nous nous contenterons de mentionner seulement quelques-uns de ceux que le public des journaux connaît déjà et qu'ils ont su intéresser par leurs charmantes lettres : celles d'Auguste D'Amour, des Strathcona, bien connu du monde militaire, qui gagna au concours de Shoburnness,



LA DERNIÈRE LETTRE.

en 1886, la coupe offerte par sir Richard Wallace ; celles de D'Orsonnens, ancien commandant des Cadets du Mont Saint-Louis ; d'Emile-Auguste Globenski, nom bien connu à Montréal ; de Geo. Boulanger, dont le père, le major Boulanger, est parti d'Afrique, ayant été choisi par lord Roberts comme délégué militaire en Chine ; enfin celles d'Alf. Turner, blessé, fils de l'honorable Richard Turner ; celles de Cooper, Leconteur, McQueen, Joseph Lallier, du contingent postal qui a rendu tant de services ; de G. Jetté, Ed. Carbonneau, Louis Bonâciér, Jos. Remy, et de tant d'autres, mais comme toutes ces lettres sont écrites avec le même cœur, le même sentiment et le même amour du Canada, nous nous arrêterons pour exprimer notre admiration à l'administration du service postal, dont l'organisation intelligente nous a permis de suivre pas à pas la marche glorieuse de nos braves écrite par eux-mêmes.



SERVICE POSTAL

COMMENT SONT APPRÉCIÉS LES NÔTRES EN AFRIQUE

LA correspondance suivante vient d'être échangée entre l'officier préposé au service des Postes de l'armée à Cape-Town et l'honorable M. Mulock, ministre des Postes du Canada, au sujet de l'efficacité du service du contingent postal en Afrique :

“ Service des Postes de l'Armée,

“ Cape-Town, 25 avril 1900.

“ A l'honorable maître général des Postes, Ottawa.

“ Monsieur,

“ Deux mois se sont écoulés depuis l'arrivée, dans cette colonie, du Service Canadien des Postes et je désire noter l'aide précieuse qu'a su me donner bien à propos votre gouvernement.

“ La correspondance a naturellement augmenté en raison du nombre des soldats envoyés ici. Le corps du service des postes ne put, tout d'abord, suffire à la tâche et il devint nécessaire d'en augmenter le personnel pour obtenir un meilleur service.

“ Le personnel canadien, sous la direction du capitaine Ecclestone, a rendu des services très efficaces. Outre qu'il me délivra de tout travail ayant trait à la correspondance des troupes canadiennes, il me fut en maintes occasions d'une aide précieuse.

“ Le sergent Johnston et les soldats Murray et Bedell sont maintenant aux avant-gardes de l'armée avec le service de campagne. Le capitaine Ecclestone et le soldat Lallier s'occupent de la distribution

aux quartiers généraux des postes de l'armée, ici. Tous deux remplissent leurs fonctions d'une manière très satisfaisante et à la gloire du Département des Postes du Canada.

“ En appréciant hautement les services rendus par le corps postal canadien, j'ai l'honneur d'être, monsieur,

“ Votre obéissant serviteur,

“ G. W. TREMBLE,

“ Major commandant le Service des Postes de l'Armée.”

“ Ottawa, 23 mai 1900.

“ Monsieur,

“ Permettez-moi d'accuser réception de votre lettre du 25 dans laquelle vous exprimez votre satisfaction des services rendus par le corps postal canadien en Afrique-Sud. Bien que je ne sois pas surpris, je suis très heureux d'apprendre que les officiers du Département des Postes choisis pour vous donner de l'aide se soient acquittés de leur tâche de façon à s'attirer les éloges que vous distribuez si obligeamment dans votre lettre.

“ Votre tout dévoué,

“ W. MULOCK,

“ Maître général des Postes.

“ Au major G. W. Tremble,

“ Quartiers généraux des Postes de l'Armée,

“ Cape-Town, Sud-africain.”



SOUSCRIPTION PATRIOTIQUE

C'EST sous le patronage de S. M. la Reine, la présidence de lord Minto, gouverneur général, et le concours d'illustres et distingués personnages du Canada que des listes de souscription ont été ouvertes au bénéfice des veuves, des orphelins et des victimes de la guerre. L'idée était si patriotique que tout le Canada y a généreusement répondu.

En effet, à la date du 31 juillet 1900, M. G. M. Courtney, C. M. G., secrétaire de l'œuvre, nous écrivait que le montant souscrit atteignait la très grande somme de \$317,636.75.

Ce chiffre est assez éloquent pour nous dispenser de tout commentaire. Nous ne donnerons pas le nom des généreux donateurs ni des banques qui ont souscrit, mais on nous permettra toutefois de faire une exception à l'égard de la souscription ouverte au Pacifique Canadien, dont le montant s'est élevé à \$12,033.00.

Il nous fait d'autant plus plaisir de mentionner le C. P. R. spécialement, que nous tenons à relater le fait suivant :

Une petite fille de huit ans, de Streetville Junction, Ontario, Miss Annie Hyland, écrivit ces jours derniers, au président du comité, M. Robert Miller :

“ J'avais épargné cinquante sous pour me faire acheter une poupée par *Santa Claus*, mais comme papa vous envoie une souscription au fonds pour les veuves et les orphelins, je me passerai de poupée pour le présent.

“ Je vous envoie donc mes cinquante sous pour acheter une poupée à la petite fille d'un des soldats qui se battent dans l'Afrique-Sud.”

M. Miller répondit hier la lettre suivante à la petite fille :

“ Gare Windsor, Montréal, 30 mai 1900.

“ Ma chère petite Annie,

“ Nous venons de recevoir ta lettre et ta cotisation à la souscription patriotique des employés du C. P. R.

“ Nous avons tardé un peu à te répondre ; c'est que nous voulions d'abord faire connaître au comité, réuni en séance régulière, ce qu'une patriotique petite fille avait fait pour nos soldats absents. Les membres du comité ont cru que *Santa Claus* serait très mécontent d'eux si, de leur côté, ils ne donnaient quelque signe tangible du plaisir que leur a causé ta lettre et ta souscription ; ils ont donc, avec quelques-uns de leurs amis, fait une souscription pour t'acheter une poupée qui remplacera celle que tu as cédée si généreusement à la petite fille d'un soldat. . . Tu voudras bien accepter ce présent avec nos meilleurs souhaits.”

La poupée achetée par le comité a coûté quinze dollars.

Donc, doublement honneur aux employés du C. P. R. et surtout au bon cœur de Mlle Annie Hyland.

L'ASSURANCE TUPPER


Sous ce nom, chacun le sait, sir Charles Tupper a fondé une société d'assurance au profit des blessés et des tués sur le champ de bataille africain, ou au profit des héritiers.

Cette assurance, au capital d'un million de piastres, assurait \$1,000 à chaque soldat. Comme c'est là une noble et patriotique idée, et que cette société à tenu grandement ses engagements, nous tenons à rendre ici hommage à l'idée philanthropique de sir Charles Tupper.

FÉLICITATIONS AUX CONTINGENTS

“ Le Secrétaire des Colonies à Son Excellence le

“ Gouverneur Général, Londres 27 février 1900.

“  A Majesté la Reine désire que vous exprimiez au peuple Canadien son admiration pour la bravoure avec laquelle les troupes canadiennes se sont conduites dans le dernier engagement, et lui exprimer sa douleur pour la perte de tant de braves.”

EXTRAIT DES ORDRES DE LA MILICE.

“ 1er mars 1900.

“ Son Excellence désire personnellement saisir l'opportunité d'exprimer son admiration pour le brillant courage et le dévouement des troupes canadiennes maintenant dans le Sud-africain.”

Le gouverneur général a reçu la dépêche suivante de lord Roberts :

“ Paardeberg, 22 février 1900.

“ Le régiment canadien s'est comporté admirablement depuis son arrivée dans le Sud de l'Afrique. Je regrette beaucoup les pertes nombreuses que le régiment a souffertes pendant la bataille du 18 courant et je vous prie de dire au peuple combien nous admirons tous, ici, la bravoure dont nos camarades canadiens ont fait preuve en cette occasion.

“ ROBERTS.”

Lord Minto a reçu par le dernier courrier du Sud de l'Afrique, de sir Alfred Milner, gouverneur de la Colonie du Cap, une lettre portant la date du 27 février, le jour même de la capture du général Cronje.

Voici cette lettre :

“ Hôtel du Gouvernement,

“ Cape-Town, 27 février 1900.

“ Cher lord Minto,

“ Bien que je n'aie — comme vous pouvez l'imaginer — guère le temps d'écrire, je sens qu'en ce jour mémorable je dois vous envoyer un mot pour vous féliciter, vous et le Canada, pour la part considérable prise par votre vaillant contingent dans la destruction de l'armée du général Cronje. C'est le premier grand succès que nous ayons remporté dans cette terrible lutte. La délivrance de Kimberley avait été un encouragement ; avec la capture de Cronje et de ses quatre mille soldats, nous avons réellement accompli un progrès marqué. Je crains que nos vaillants Canadiens n'aient subi des pertes considérables. Mais, dans une circonstance comme celle-ci, on a au moins la satisfaction unique de se dire que les vies n'ont pas été sacrifiées en vain.

“ L'important, ce n'est pas tant la victoire en elle-même, si flatteuse qu'elle soit, mais c'est de voir se resserrer le lien qui unit les différentes parties de l'empire. Cette union résultera du sang versé en commun par les Canadiens, les Australiens et les Sud-africains faisant assaut de courage avec les Bretons de la vieille mère-patrie pour assurer un heureux dénouement à cette lutte.

“ Je suis sûr que le peuple britannique de l'Afrique du Sud n'oubliera jamais la noble assistance que lui a rendue le Canada dans ces jours de combat.

“ Agréez mes chaudes félicitations pour vous et le Canada et veuillez me croire,

“ Votre très dévoué,

“ A. MILNER.”

“ Je ne puis parler en termes trop élogieux de la bravoure déployée par les Canadiens en ce jour, l'admiration si hautement manifestée par les soldats anglais à leur endroit devra faire courir un frisson d'orgueil à travers toute la confédération. Les autorités ont rendu aux Canadiens un magnifique hommage et les soldats anglais ne tarissent pas d'éloges sur leur compte.

“ Lord Roberts est venu personnellement féliciter les Canadiens de leur bravoure et leur a annoncé qu'il avait appelé l'attention du gouvernement sur leurs exploits. ” — *Dépêche officielle* de Paardeberg, du 3 mars 1900.

Le gouverneur général a reçu les deux télégrammes suivants :

“ George-Town, British Honduras, 15 mars 1900.

“ Mes félicitations cordiales aux troupes canadiennes en devoir dans le Sud africain.

“ GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL DU HONDURAS. ”

Lord Tennysson au gouverneur général.

“ Le gouverneur, ses ministres et le peuple de l'Australie Australe, désirent offrir leurs félicitations au peuple canadien pour la belle conduite de ses contingents dans le Sud-africain et leurs vives sympathies pour les pertes qu'ils ont éprouvées.

“ LORD TENNYSSON. ”

“ Ce n'est plus un secret, qu'en premier lieu, la majorité des officiers de l'armée anglaise avaient peu de confiance pour les soldats coloniaux, mais maintenant, il est généralement reconnu que sans les Canadiens et leurs confrères coloniaux, les armes britanniques auraient eu beaucoup à faire.

“ Il est admis universellement, que les principaux travaux de la guerre ont été faits, dans cette partie de campagne, par les soldats canadiens et nouveaux-zélandais ; et nous, au Canada, nous n'avons aucune raison d'avoir honte de nos soldats canadiens.

“ G. STERLING RYERSON,

“ Chirurgien lieutenant-colonel, commissaire canadien et anglais
de la Croix Rouge, dans le Sud-africain. ”

“ . . . Quelle belle conduite que celle du Canada ! J'avais un petit Canadien avec moi, McInnes, des Ingénieurs Royaux, un brave entre les braves. Il fit exécuter les travaux de défense de Kimberley. Il fut mon officier d'état-major, et partout où il alla, il sut inspirer de la confiance. Je ne puis oublier ce que je lui dois. Les Canadiens

ont fait des actes héroïques partout et l'on peut s'attendre à apprendre bientôt de nouveaux faits d'armes brillants de leur part, avant que la guerre soit finie.

“ COLONEL KEKEWICK,
“ Commandant de Kimberley.”

Un bel éloge d'un journal américain, le *Free Press* de Détroit :

“ Nous ne voyons pas qu'aucun autre corps de l'armée anglaise ait remporté autant de lauriers dans la guerre d'Afrique, que les *boys* du Canada. Ils sont aussi en évidence où le feu est le plus vif, que l'était la plume blanche du couvre-chef de Henri de Navarre.”

“ Cape-Town, 17 mai.

“ A Son Excellence le gouverneur général.

“ Le détachement d'artillerie canadienne, par une série de marches forcées et durant la bataille a rendu de grands services.

“ SIR ALFRED MILNER.”

“ Londres, 22 mai.

“ Compliments au Canada pour les grands services rendus par l'artillerie canadienne en relevant Mafeking.

“ CHAMBERLAIN.”

“ Tous les journaux français ont fait ressortir dans leurs comptes rendus des derniers événements militaires qui viennent d'avoir lieu dans l'Afrique du Sud, l'héroïsme dont a fait preuve le contingent canadien.

“ J'ajouterai même que nous avons appris non sans un sentiment de fierté, l'hommage rendu par le maréchal Roberts aux vaillantes troupes de la Puissance.

“ Les liens qui unissent un grand nombre de Canadiens à la France, sont tellement étroits, que tout ce qui peut mettre en relief leurs qualités personnelles, provoque dans la vieille patrie une communicative satisfaction.

“ MAURICE DE LA FARGUE.”

Au sujet de l'engagement de Komati, le 6 novembre, où les Dragons, l'infanterie à cheval et l'artillerie ont fait preuve d'une vaillance admirable, le général Smith-Dorien dit : " On ne saurait trop apprécier le courage et le dévouement de ces troupes durant ces deux jours de combat."

" Prétoria, 26 septembre 1900.

" Lord Roberts, accompagné de lady Roberts ainsi que de ses filles, a passé en revue les troupes canadiennes, la veille de leur départ.

" Je ne puis, leur a-t-il dit, vous laisser partir sans vous exprimer mes remerciements pour vos loyaux services ainsi que votre excellent concours, surtout à Paardeberg. Je suis sûr que le peuple Canadien apprendra avec plaisir votre galante et splendide conduite.

" Je regrette profondément les pertes que vous avez éprouvées, j'aurais été heureux que vous soyez tous retournés dans vos foyers, mais on devait s'attendre à plusieurs pertes de vie surtout durant une campagne si ardue.

" Je regrette que quelques-uns d'entre vous soient obligés de retourner si vite, mais je reconnais ici la nécessité des affaires privées.

" J'ai la certitude que S. M. la Reine, ainsi que le peuple anglais n'oubliera jamais vos services. Si ma bonne étoile me le permet, je visiterai le Canada et j'ai l'espoir de tous vous rencontrer encore."



PAARDEBERG ! grâce aux Canadiens, ayant été le Waterloo des Boers, nous croyons devoir mettre ici le rapport officiel du lieutenant-colonel Otter, commandant du second bataillon du régiment Royal Canadien.

RAPPORT DU LT.-COLONEL OTTER

UN ELOQUENT TÉMOIGNAGE DE LA VALEUR, DE LA BRAVOURE ET DU PATRIOTISME CANADIENS

L'honorable Dr Borden, ministre de la milice, a lu aujourd'hui à la Chambre ce rapport du lieutenant-colonel Otter, le commandant du second bataillon du régiment Royal Canadien :

“ Paardeberg Drift, 26 février 1900.

“ Au chef d'état-major de la milice canadienne.

“ Monsieur,

“ J'ai l'honneur de vous faire rapport de la part prise à l'engagement de Paardeberg, le 18 courant, par le bataillon que je commandais.

L'ARRIVÉE À PAARDEBERG.

“ Le bataillon est arrivé près de Paardeberg Drift, avec la 19e brigade, à six heures le 18, au matin, ayant servi d'arrière-garde à la brigade pendant sa marche de nuit de Klips Drift à Paardeberg, distance de vingt et un milles.

LES PRÉLIMINAIRES.

“ Moins d'une demi-heure après son arrivée, le bataillon recevait ordre d'être prêt à parader à sept heures a. m., et à sept heures et vingt, nous allions appuyer l'artillerie à un mille environ. Les hommes, dans l'intervalle, avaient pris un biscuit et une tasse de thé.

“ A peine le bataillon avait-il atteint l'endroit désigné, qu'il reçut ordre de se porter vers le gué et de traverser la rivière. L'ordre fut exécuté et la traversée commencée vers huit heures et demie. Le courant était de neuf milles à l'heure et l'eau atteignait les aisselles des hommes.

“ On traversait à deux endroits éloignés d'une cinquantaine de verges. A l'un, les soldats passaient en se tenant à un câble tendu au-dessus de la rivière. A l'autre, ils traversaient par groupes de quatre, les bras entrelacés.

L'ENTRÉE EN LIGNE.

“ Les compagnies étaient lancées de l'avant au fur et à mesure qu'elles avaient traversé, et, à neuf heures et demie, les compagnies A et C étaient dans la ligne de combat, à environ cinq cents verges de l'ennemi, qui occupait les bois le long de notre côté de la rivière, mais était absolument invisible. Les Boers occupaient aussi une série de dongos qui prenaient notre gauche en enfilade, mais on ne s'en aperçut que dans l'après-midi, alors qu'ils se montrèrent, bien que tout le jour ils eussent tranquillement piqué un homme de ci de là. Les compagnies D et E appuyaient les deux premières, tandis que B, F, G et H constituaient la réserve. Le reste de la brigade, le D. of C. L. I., étaient sur notre droite, et les Gordons et les Shropshires sur notre gauche, dans l'ordre indiqué, mais de l'autre côté de la montagne et derrière l'artillerie. Le bataillon, toutefois, était virtuellement seul et durant tout le jour n'a reçu d'ordres ou d'instructions de personne, excepté vers quatre heures, comme indiqué plus loin.

LE COMMENCEMENT DU COMBAT.

“ La 3e brigade (Highland) a été engagée sur le côté sud de la rivière avec la 19e brigade, à côté de l'artillerie et de l'infanterie montée. Le feu a commencé vers neuf heures et demie, sur la droite de l'ennemi et s'est continué le long de ses lignes en allant vers le centre. Le bataillon s'est avancé sur un terrain parfaitement découvert et légèrement ondulé, sans autre protection que les inégalités du terrain et quelques fourmilières.

“ La ligne de combat a pris position à une distance de l'ennemi variant de quatre cents verges sur la droite, à huit cents verges sur la gauche, et s'y est maintenue jusque tard dans l'après-midi. Le feu de l'ennemi a été quelque temps très vif, après la formation de la ligne de combat, et le capitaine Arnold, qui en ce moment rendait de très grands services, a été mortellement blessé et plusieurs autres atteints. En même temps, trois ou quatre hommes de la réserve (compagnie H) étaient blessés à plus de mille verges.

NOUVELLE ENTRÉE EN LIGNE.

“ Vers midi, la compagnie D alla renforcer la ligne de combat, suivie peu de temps après de la compagnie E et d'une partie de la compagnie B, le reste de cette dernière compagnie et les compagnies F et G appuyant les combattants avec la compagnie H toujours en réserve.

“ On n'avait pu traverser qu'un Maxim. Le capitaine Bell l'a rapidement mis en position, sur une élévation à notre gauche, à une distance d'environ mille verges, et il a rendu de très grands services pendant la journée, étant placé de façon à maîtriser le feu de l'ennemi qui occupait les dongos à notre gauche.

“ Une batterie d'artillerie de campagne occupait une colline sur la gauche de notre arrière-garde et bombardait de temps à autre pendant le jour les lignes ennemies.

LE TIR.

“ La discipline de tir des diverses compagnies engagées a été excellente. Elles ont conservé tout le temps un parfait sang-froid et leur justesse de tir. Le feu a duré tout le jour, tantôt vif, tantôt relâché. L'ennemi avait certainement les distances précises, car à certains endroits proéminents son feu était si juste que la position y était presque intenable pour nous. Plusieurs fois durant le jour notre feu a été interrompu par le cor venant d'au delà de notre droite de cesser le feu à gauche, car le feu de notre gauche y blessait des hommes. Les balles dont on se plaignait venaient, j'en suis convaincu, des dongos occupés par l'ennemi sur notre gauche et non de nos hommes.

L'ATTAQUE.

“ Vers quatre heures de l'après-midi, trois compagnies de l'infanterie légère du duc de Cornwall arrivèrent sous les ordres du lieutenant-

colonel Allworth, et cet officier m'informa qu'il avait été envoyé pour finir cette affaire-là et se proposait d'en finir à la baïonnette. Il me demanda ensuite, sur la position de l'ennemi et de la nôtre, des renseignements que je lui donnai.

“ Une compagnie des Cornwalls fut aussitôt envoyée dans la ligne de combat et bientôt suivie de deux autres, les Boers recevant ce renfort par un feu très vif qui couvrait toute leur ligne.

“ A cinq heures, le lieutenant-colonel Allworth annonça qu'une attaque générale aurait lieu, et vers cinq heures et quart, la troupe entière, à l'exception d'une partie des compagnies G et H, que je tins en réserve, se lança à l'assaut. Le feu de l'ennemi devint intense et arrêta nos hommes au bout d'environ deux cents verges. Et il fut impossible d'aller plus loin. Le lieutenant-colonel Allworth fut tué. La position gagnée fut cependant tenue, et un feu nourri et constant maintenu jusqu'à la tombée de la nuit, vers sept heures, alors que je donnai ordre de ramasser les morts et les blessés et de se retirer au bivouac, près du gué. L'ennemi abandonna aussi des positions dans le même temps et se retira au camp boer, environ deux milles en avant de la rivière. Il laissa dans les dongos à notre gauche quelques hommes qui continuèrent à tirer de ci, de là, jusque vers dix heures, sur les partis chargés de relever les victimes.

CAS DE BRAVOURE.

“ Il y aurait à citer de nombreux exemples de bravoure personnelle, celui par exemple, du soldat Kennedy (no 8, 110) qui a conduit l'une des mules chargées du transport des munitions droit à la ligne de combat, où elle a été instantanément tuée. Les brancardiers des compagnies ont fait preuve d'un grand courage et cinq d'entre eux ont été blessés. Trois l'ont été en transportant le capitaine Arnold. Les Boers visaient spécialement la civière sur laquelle il était. Je dois noter à ce propos le courage déployé par le chirurgien-capitaine Fiset qui, alors que la civière du capitaine Arnold fut arrêtée à peu de distance du feu par la blessure de l'un des brancardiers, s'avança et soigna le capitaine Arnold et, subséquemment, agit comme brancardier pour le transporter en arrière. Le capitaine Fiset a aussi soigné plusieurs autres blessés ce jour-là, sous le feu de l'ennemi (Acclamations.)

“ Le lieutenant-colonel Buchan avait charge de la ligne de combat qu'il a dirigée et contrôlée avec le plus magnifique sang-froid et de la

façon le plus effective, tandis que le lieutenant O'Gilvy, faisant auprès de moi fonction d'adjudant, a rendu d'excellents services en portant mes ordres sur le champ de bataille. Les sous-officiers et soldats suivants se sont distingués durant ce jour ; no 6, 559, sergent Utton ; no 7, 117, soldat Andrews ; no 7, 040, soldat Dickson ; no 7, 043, soldat Duncafe ; no 7, 376, soldat Pagé ; no 7, 306, soldat Murphy.

LES MORTS.

“ Le relevé des blessés et des morts de notre propre bataillon et du D. C. L. I., a été fait par des partis de Royal Canadiens et a duré toute la nuit.

“ C'était une lourde tâche et on ne peut trop louer ceux qui l'ont accomplie. A 7 heures, le 19 au matin, tous les morts du bataillon étaient enterrés côte à côte, avec plusieurs de ceux du D. C. L. I., et les blessés envoyés en arrière.

L'ABBÉ O'LEARY.

“ Je dois ici noter officiellement les grands services rendus par le chapelain catholique du bataillon, l'abbé O'Leary, qui a été présent sur le terrain tout le jour et, vers la fin, dans la ligne de combat, et qui, la nuit, a joué un grand rôle dans la recherche des blessés, puis a officié aux funérailles des morts.

“ Plusieurs des officiers ont accompagné ces partis jusqu'à minuit, le sergent quartier-maître Reading (no 685), le sergent Ramage (no 7,304), le sergent Middleton (no 7,302), et le soldat Whingate (no 7,258), ont passé la nuit dehors, en accomplissement de ce devoir.

“ Un autre exemple de sang-froid et de courage a été celui du soldat Hornibrook (no 7,347), qui, au lever du soleil le 19, étant sans armes dans l'extrême droite des lignes occupées la veille par l'ennemi, rencontra un Boer armé qui cherchait un cheval perdu.

“ Avec une grande présence d'esprit, Hornibrook fit semblant d'être armé d'un revolver et appela à son secours des aides imaginaires demandant en même temps à son adversaire de se rendre, ce que le Boer fit tout de suite. A son arrivée au camp, on constata qu'il était l'un des adjudants du général Cronje et un officier très important.

“ J'ai l'honneur d'être, monsieur,

“ W. D. OTTER,

“ Lieutenant-colonel, commandant le régiment
“ Royal Canadien, 2e bataillon.”

Paardeberg, 27 février 1900.

“ Monsieur,

“ J’ai l’honneur de faire rapport des opérations dans lesquelles le bataillon que je commande était engagé le 20 du courant, et au cours desquelles, quatre de nos hommes ont été blessés.

“ Poursuivant la retraite de l’ennemi, de la position qu’il avait évacuée dans la soirée du 18 courant, le bataillon a reçu ordre à six heures a. m., le 20 du courant, de se transporter aux avant-postes et d’avancer à mille verges des tranchées en avant du laager des Boers. L’infanterie légère des Shropshires étant sur notre droite et les Gordons Highlanders sur notre gauche.

“ Le terrain occupé par le bataillon était tout à fait découvert et un peu ondulé mais assez protégé par les fourmillières. On servit du thé et du biscuit aux hommes vers dix heures a. m. Le wagon-cuisine et le fourgon à l’eau avait été amenés à deux cents verges en arrière de la réserve.

“ Une fusillade intermittente a continué jusque vers quatre heures p. m., quand celle de l’ennemi a augmenté, et qu’ils ont tourné leur célèbre canon Viscars-Maxim (Pom-Pom), pas moins de cinq fois, contre nous, mais heureusement sans nous faire de mal. Cependant, l’effet moral du canon est très grand et infiniment plus désastreux que celui d’aucun autre engin de guerre dont nous ayons fait l’expérience.

“ Les blessés étaient tous parmi les hommes de la réserve, et les blessures infligées par des fusils à longue portée, soit environ mille sept cents verges. C’a été une dure journée, la chaleur était intense, de plus, il était presque impossible de porter de l’eau à ceux qui étaient en avant, à cause du feu de l’ennemi et c’est lorsqu’on essaya de conduire le fourgon à l’eau en avant, que le Pom-Pom a commencé à tirer sur nous.

“ A six heures p. m., le bataillon s’est replié sur son bivouac complètement épuisé. J’ai indiqué la position occupée sur le plan accompagnant le rapport de l’engagement du 18 courant et la liste des blessés est incluse dans la liste générale.

“ J’ai l’honneur d’être, monsieur,

“ Votre obéissant serviteur,

“ W. D. OTTER,

“ Lieutenant-colonel, commandant le régiment

“ Royal Canadien, 2e bataillon.”

LE RETOUR

“ Imaginez une alliance de l'esprit audacieux des Français, de l'esprit inventif des Américains et de la ténacité anglaise, tel était l'idéal des qualités requises pour un pareil ouvrage. ” — *Le Soleil*.

LA première réception à nos braves ayant été ce que seront toutes les autres, nous nous contenterons de transcrire les deux articles suivants, lesquels sont bien l'expression des sentiments canadiens.

BIENVENUE !

“ Nos braves *invalidés* rentrent par groupes successifs au pays. Ils sont l'objet du plus vif enthousiasme de la part des foules qui se précipitent à leur rencontre. Hier la scène était vraiment grandiose et contrastait avec la froideur du *send off* qu'on a fait à nos gens à leur départ pour l'Afrique.

“ D'instinct et par raisonnement, notre population n'encouragea guère l'enrôlement des nôtres et elle n'aurait rien de bon de cette guerre lointaine.

“ On se consolait assez à l'idée, habilement répandue, que l'aventure se composerait d'un voyage sur mer, toujours plus ou moins semé d'agrémens, de marches faciles dans un pays nouveau et, à peine de quelques escarmouches contre des demi-sauvages que la vaillance canadienne se ferait un jeu de vite disperser ou d'anéantir à jamais. Et l'appas de la gloire militaire était là, appas si rare que notre belle jeunesse, l'anglaise surtout, s'empressait de saisir aux cheveux une occasion qui serait unique dans le cours de la vie, de

revenir promu, décoré et montré du doigt avec envie par les siens qui diraient : *Et lui aussi, il en était.*

“ Nous souhaitons donc la plus cordiale bienvenue à ces vaillants soldats que la maladie et le plomb ennemi n'ont pu abattre tout à fait. Ils ont fait honneur, dès l'enfance du Dominion, au drapeau canadien, sur le champ de cette guerre anglo-boer, qui restera comme l'une des plus pénibles et des plus glorieuses de l'histoire. Ils ont montré que le Canada possède les éléments d'une armée vigoureuse et puissante, que nous pourrions former et utiliser pour nous-mêmes avec les plus grands avantages.

“ Que la nation profite des leçons que comporte la guerre d'où arrivent nos vaillants hommes, et personne, même parmi les plus réfractaires à l'idée de l'intervention canadienne, ne sera trop chagrin des décisions qui nous ont conduits en Afrique et qui nous ramènent décimés, mutilés dans le corps de nos contingents.” — *La Presse.*

Québec à de nouveau donné hier soir un éclatant exemple de patriotisme et surtout de loyauté.

Le maire, accompagné des deux secrétaires du comité de réception, MM. H. J. B. Chouinard et E. T. D. Chambers, leur a alors donné lecture de l'adresse suivante :

AUX OFFICIERS, SOUS-OFFICIERS ET SOLDATS DU CONTINGENT
CANADIEN REVENANT D'AFRIQUE SUR LE STEAMER

“ LAKE ONTARIO.”

“ Messieurs,

“ Les citoyens de Québec sont heureux d'être les premiers à saluer votre retour sur le sol canadien, après une absence de près d'une année pendant laquelle vous avez été sans cesse présents à notre esprit à cause de la loyale et noble mission que vous aviez volontairement entreprise, et aussi à cause des dangers continuels auxquels vous avez été exposés.

“ Mais l'émotion que nous éprouvons aujourd'hui est plus grande qu'ordinaire parce que nous apercevons dans vos rangs des figures bien connues, des enfants de Québec qui ont grandi et vécu parmi nous et que leurs familles se préparent à accueillir avec une chaleur et un enthousiasme bien facile à comprendre après une si longue et si cruelle attente.

“ Tous, en risquant, comme vous l'avez fait, votre santé et votre vie, pour aller défendre au loin l'honneur du drapeau britannique, vous avez donné au monde entier un exemple de courage et de vertus militaires qui fait honneur à notre pays.

“ Vos parents, vos amis, vos concitoyens, saluent avec orgueil votre retour dans la patrie où, nous n'en doutons pas, vous allez remplir avec honneur, et avec profit pour vous-mêmes, des carrières utiles dans lesquelles vous trouverez un vaste champ pour votre énergie retrempee sur les champs de bataille, et un repos bien mérité après vos souffrances, vos privations dans les rudes sentiers de la guerre.

“ La patrie est heureuse de vous revoir, et la joie qu'elle ressent est d'autant plus grande que vous lui revenez couverts d'honneur, ayant fait briller partout le nom canadien.

“ Soyez heureux, jouissez longtemps des douceurs de la paix et du retour dans vos foyers.

“ C'est le vœu que forment en ce moment tous les cœurs canadiens et que nous vous exprimons au nom de tout le peuple du Dominion.”



UN DERNIER MOT

VOUS savez le reste. Depuis l'Atlantique jusqu'au Pacifique le retour de nos braves a été pour eux une marche triomphale. En effet, Halifax, Montréal, Québec, Ottawa, Toronto, Kingston, Belleville, Hamilton, Saint-Jean, Charlottetown, Winnipeg, Vancouver, en un mot toutes les villes, depuis la plus grande jusqu'à la plus petite, ont accueilli nos braves à bras et cœurs ouverts. *La Presse, La Patrie, Le Soleil, L'Événement, Le Star, Le Herald, Le Chronicle, Le Globe, Le Witness, Le Daily Telegraph*, aux quels nous devons des renseignements précieux, — pour n'en citer que quelques-uns — les ont tous aussi noblement et généreusement accueillis. Partout ils ont été reçus royalement, et c'est surtout par la réception qui leur a été faite qu'on a pu juger du sentiment de fraternité qui unit toutes les provinces du Canada.

Disons-le donc bien haut, cette guerre, toute fatale qu'elle a été pour quelques-uns, a été une guerre de rapprochement et d'union pour nous tous. En effet, c'est dans la vie des camps et sur le champ de bataille que les hommes et les races apprennent à se connaître, à s'estimer, à s'aimer. N'oublions donc plus jamais cette union cimentée, scellée par le sang de nos braves, au milieu du carnage de la mêlée, des cris des mourants, du bruit de la mitraille, du tressaillement du drapeau, des angoisses des pères et mères, des pleurs des veuves et des orphelins des glorieux tombés, et que notre mot de ralliement, à l'avenir et pour toujours, soit celui-ci :

“ Honneur et souvenir à nos braves ! ”

GASTON-P. LABAT.

FIRST CONTINGENT

Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry

2nd (Special Service) Battalion

Commanding Officer.

OTTER, Lieutenant-Colonel, W. D., Canadian Staff, A. D. C. to His Excellency the Governor-General.

Promoted Colonel on the field. Fenian Raid, 1866. North-West, 1885. Wounded Israel's Poort, April 25th, 1900.

Majors.

2ND IN COMMAND.

Buchan, L., Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. R. I.
North-West, 1885.

Pelletier, O. C. C., Lieutenant-Colonel Canadian Staff.
North-West, 1885. Wounded at Cut Knife, May 2nd, 1885. Wounded at Crouje's Lager, February 27th, 1900.

"A" Co., British Columbia and Manitoba.

CAPTAIN.

Arnold, H. M., Major 90th W. R.
North-West, 1885. Died 26th February, 1900, of wounds received in action, Paardeberg, February 18th.

LIEUTENANTS.

Blanchard, M. G., Capt. 5th R. C. A.
Hodgins, A. E., Capt. N. R. Co.
Graduate R. M. C.
Layborn, S. P., Lieut. R. C. R. I.

"B" Co., London, Ont.

CAPTAIN.

Stuart, D., Major 26th M. L. I.

LIEUTENANTS.

Ross, J. M., Capt. 22nd The O. R.
Wounded, Blackmountain, May 1st, 1900.

Mason, J. C., Capt. 10th R. G.
Wounded, Paardeberg, February 18th, 1900.

Temple, R. H. M., 2nd Lieut. 48th H.

"C" Co., Toronto, Ont.

CAPTAIN.

Barker, R. K., Capt. Q. O. R.

LIEUTENANTS.

Marshall, W. R., Lieut. 13th B.
 Wilkie, C. S., Lieut. 10th R. G.
 Lafferty, F. D., Lieut. R. C. A.
 Graduate R. M. C.

"D" Co., Ottawa and Kingston.

CAPTAIN.

Rogers, S. M., Major 43rd O. & C. R.
North-West, 1885.

LIEUTENANTS.

Lawless, W. T., Capt. G.-G. F. G.
North-West, 1885.
 Stewart, R. G., Lieut. 43rd O. & C. R.
 Caldwell, A. C., Lieut. R. of O.
 Graduate R. M. C.

"E" Co., Montreal.

CAPTAIN.

Fraser, C. K., Capt. 53rd S. B.

LIEUTENANTS.

Swift, A. E., Lieut. 8th R. R.
 Laurie, A., Lieut. 1st P. of W. F.
 Armstrong, C. J., Lieut. 5th R. S. of C.
 Graduate R. M. C.
Wounded, Cronjé's Laager, February 27th, 1900.

"F" Co., Quebec.

CAPTAIN.

Peltier, J. E., Major 65th M. R. R.

LIEUTENANTS.

Panet, H. A., Capt. R. C. A. Graduate
 R. M. C.
 Leduc, L., Lieut. R. C. R. I.
 Pelletier, E. A., Lieut. 55th M. L. I.

"C" Co., New Brunswick and P. E. Island.

CAPTAIN.

Weeks, W. A., Major C. E.

LIEUTENANTS.

Jones, F. C., Capt. 3rd R. C. A.
 Kaye, J. H., Lieut. R. C. R. I.
 McLean, C. W. W., 2nd Lt. 8th P. L. H.
*Appointed A. D. C. on Staff of
 Maj.-General Sir H. E. Colville.
 (Granted a commission in Royal
 Artillery.)*

"H" Co., Nova Scotia.

CAPTAIN.

Stairs, H. B., Capt. 66th P. L. F.
*Mentioned in Despatches, Militia
 Orders, 1st March, 1900.*

LIEUTENANTS.

Burstall, H. E., Capt. R. C. A.
 Willis, R. B., Lieut. 66th P. L. F.
 Oland, J. C., 2nd Lieut. 63rd H. R.

O. C. MACHINE GUN SECTION.

Bell, A. C., Capt. S. G., A. D. C. to
 the Maj.-General Commanding Can-
 adian Militia.

REGIMENTAL ADJUTANT.

MacDougall, J. C., Major R. C. R. I.

BATTALION ADJUTANTS.

Macdonell, A. H., Capt. R. C. R. I.
*Mentioned in Despatches, Militia
 Orders, 1st March, 1900.*
 Ogilvy, J. H. C., Capt. R. C. A.

QUARTER-MASTER.

Denison, S. J. A., Capt. and Brev.
 Major R. C. R. I.
*Appointed A. D. C. on Lord Roberts'
 Staff.*

MEDICAL OFFICERS.

Wilson, C. W., Surgeon-Major 3rd F.
 B., C. A.
 Fiset, E., Surg.-Major 89th T. & R. B.

ATTACHED FOR STAFF DUTY.

Drummond, L. G., Major S. G., Military
 Secretary to His Excellency
 the Governor-General.

*Bechuanaland Expedition, 1884-85;
 Ashanti, 1895 (Star); Sudan,
 1898.*

ATTACHED FOR SPECIAL DUTY.

Drury, C. W., Lieut.-Col. R. C. A.,
A. D. C. to His Excellency the
Governor-General.

*North-West, 1885. (Transferred to
Command Brigade Division Field
Artillery, 2nd Contingent.)*

Lessard, F. L., Lieut.-Col. R. C. D.

*North-West, 1885. (Transferred to
Command 1st Battalion, Can-
adian Mounted Rifles, 2nd Con-
tingent.)*

Cartwright, R., Major R. C. R. I.,
A. A. G. at Head-Quarters. Grad-
uate R. M. C.

North-West, 1885.

Forester, W., Capt. R. C. D.

*(Transferred to Command "A"
Squadron, Canadian Mounted
Rifles, 2nd Contingent.)*

Dobell, C. M., Capt. and Brev. Major
R. W. F. Graduate R. M. C.

MEDICAL STAFF FOR GENERAL
SERVICE.

Osborne, A. B., Capt. C. A. M. S.

NURSES.

Pope, Miss Georgina, P. E. Island.

Forbes, Miss Sarah, Halifax, N. S.

Affleck, Miss Minnie, Lennox, Ont.

Russell, Miss Elizabeth, Hamilton, Ont.

HISTORICAL RECORDER.

Dixon, F. J., Capt. Reserve of Officers.
Graduate R. M. C.

North-West, 1885.

CHAPLAINS.

O'Leary, Rev. P. M., Quebec, P. Q.

Almond, Rev. J., Quebec, P. Q.

Fullerton, Rev. T. F., Hon. Chaplain
4th R. C. A., P. E. Island.

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE Y. M. C. A.

Barrie, Dr. H. G., M. D. T. U.



Private, Rank, Name and Former Corps.

Jones, S. L., 5th R., C. A.	Rea, J. R., N. R. Co.
Jones, J. W., 5th R., C. A.	Rumsay, F., 90th W. R.
Kelly, E., Q. O. R.	Rush, F., R. C. D.
Kennedy, D., 34th O. B.	Rorke, F. B., 90th W. R.
Lee, A. S., N. R. Co.	Robbins, A. E., 90th W. R.
Leeman, R. W. J., 5th R., C. A.	Roberts, S. C., 90th W. R.
Leamy, C. S., 5th R., C. A.	Roberts, C. M., 5th R., C. A.
Liston, B., 90th W. R.	Sherlock, H., R. C. D.
Livngstone, J., 5th R., C. A.	Sherris, S., R. C. A.
Lohman, A. O., 5th R., C. A.	Sinclair, J. J. S., 5th R., C. A.
Martin, A., R. C. R. I.	Smethurst, H., 5th C. A.
Mackie, A. S., 5th R., C. A.	Smith, James, 5th R., C. A.
Matheson, K., 90th W. R.	Snider, C. H., 90th W. R.
Maundrill, A., 5th R., C. A.	Soper, A. C. W., 90th W. R.
Mills, C. A., 90th W. R.	Somers, J. H., 5th R., C. A.
Munro, A. E., 90th W. R.	Stewart, J., 5th R., C. A.
Moier, W. J., 36th P. B.	St. James, G., R. C. D.
Moodie, W. H., K. R. Co.	Stebbing, W. H., 5th R., C. A.
McCalmont, R. J., 5th R., C. A.	Talbot, A., 34th O. B.
McIvor, D., R. C. D.	Thompson, C. C., 6th V. R.
McKeand, D. L., 90th W. R.	Thompson, T., 90th W. R.
McKenzie, H., M. D.	Todd, J., 5th R., C. A.
Neibergall, H. E., 6th V. R.	Wallace, W., 5th R., C. A.
Neil, G., 5th R., C. A.	Wallace, G., 5th R., C. A.
Nixon, F. S., 36th P. B.	Welch, W., 90th W. R.
Nye, A. J., 5th R., C. A.	Western, T., M. D.
O'Brien, S. W., 5th R., C. A.	Whitley, W. F., 5th R., C. A.
Odell, S. H., 5th R., C. A.	Wilkins, G. H., K. R. Co.
Parker, H. F., 90th W. R.	Wilkie, O. J., 5th R., C. A.
Patterson, W. O., N. R. Co.	Wood, A. M., 5th R., C. A.
Patterson, C., R. C. R. I.	Wyatt, H. R., 90th W. R.
Perry, J. C., R. C. D.	Ward, R., R. C. D.

" B " Company, London, Ont.*Rank, Name and Former Corps.*

Col.-Sergt. Davies, R., R. C. R. I.	Barrett, P., 7th F.
Sergt. McBeth, G. W., 26th M. L. I.	Baugh, E., R. C. A.
" Bowden, R. B., 21st E. F.	Beers, F. C., 21st E. F.
" Sippi, G. R. B., 7th F.	Berges, H., 38th D. F.
" Gorman, F., Capt. 27th St. C. B.	Biggs, J. C., 21st E. F.
Corpl. Bethune, A., R. C. R. I.	Burns, W. J., 26th M. L. I.
" Adams, S., R. C. A.	Burrell, H., 26th M. L. I.
" Phillips, G. R. S., 21st E. F.	Burwell, A. E., 6th F. B., C. A.
" Smith, J., 22nd O. R.	Campbell, F. W., 30th W. R.
" Little, R. H., 1st H.	Chapman, W. H., 7th F.
Lce.-Corpl. Power, L., R. C. A.	Charuan, A., R. C. R. I.
" Stevenson, W. R., R. C.	Coles, F. J., 7th F.
" R. I.	Cole, A. E., 1st H.
" Northwood, J., 21st E. F.	Corley, J. B., 30th W. R.
" Merrix, A. E., R. C. R. I.	Crockett, Samuel, 7th F.
	Craig, E. D., 21st E. F.
	Collins, W., 1st H.
<i>Private.</i>	Dalgleish, A. D., 29th W. B.
Adams, W. G., 7th F.	Day, J., 26th M. L. I.
Adair, A., R. C. A.	Donegan, J. A., 26th M. L. I.
Anderson, A. H., 25th E. B.	Dolman, E. N., 21st E. F.
Andrews, E. C., 21st E. F.	Donahue, H., 26th M. L. I.
Atkinson, D. H., 26th M. L. I.	Delmer, P., 26th M. L. I.
Bredin, J., 38th D. R.	Duff, J. B., 26th M. L. I.
Bollard, H. E., 28th P. B.	Edward, A., 22nd O. R.
Barr, H. B., 21st E. F.	Evans, F., 26th M. L. I.

Private, Rank, Name and Former Corps.

Fawcett, J. N., 12th V. R.	Bugler Pringle, R., S. Ste. M. R. Co.
Findlay, J. H., 35th S. F.	Raspberry, J., 77th W. B.
Graham, T. H., 12th V. R.	Rae, F. A., 34th O. B.
Grant, W. H., 48th H.	Ridway, E. H., Q. O. R.
Gray, N., S. St. M. R. Co.	Robson, A., 13th B.
Haines, W., R. C. R. I.	Rogers, W. R., 44th L. and W. B.
Hector, F. T. D., Q. O. R.	Rooke, W. J., Q. O. R.
Hendrie, M., 13th B.	Rorke, J. H., 31st G. B.
Henderson, R. H., 35th S. F.	Seager, Jno., Q. O. R.
Hewett, W. H., Q. O. R.	Seymour, C., 10th R. G.
Holland, W. C. S., 77th W. B.	Sherritt, A. W., 38th D. R.
Holland, J., nil.	Simpson, G. C. M., 12th Y. R.
Hopson, C. W., 48th H.	Smith, J., 48th H.
Hornbrook, J. L., 48th H.	Smith, G. M., 48th H.
Inglestrom, F., Q. O. R.	Solari, J., 10th R. G.
Ironsides, G. M., T. P.	Spence, J. D., 48th H.
Jones, N. J., 31st G. B.	Stewart, M. M., Q. O. R.
Jordan, Jos., Q. O. R.	Sutton, J. H., 13th B.
Kennedy, Jas., 10th R. G.	Thompson, C., R. C. D.
Kidner, R., 10th R. G.	Thompson, W. F., R. C. R. I.
Long, J. L., 10th R. G.	Tice, C., nil.
Lorsch, F. D., 48th H.	Tomilson, C., Q. O. R.
Love, W. M., 37th H. R.	Travers, W., 10th R. G.
Machin, H. A., 12th Y. R.	Usher, J. F., Q. O. R.
Manion, W. T., 10th R. G.	Vanderwater, W. J., Q. O. R.
Martin, G. F., 10th R. G.	Van Norman, A. F., R. C. R. I.
Morley, N. L., 48th H.	Vicary, S., S. Ste. M. R. Co.
Mitchell, J. A., 48th H.	Vickers, J. R., 10th R. G.
Morse, T., R. C. R. I.	Wallace, T. G., 36th P. B.
McCall, A., T. P.	Warde, S. M., Q. O. R.
McCosh, P., Lieut. 35th S. F.	Warren, W. C., 13th B.
McCuish, D., R. C. R. I.	Warwick, W. H., 13th B.
McGiverin, L., Q. O. R.	Watson, R. G., R. C. R. I.
McHugh, E., 10th R. G.	Weir, F. E., Q. O. R.
McKenzie, L. C., 48th H.	Wellar, E. T., 48th H.
McLaughlin, R. H., R. C. R. I.	Wilson, J. A., 10th R. G.
McNish, M., 48th H.	Wilson, N. W., Q. O. R.
McPherson, D., 48th H.	Bugler Williams, D. F., Q. O. R.
Noble, D. A., 38th D. R.	Whitehead, J., 48th H.
Fage, P. C., G.-G. B. G.	Wright, D. M., R. C. R. I.
Parry, C. E., R. C. D.	Young, H., Q. O. R.
Perry, S., 10th R. G.	Young, A., Q. O. R.
Preston, D. G., 44th L. and W. B.	

"C" Company, Ottawa and Kingston, Ont.*Rank, Name and Former Corps.*

Col.-Sergt. Thompson, C. H., R. C. R. I.	Lce.-Corpl. McNair, J., 15th A. L. I.
Sergt. Chitty, L. M., 43rd O. and C. R.	" Lyon, G. R. D., 43rd O. and C. R.
" Ross, A. L., 30th W. R.	
" Carruthers, W. B. M., 14th P. W. O. R., R. M. C.	<i>Private.</i>
" Eagleson, S. H., 43rd C. and O. R.	Auger, E., G.-G. F. G.
Corpl. Gilmour, W. J., R. C. R. I.	Ault, C. E., P. of W. O. R.
" Hulme, G. G., 15th A. L. I.	Bartlett, E. D., 43rd O. and C. R.
" Thomas, J. M., G.-G. F. G.	Benbow, H. A., G.-G. F. G.
" Ellard, J. F. G., G.-G. F. G.	Bennett, A., P. L. D. G.
" Brady, W. S., 43rd O. and C. R.	Bolster, H. G., C. C., C. A.
Lce.-Corpl. Johnston, W., R. C. R. I.	Bolyea, A. W., 15th A. L. I.
" Southey, E. C., 46th D. B.	Bradshaw, J. L. H., 16th P. E. B.
	Bull, E. W., C. C., G. A.
	Burns, O. T., 43rd O. and C. R.

Private, Rank, Name and Former Corps.

Burns, R., G.-G. F. G.	Macaulay, A., 43rd O. and C. R.
Bugler Cawdron, A. J. G.-G. F. G.	Martin, W. A., 43rd O. and C. R.
Clunie, P., nil.	Martin, H., 43rd O. and C. R.
Cunnington, R., 15th A. L. I.	Mason, C. P., 43rd O. and C. R.
Cairns, J. S., 2nd F. B., C. A.	Mathews, A. J., 43rd O. and C. R.
Chidlow, J., R. C. R. I.	Malloch, E. St. J., 43rd O. and C. R.
Clarke, C. P., 43rd O. and C. R.	Major, J., 56th G. B.
Clother, A., G.-G. F. G.	Mills, W. W., 15th A. L. I.
Cluff, N. W. H., 43rd O. and C. R.	Mitchell, N., 42nd L. and R. B.
Cockburn, G. G., C. C., C. A.	Morgans, E. F., 43rd O. and C. R.
Coleman, J. D., 43rd O. and C. R.	Morrison, W. A., G.-G. F. G.
Cotton, H., 43rd O. and C. R.	Morin, J., G.-G. F. G.
Cotterell, A., R. C. R. I.	Morrison, E. F., 3rd F. B., C. A.
Cram, J. A. C., 42nd L. and R. B.	McCullough, C., G.-G. F. G.
Craig, C. E., 43rd O. and C. R.	MacRae, R. A., 43rd O. and C. R.
Croft, F., 16th P. E. B.	McConnell, J. F., G.-G. F. G.
Croft, P. C., 42nd L. and R. B.	McCormack, A. J., 14th P. of W. O. R.
Cunningham, R. J., 20th H. R.	MacKay, R., 15th A. L. I.
Dalberg, R. P., R. C. R. I.	McDonald, F., R. C. R. I.
DesLauriers, E., P. L. D. G.	McFadden, F., G.-G. F. G.
Deuchars, L., 43rd O. and C. R.	McLennan, J. A., 59th S. and G. B.
Donaldson, C. A., 41st B. R.	McCrea, J. M., 45th V. B.
Dunlop, E., 14th P. of W. O. R.	Padmore, G. T., R. C. R. I.
Dunlop, J. R., 43rd O. and C. R.	Parr, W. B., 43rd O. and C. R.
Eley, D. M., 14th P. of W. O. R.	Peters, A. E., R. C. R. I.
Escobal, N., R. C. R. I.	Phillips, G., 15th A. L. I.
Flemming, A. J., 43rd O. and C. R.	Prior, A., R. C. R. I.
Foden, W. J., 47th F. B.	Porteous, R. W., G.-G. F. G.
Foster, P. R., G.-G. F. G.	Ritchie, W. G., 43rd O. and C. R.
Frye, C. E., 15th A. L. I.	Ross, W. J. H., D. P.
Gallagher, J., 43rd O. and C. R.	Rowley, J., G.-G. F. G.
Gibson, C. A., 15th A. L. I.	Schwitzer, W. C., 43rd O. and C. R.
Gilmour, A. E., 43rd O. and C. R.	Shillington, W. J. H., P. L. D. G.
Graham, J. D. H., P. L. D. G.	Small, H. C., 42nd L. and R. B.
Haig, H. G., 2nd F. B., C. A.	Smith, J. F., G.-G. F. G.
Hatton, J., 14th P. of W. O. R.	Smith, W. A., 43rd O. and C. R.
Hagan, J. R., 41st B. R.	Spence, C. T., 43rd O. and C. R.
Hennessy, J., R. C. R. I.	Street, L. J., G.-G. F. G.
Holland, C., 16th P. E. B.	Swan, N. W. D., 14th P. of W. O. R.
Hugall, P., R. C. A.	Taylor, A. H., 43rd O. and C. R.
Jackson, C. E. E., 37th H. R.	Thomas, C. T., G.-G. F. G.
Jones, H. H., 15th A. L. I.	Thompson, R. R., 43rd O. and C. R.
Laird, A., late R. C. A.	Tilley, G., 49th H. R.
Lamothe, G., 43rd O. and C. R.	Turner, R. H., 41st B. R.
Latimer, W. R., G.-G. F. G.	Turpin, T. J., C. C., C. A.
Large, A. L., 15th A. L. I.	Wall, A., 16th P. E. B.
Lawrence, W. R., 59th S. and G. B.	Walker, L. C., 16th F. B., C. A.
Lewis, Z. R. E., N. W. M. P.	Wendt, W. G., 43rd O. and C. R.
Living, F. J., 43rd O. and C. R.	Williamson, A. T. L., G.-G. F. G.
Lynn, F., 15th A. L. I.	Wood, F. H., 43rd O. and C. R.
LeBean, L. P., G.-G. F. G.	Wright, H. O., P. L. D. G.

"E" Company, Montreal, Que.*Rank, Name and Former Corps.*

Col.-Sergt. Young, A., R. C. R. I.	Corpl. Goodfellow, R., 5th R. S.
Sergt. Allan, J., R. C. R. I.	" Moody, F., R. C. R. I.
" Adams, J. A., 8th R. R.	Lce.-Corpl. Frawley, W. M. C., 3rd
" Shreeve, J., R. G. R. I.	V. R.
Corp! Baugh, T. E., R. C. R. I.	Lce.-Corpl. Molyneux, C. R., 5th R. S.
" Downey, G., nil.	Pte. Allan, C. E., 5th R. S.
" Gardner, J., 5th R. S.	Pte. Ackerman, F., 9th V. de Q.

Private, Rank, Name and Former Corps.

Allmand, W. W., 1st P. of W. F.	Martin, A., 2nd R., C. A.
Aspell, T. J., 1st P. of W. F.	Meade, D., 2nd R., C. A.
Bach, R. C., 1st P. of W. F.	Middleton, F., 1st P. of W. F.
Bailey, J., 2nd R., C. A.	Mitchell, H., 3rd V. R.
Barry, C. H., 3rd V. R.	Moore, T., D. Y. R. C. H.
Bigelow, J. A., (late N. W. M. P.) 2nd R., C. A.	Murphy, D., 1st P. of W. F.
Bolt, G. H., 3rd V. R.	Murray, W. R., 8th R. R.
Byford, R., 1st P. of W. F.	Murdoch, W. A. H., 2nd R., C. A.
Byers, R. T., 3rd V. R.	McDonald, A., 5th R. S.
Campbell, C., 1st P. of W. F.	McCann, J., 8th R. R.
Canty, R., 8th R. R.	McGill, D. R., R. C. R. I.
Carter, M. J., 2nd R., C. A.	McGoldrick, J., 5th R. S.
Clarke, R. C., 2nd R., C. A.	McIver, W., 5th R. S.
Coates, H. W., 5th R. S.	McLean, R. G., 5th R. S.
Cox, F., R. C. R. I.	McLeod, N. M., 3rd V. R.
Crotty, P., 8th R. R.	McQueen, A., 8th R. R.
Curry, I., 5th R. S.	Nash, T. B., 3rd V. R.
Corner, F. G., 5th R. S.	Nickle, C. R., 3rd F. B., C. A.
Dawson, A., 8th R. R.	O'Brien, J., 1st P. of W. F.
Delaney, M. J., 8th R. R.	O'Meara, D. A., Lieut. 8th R. R.
Doyle, T. H. M., 5th R. S.	Phillips, J., 5th R. S.
Durkee, A. A., 3rd V. R.	Platt, J., R. C. R. I.
Dynes, E. J., Q. O. C. H.	Pope, A., 5th R. S.
Erskine, F., 5th R. S.	Porter, W., 1st P. of W. F.
Fisher, H., 3rd V. R.	Prince, R. H., 2nd R., C. A.
Fisher, R. L., 1st P. of W. F.	Price, G., nil.
Fowler, W., R. C. R. I.	Robarts, G. P., D. Y. R. C. H.
Fraser, H., 41st B. R.	Rupert, E., 85th B.
Gamble, J., 5th R. S.	Ryan, P., 2nd R., C. A.
Gorman, J. F., 3rd F. B., C. A.	Richardson, F., 2nd R., C. A.
Graham, R., R. C. R. I.	Shaw, A. C., 3rd V. R.
Greenlay, G., 54th R. B.	Shaw, R. N., 3rd V. R.
Gunn, K., 5th R. S.	Sheehan, M., Q. O. C. H.
Harding, E., no corps.	Stanning, W., 5th R. S.
Hill, J. K., 8th R. R.	Swift, M., 8th R. R.
Hale, W. J., 5th R. S.	Sword, A., 5th R. S.
Hampson, G., 5th R. S.	Sword, D. C., 1st P. of W. F.
Hannaforde, A., 5th R. S.	Thomas, A. P., D. Y. R. C. H.
Hawkins, J., 1st P. of W. F.	Thomas, G. W., 5th R. R.
Hayes, R., R. C. R. I.	Travers, H. B., 2nd R., C. A.
Hayward, H., 53rd S. B.	Tregett, J., Q. O. C. H.
Home, F., Q. O. C. H.	Tulloch, A. J., 5th R. S.
Hynes, P., 5th R. S.	Turner, A. J., 8th R. R.
Irwin, F. B., 8th R. R.	Tweddell, W., 8th R. R.
James, A., 1st P. of W. F.	Walters, J. H., 5th R. S.
Jones, F., 5th R. S.	Walker, H. H., 54th R. B.
Jeffrey, W., 5th R. S.	Walters, T. A., 5th R. S.
Jeffrey, J. W., 3rd V. R.	Wardell, F., 3rd V. R.
Kealey, M., 1st P. of W. F.	Wardle, G., 53rd S. B.
Kelly, E., 2nd R., C. A.	White, A., 54th R. B.
Leconteur, R., 8th R. R.	Wilkin, W., 5th R. S.
Lee, F., Q. O. C. H.	Wilkins, A. W., 3rd V. R.
Lewis, C. E., 1st P. of W. F.	Williams, H., 53rd S. B.
Lester, C., 5th R. S.	Wright, P. E., 8th R. R.
Malin, J., 5th R. S.	Wright, J., 8th R. R.
Marjin, H., 2nd R., C. A.	Yeland, J., 5th R. S.
	Youngson, J. S., 5th R. S.

"F" Company, Quebec.*Rank, Name and Former Corps.*

Sergt. Bessette, W., R. C. A.	Corpl. Peterson, C. F., R. C. R. I.
" Peppeatt, W., R. C. A.	" Withey, B., R. C. A.
" Polkinghorn, J., 62nd St. J. F.	" McDonald, R. D., R. C. A.

"G" Company, New Brunswick and P. E. Island.*Rank, Name and Former Corps.*

Col.-Sergt. Charlton, Chas., R. C. R. I.	Keddy, E., R. C. R. I.
Sergt. Sheldon, A., R. C. R. I.	Keswick, G., 73rd N. B.
" Russel, J., R. C. A.	Kirkpatrick, F. A., 3rd R., C. A.
" Hessian, E., R. C. A.	Kitchen, W., 12th F. B., C. A.
Corpl. Morrison, J., R. C. A.	Lane, W., 82nd Q. C. B.
" Pringle, J., 71st Y. B.	Leavitt, H., 71st Y. B.
" Withers, F. W., 3rd R. C. A.	Leslie, J. P., 4th R., C. A.
" Wallace, W. V., R. C. R. I.	Letson, J., 62nd S. J. F.
" Coombs, F. W., 62nd S. J. F.	Lord, R. E., 82nd Q. C. B.
Lce.-Corpl. Ward, G., R. C. R. I.	Lutz, E., 74th B.
Lce.-Corpl. Miller, H., R. C. R. I.	Lutz, J., 74th B.
	Matheson, J., 4th R., C. A.
	McCain, F., 3rd R., C. A.
	McCarthy, M. J., 4th R., C. A.
	McRae, F. B., 82nd Q. C. B.
	McCreary, P., 74th B.
	McDiarmid, J., 62nd S. J. F.
	McFarlane, B. E., 71st Y. B.
	McKinnon, H. V., 4th R., C. A.
	McLean, H. L., 4th R., C. A.
	McLeod, J., 71st Y. B.
	McMullin, W., 8th H.
	Mellish, A. J. B., 82nd Q. C. B.
	Morley, H. A., 3rd R., C. A.
	Munroe, J. R., 73rd N. B.
	O'Rielly, J., 4th R., C. A.
	Pascoe, J. B., 62nd S. J. F.
	Pelky, A., 62nd S. J. F.
	Penny, R., 62nd S. J. F.
	Perkins, J. A., 71st Y. B.
	Pickles, J., 71st Y. B.
	Quinn, M. J., R. C. R. I.
	Raymond, W. J., 3rd R., C. A.
	Rawlings, J., 3rd R., C. A.
	Redden, H., R. C. R. I.
	Riggs, W. A., C. E. Co.
	Rodd, T. A., 82nd Q. C. B.
	Roberts, A., 3rd R., C. A.
	Schofield, A., 62nd S. J. F.
	Scott, J. B., R. C. R. I.
	Scott, J., 3rd R., C. A.
	Singer, L. M., 78th C., H. and P. B.
	Simpson, A., 3rd R., C. A.
	Simpson, P., R. C. R. I.
	Small, J. E., 4th R., C. A.
	Sprague, F. W., 3rd R., C. A.
	Sianton, L., 5th R. S.
	Stevenson, P. S., 71st Y. B.
	Stewart, L., 82nd Q. C. B.
	Strange, E. H., 62nd S. J. F.
	Swatridge, W. O., 3rd R., C. A.
	Taylor, R. D., C. E. Co.
	Tower, B. G., 74th B.
	Turner, R. M., 62nd S. J. F.
	Unkauff, W. C., 62nd S. J. F.
	Walker, F. G., 71st Y. B.
	Walker, J. S., 82nd Q. C. B.
	Wannamaker, H. L., 74th B.
	Ward, R., 73rd N. B.
	Waye, J. F., 82nd Q. C. B.
	Williams, J., 62nd S. J. F.
	Williams, F., 62nd S. J. F.
	Wilson, J. H., 71st Y. B.

Private.

Adams, G. F., 8th H.
 Addison, J. M., 62nd S. J. F.
 Aitken, J. M., 71st Y. B.
 Anslow, C., 12th F. B., C. A.
 Baker, W., R. C. R. I.
 Bishop, W., 74th B.
 Boudreau, J., C. E., Co.
 Bowness, E. W., 82nd Q. C. B.
 Burnside, J., 3rd R., C. A.
 Brace, N. T., C. E. Co.
 Brown, H. H., 82nd Q. C. B.
 Bryant, W., 3rd R., C. A.
 Campbell, G., R. C. R. I.
 Carney, J., 62nd S. J. F.
 Chapman, G., 74th B.
 Chapelle, M. C., 74th B.
 Cox, R. W., 82nd Q. C. B.
 Craig, E., 3rd R., C. A.
 Creighton, C., 74th B.
 Dillon, A. R., 82nd Q. C. B.
 Donahue, W. W., 3rd R., C. A.
 Doyle, A., 3rd R., C. A.
 Dorion, N., C. E. Co.
 Durant, H. E., 74th B.
 Dutney, J., 73rd N. B.
 Dyas, F., 36th P. B.
 Fabre, D. J., 3rd R., C. A.
 Ferguson, D., 74th B.
 Flewelling, E., R. C. R. I.
 Foley, R. J., C. E. Co.
 Foster, M., 62nd S. J. F.
 Fradsham, H., R. C. R. I.
 Furze, F. C., C. E. Co.
 Gaudet, L. S., 4th R., C. A.
 Globe, A. R., 62nd S. J. F.
 Hallamore, W., R. C. R. I.
 Hammond, A., 74th B.
 Harris, B., 12th F. B., C. A.
 Harris, J. A., 82nd Q. C. B.
 Harris, LeR., 82nd Q. C. B.
 Hatfield, A. S., 3rd R., C. A.
 Haydon, A., 62nd S. J. F.
 Hinc, C. H., C. E. Co.
 Hubley, R. C., 8th H.
 Irving, W. H., 62nd S. J. F.
 Jenkins, C. L., 3rd R., C. A.
 Johnson, J., 62nd S. J. F.
 Johnston, J. M., 62nd S. J. F.
 Jones, S., 71st Y. B.

"H" Company, Nova Scotia.*Rank, Name and Former Corps.*

Col.-Sergt. Eustace, J. D., 63rd H.R.	Kennedy, J., R. C. A.
Sergt. Grimshaw, W., 66th P. L. F.	Keogh, P., 66th P. L. F.
" Dooley, F., 66th P. L. F.	Keefler, R. T., nil.
" Ward, G., 68th K. C. B.	Kilcup, E., 68th K. C. B.
Corpl. Baugh, B., R. C. A.	Kirkpatrick, F., 66th P. L. F.
" Ferguson, W. R., 93rd C. B.	Lewis, M., R. C. A.
" Lyndon, H., R. C. A.	Lenahan, J., 63rd H. R.
" Pooley, C. F., C. A. M. S. C.	Lindsay, A. C., N. W. M. P.
" Rolfe, J., 63rd B., H. R.	Lockwood, A., 68th K. C. B.
Lce.-Corpl. Stevenson, J., 1st L. R.	Lowry, T. P., 66th P. L. F.
" Watson, H., R. C. A.	McDonald, C., 66th P. L. F.
	McDonald, D. C., 1st R. C. A.
	MacLean, W. J., nil.
	McDonald, G., 66th P. L. F.
	Miller, C., 75th L. B.
	Miller, R., 1st R., C. A.
	Munnis, M., 63rd H. B.
	Muir, F., 1st R., C. A.
	Murray, N. G., nil.
	Murray, A., D. Y. R. C. H.
	McAldin, R., 66th P. L. F.
	McCallum, B., nil.
	McCallum, G. D., 93rd C. B.
	McDougall, H. A., 5th R. S.
	McLean, A., R. C. A.
	McNab, F., 63rd H. R.
	Neily, R. L., 68th K. C. B.
	O'Brien, E., 78th C. and H. B.
	Oxley, W., 93rd C. B.
	Oulton, H., 93rd C. B.
	Osborn, D., nil.
	Parkes, F. S. 3rd F. B. C. A.
	Patterson, A., 63rd H. R.
	Parker, A., 68th K. C. B.
	Pollock, W. J., 66th P. L. F.
	Purcell, E. S., 66th P. L. F.
	Purcell, L. A., 63rd H. R.
	Regan, W. J., 68th P. L. F.
	Rector, R., 93rd C. B.
	Roche, W., 66th P. L. F.
	Rose, J. E., 66th P. L. F.
	Rose, F., 63rd H. R.
	Roue, J. F. L., C. A. M. S. C.
	Ross, R., 1st K., C. A.
	Ross, W. J., 1st R. C. A.
	Robertson, A., 3rd V. R.
	Rudland, R., 1st R. C. A.
	Reid, W., nil.
	Ryan, D. J., 66th P. L. F.
	Simmons, W., 66th P. L. F.
	Sloan, R., 1st R., C. A.
	Swinyard, W. R. C. A.
	Stuart, C. W., 66th P. L. F.
	Taylor, F. A. E., 63rd H. R.
	Tester, S., 2nd R., C. A.
	Trider, A., 1st R., C. A.
	Trueman, W. E., 78th C. and H. B.
	Walker, W. A., 66th P. L. F.
	Wash, T. J., 66th P. L. F.
	Ward, E., 66th P. L. F.
	Walke, C. W. J., 66th P. L. F.
	Woods, D. L., 63rd H. R.
	Wright, P., 63rd H. R.
	Zong, A. E., 66th P. L. F.
Anderson, J. H. N., 66th P. L. F.	
Adams, W. F., 63rd H. R.	
Atwater, J., 94th A. H.	
Ackhurst, H. W., H. B. Co., C. A. M. S. C.	
Bennett, G. B., 63rd H. R.	
Blaikie, H., 66th P. L. F.	
Borton, C. N., 66th P. L. F.	
Burgess, M., 93rd C. B.	
Blair, S., 93rd C. B.	
Bent, E. E., 68th K. C. B.	
Brown, S., 93rd C. B.	
Buchanan, K., 93rd C. B.	
Bingay, L. W., 1st R., C. A.	
Conrad, W., 1st R., C. A.	
Coons, F., 2nd R., C. A.	
Cleary, W., 1st L. R.	
Carroll, J., 66th P. L. F.	
Cameron, A. A., 63rd H. R.	
Chapman, F., 63rd H. R.	
Daly, T., 5th R. S.	
Drake, J., 63rd H. R.	
Duncan, J., 2nd R., C. A.	
Defoe, J., R. C. A.	
Elliott, W., 66th P. L. F.	
Embree, G., 93rd C. B.	
Ewing, J., 63rd H. R.	
Ewing, D. H., 63rd H. R.	
Farrell, G. P., D. L. I.	
Farrer, De B., 66th P. L. F.	
Fillmore, W. A., 93rd C. B.	
Fitzgerald, A. E., 1st R., C. A.	
Forsyth, A., nil.	
Frasee, H. H., 66th P. L. F.	
Gallagher, J., 4th V. B., M. R.	
Grant, J. W., 66th P. F.	
Hancock, C., C. A. M. S. C.	
Harrison, T. J., 1st R., C. A.	
Harnett, J. W., 93rd C. B.	
Harris, J., 66th P. L. F.	
Hart, W. J., 63rd H. R.	
Halliday, J., R. C. A.	
Huestis, G. J., 63rd H. R.	
Fire, J., 66th P. L. F.	
Hunt, G., 1st P. W. R. F.	
Hurley, J., 1st R., C. A.	
Hoult, E., R. C. A.	
James, G., nil.	
Jewers F., 66th P. L. F.	
Johnstone, G., 63rd H. Q.	
Jones, H., 68th K. C. B.	
Kelly, J., 10th R. G.	

SECOND CONTINGENT

The Canadian Mounted Rifles

1st Battalion

Commanding Officer.

LESSARD, F. L., Lieutenant-Colonel, Royal Canadian Dragoons.
North-West, 1885.

Majors.

2ND IN COMMAND.

Evans, T. B. D., Lieutenant-Colonel, Royal Canadian Dragoons.
North-West, 1885.

"A" Squadron

COMMANDING SQUADRON.

Forester, W., Capt. R. C. D.

CAPTAIN.

Pearse, C. St. A., Capt. R. C. D.

LIEUTENANTS.

1st Troop : Elmsley, J. A., Lieut. R. C. D.
2nd Troop : Cockburn, H. Z. C. Capt. G.-G. B. G.
3rd Troop : VanLoven, R. M., Capt. 4th H.
4th Troop : King, A. H., Major 1st H. (Supernumerary) Sutton, F. H. C., Capt. R. C. D.

"B" Squadron.

COMMANDING SQUADRON.

Williams, V. A. S., Capt. R. C. A.

CAPTAIN.

Greenwood, H. S., Lieut.-Col. 3rd D. Graduate R. M. C.

LIEUTENANTS.

1st Troop : Van Straubenzee, C. T., Lieut. R. C. D.
2nd Troop : Young, F. V., 2nd Lieut. M. D.
Afghan War, 1878-80-St. North-West, 1885.
3rd Troop : Turner, R. E. W., Capt. Q. O. C. H.
4th Troop : Borden, H. L., Major K. C. H.

<p style="text-align: center;">ADJUTANT.</p> <p>Nelles, C. M., Capt. R. C. D. <i>North-West, 1885.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">QUARTER-MASTER.</p> <p>Wynne, J. H., Capt. 2nd R., C. A. <i>Fenian Raid, 1870.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MEDICAL OFFICER.</p> <p>Duff, H. R., Sur.-Major, 4th H.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TRANSPORT OFFICER.</p> <p>Harrison, C. F., Capt. 8th H. <i>North-West, 1885.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">VETERINARY OFFICER.</p> <p>Hall, W. B., Vet. Major R. C. D.</p>
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2nd BATTALION

HERCHMER, Lieutenant-Colonel L. W., Commissioner N. W. M. P.

" C " Squadron

COMMANDING SQUADRON.

Howe, Major J., Supt. N. W. M. P.
North-West, 1885.

CAPTAIN.

Macdonell, A. C., Insp. N. W. M. P.

LIEUTENANTS.

1st Troop: Moodie, J. D., Insp. N. W. M. P.

2nd Troop: Bégin, J. V., Insp. N. W. M. P.

3rd Troop: Wroughton, T. A., Insp. N. W. M. P.

4th Troop: Inglis, W. M., late Capt. Berkshire Regt.

" D " Squadron

COMMANDING SQUADRON.

Sanders, Major G. E., Supt. N. W. M. P. Graduate R. M. C.
North-West, 1885.

CAPTAIN.

Cuthbert, A. E. R., Insp. N. W. M. P.

LIEUTENANTS.

1st Troop: Davidson, H. J. A., Insp. N. W. M. P.

South Africa, 1879-80. North-West, 1885.

2nd Troop: Chalmers, T. W., formerly Lieut. M. G. A.; late Inspector N. W. M. P. Graduate R. M. C.

North-West, 1885.

3rd Troop: Taylor, J., Lieut. Manitoba Dragoons.

North-West, 1885.

4th Troop: Cosby, F. L., Insp. N. W. M. P.

MACHINE GUN SECTION.

Bliss, D. C. F., Major Reserve of Officers.

North-West, 1885.

Howard, A. L., Lieut. Unattached List.

North-West, 1885.

ADJUTANT.

Baker, Capt. M., Insp. N. W. M. P.
North-West, 1885.

QUARTERMASTER.

Allan, Capt. J. B., Insp. N. W. M. P.

MEDICAL OFFICER.

Devine, J. A., Surgeon-Lieut. 90th Battalion.

TRANSPORT OFFICER.

Eustace, Lieut. R. W. B.

VETERINARY OFFICER.

Riddell, Vet.-Lieut. R.

NURSES.

Hercum, Miss D., Senior Nurse,
Montreal.
Horne, Miss M., Q., Montreal.
Macdonald, Miss M., Pictou, N. S.
Richardson, Miss M. P., Regina, N.
W. T.

CHAPLAINS.

Sinnett, Rev. J. C. (Roman Catholic).
Lane, Rev. W. G. (Methodist).
Cox, Rev. W. J. (Church of England).

ATTACHED FOR SPECIAL DUTIES.

Gordon, W. D., Lieut.-Col. Canadian
Staff.
Boulanger, T. L., Major 1st Quebec
Field Battery, C. A.
Burch, J. E., Lieut. 2nd Dragoons.
Biggar, J. L., Major 15th Argyll Light
Infantry. To be attached on arrival
to Army Service Corps.

McDonald, J. A., Lieut. 82nd Queen's
County Battalion. To be attached
on arrival to First Contingent.

CANADIAN COMMISSIONER BRITISH
RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Ryerson, G. S., Surgeon Lieut.-Col.,
Toronto, Ont.

POSTAL CORPS.

Eccleston, Lieut. W. R., Chief in charge.
Johnston, R.
Lallier, J.
Bedell, F. B.
Murray, K. A.

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
Y. M. A. C.

Best, Thomas F., Brantford, Ont.



SECOND CONTINGENT

1st Battalion Canadian Mounted Rifles

Regimental Staff

Corps—If not belonging to any Corps, Post Office Address.

R. S. M., Page, J. C., R. C. D.
Q. M. S., Graham, J., R. C. D.
Fr. Q. M. S., Simpkins, G. J., R. C. D.
O. R. S., Dalton, P., R. C. D.
Sergt. Tp., Inglis, L. J. S., R. C. D.
Arm. Sergt., Carroll, D. J., R. C. D.
Tran. Sergt., Skinner, A. R., R. C. D.
Sadlr. Sergt., Dunning, J. F., Ottawa.

"A" Squadron

Corps—If not belonging to any Corps, Post Office Address.

S. S. M., Widgery, J., A S., R. C. D.	Corpl. S. S., Lovegrove, A. J., G. G.
S. Q. M. S., Hunt, B., B S., R. C. D.	B. G.
Sergt. Rhoades, W., A S., R. C. D.	
" Fuller, H. F., A S., R. C. D.	<i>Private.</i>
" Hudson, G., A S., R. C. D.	
S. Farr., Harraden, C. F., A S., R. C. D.	Agassiz, R. H. G., 2nd D.
Sergt. Smith, W. T., A S., R. C. D.	Allen, E. B., Windsor, Ont.
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	Key, Walter, Winnipeg, Man.

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Brigade Division, Field Artillery

Commanding Officer.

DRURY, C. W., Lieutenant-Colonel Royal Canadian Artillery. A. D. C. to His Excellency, the Governor-General.

North-West, 1885.

"C" Battery

MAJOR.

Hudon, J. A. G., Major R. C. A.,
North-West, 1885.

CAPTAIN.

Panet, H. A., Capt. R. C. A. Graduate R. M. C.

LIEUTENANTS.

1st Section: Leslie, J. N. S., Lieut. R. C. A.
2nd Section: King, W. B., Capt. 7th F. B., C. A.
3rd Section: Irving, L. E. W., Capt. R. of O.

"D" Battery

MAJOR.

Hurdman, W. G., Maj. 2nd F. B., C. A.

CAPTAIN.

Eaton, D. I. V., Capt. R. C. A.

LIEUTENANTS.

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2nd Section: McCrea, J., Lieut. 16th F. B., C. A.
3rd Section: Morrison, E. W. B., Lieut. 2nd F. B., C. A.

"E" Battery

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North-West, 1885.

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2nd Section: Ogilvie, A. T., Lieut. R. C. A.
3rd Section: Good, W. C., Capt. 10th F. B., C. A.

ATTACHED FOR DUTY.

Mackie, H. J., Capt. 42nd B., late 2nd F. B., C. A.

ADJUTANT.

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North-West, 1885.

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 Hague, J. H.
 Hamley, John, 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Harrison, R. A., 3rd R., C. A.
 Howard, A. G., 3rd R., C. A.
 Hibbs, H. H.; R. C. A.
 Hill, T. J., 15th F. B., C. A.
 Horsfall, H. W., 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Hughes, R., 10th F. B., C. A.
 Huot, R., R. C. A.
 Jackson, R. C., P. Co., 1st R., C. A.
 Jay, James, 15th F. B., C. A.
 Johnson, G. H., 10th F. B., C. A.
 Jones, H., 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Jones, R., 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Kane, J., R. C. A.
 Kennedy, W., 10th F. B., C. A.
 King, M. R., 12th F. B., C. A.
 Kirk, G. P., 3rd R., C. A.
 Leighton, W. L., 10th F. B., C. A.
 Lightstone, H., 15th F. B., C. A.
 Longee, M. M., 53rd S. B.
 Lynn, W. P., 10th F. B., C. A.
 Macdonald, D., R. C. A.
 Macdonald, D. J., 17th F. B., C. A.
 Macdonald, J. J., 1st R., C. A.
 McLean, H. G., 10th F. B., C. A.
 McLaan, R., Reserve Mines, C. B.
 Mackenzie, M. A., 17th F. B., C. A.
 Mackenzie, C. L., 2nd R., C. A.
 Mackenzie, A., 3rd F. B., C. A.
 MacLeod, P., 12th F. B., C. A.
 MacLeod, G. F., 3rd R., C. A.
 MacLoughlin, J., R. C. A.
 Mason, Benjamin, 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Miller, R., R. C. A.
 Michaud, D., 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Molson, E. A., 2nd R., C. A.
 Morrison, D., 17th F. B., C. A.
 Morrison, S. J., 12th F. B., C. A.
 Mottram, A. E., R. C. A.
 Munsey, S. W., 13th F. B., C. A.
 Myra, W. A., 17th F. B., C. A.
 Neild, J., 13th F. B., C. A.
 Nethersole, Bdr. P. R., Johannesburg.
 O'Handley, D., 94th A. H.
 O'Reilly, P. P., 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Pagean, C., R. C. A.
 Parker, G., 10th F. B., C. A.
 Perrin, J. H., R. C. A.
 Phillips, H., R. C. A.
 Phillips, G. H., 15th F. B., C. A.
 Pitman, Joseph, 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Price, W. E., 15th F. B., C. A.
 Porteous, A.
 Pugh, S., R. C. A.
 Randell, J. T., Trinity, Newfoundland
 Rawlings, G. W., 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Reynolds, W., D. Y. R. C. H.
 Reus, J. H., R. C. A.
 Roberts, W., 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Ross, G. H., R. C. A.
 Ross, J. G., 12th F. B., C. A.
 Russell, G., 12th F. B., C. A.
 Rutter, C. W., 12th F. B., C. A.
 Ryan, R. J., 5th R. S.
 Scott, Thomas, 17th F. B., C. A.
 Searle, G., 10th F. B., C. A.
 Sinclair, E. H., 12th F. B., C. A.
 Smith, R., 10th F. B., C. A.
 Smith, A. A., 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Smith, J. W., 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Smith, Johnston, 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Squires, J., 13th F. B., C. A.
 State, A. F., 3rd F. B., C. A.
 Stone, F., R. C. A.
 Taite, H. B., 13th F. B., C. A.
 Tapp, W., 63rd H. R.
 Tibbitts, A., 10th F. B., C. A.
 Tibbitts, J., 12th F. B., C. A.
 Tooker, J. R., Yarmouth, N. S.
 Vincent, T., R. C. A.
 Walsh, Patrick, 2nd R., C. A.
 Wells, S., R. C. A.
 Welch, R. S., 10th F. B., C. A.
 Welsh, G. E., 13th F. B., C. A.
 Wilson, J. W., 2nd R., C. A.
 Wilson, T. R., 13th F. B., C. A.
 Withers, S. J., 3rd R., C. A.
 Woollard, C., 13th F. B., C. A.
 Woods, J. B., 12th F. B., C. A.
 Woodeau, W. J., 13th F. B., C. A.
 Young, W. D., 2nd R., C. A.



Strathcona's Horse

OFFICERS

Lieutenant-Colonel.

STEELE, Lieutenant-Colonel S. B., N. W. M. P.
Fenian Raids, 1866-70; North-West, 1885.

Second in Command.

BELCHER, Major R., N. W. M. P.
North-West, 1885.

MAJORS.

Snyder, A. E., N. W. M. P.
North-West, 1885.
Jarvis, A. M., N. W. M. P.
Laurie, R. C. Graduate R. M. C.

CAPTAINS.

Howard, D. M., N. W. M. P.
North-West, 1885.
Cameron, G. W., Major 5th R. S.
Cartwright, F. L., N. W. M. P.

LIEUTENANTS.

Magee, R. H. B. Graduate R. M. C.
Harper, F., N. W. M. P.
Benyon, J. A., Captain R. C. A.
Mackie, E. F., Captain 90th W. R.
Fall, P., 2nd Lieut. Man. D.
White-Fraser, M. H., Ex-Inspector
N. W. M. P.
*South Africa, 1879-80. North-West,
1885.*

Ketchen, H. D. B., N. W. M. P.
Macdonald, J. F., Captain 37th H. R.
Leckie, J. E., Graduate R. M. C.
Courtney, R. M., Captain 1st P. W.
R. F. Graduate R. M. C.
Pooley, T. E., Captain 5th R., C. A.
Christie, A. E.
Strange, A. W.
Laidlaw, G. E. Graduate R. M. C.
Kirkpatrick, G. H. Graduate R. M. C.
Tobin, S. H. Graduate R. M. C.

QUARTERMASTER.

Parker, W.

TRANSPORT OFFICER.

Snider, I. B., 2nd Lieut. Man. D.

MEDICAL OFFICER.

Keenan, C. B., Royal Victoria Hospital,
Montreal.

VETERINARY OFFICER.

Stevenson, G. T.

Strathcona's Horse

Non-Commissioned Officers and Men

"A" Squadron

Corps—If not belonging to any Corps, Post Office Address.

- | | |
|--|--|
| R. S. M. Elliott, Frank. | Carpenter, J., Carrigohane, Co. Cork, Ireland. |
| Q. M. S. Crafter, A. G., 27 Fleet St. London. | Carroll, P. E., Spy Hill, N. W. T. |
| F. Q. M. S. McMillan, A., Oak Lake, Man. | Carson, T. L., Yorkton, Assa. |
| S. S. M., Hooper, H. C. L., 13 North Sherbourne Street, Toronto. | Cassidy, H. E., Hendon, England. |
| | Clark, G., Bentley, Ipswich, England. |
| | Clark, E. H., Maldon, Essex, Eng. |
| | Common, A., Hazel Cliff, N. W. T. |
| | Cosens, F. C., Maryfield, N. W. T. |
| | Currie, W. E. E., Mayfield, Sussex, England. |
| | Cuthbert, W., Portage la Prairie. |
| Albert, E., Deal England. | Dandy, C. R., Medora, Man. |
| Anderson, E. F., Palmerston, Ont. | Daykin, A. U., Lacombe, Alta., N. W. T. |
| Archer, W., Melbourne, Derbyshire, England. | Deacon, B. L., Freetown, P. E. I. |
| Arnold, F. G., Corkstown, Barry, Ont. | Dingan, A., Aberdeen, Scotland. |
| Baker, W. G., Morrisburg, Ont. | Dickson, J., Keddle Firth, Ork., Scotl. |
| Barker, M., Herne Bay, Kent, England. | Dodd, G. S., 381 Maint St., Winnipeg. |
| Barker, W. J., Victoria Road, Ont. | Doherty, G. H., Carlton Place, London, England. |
| Barrett, J., Smallheath, Birmingham, England. | Donnan, J. W., Robson, B. C. |
| Bastien, H., Rallanville, Assa. | Drever, A., Prince Albert, N. W. T. |
| Beckett, F. W., 229 Yonge St., Win. | Dunsford, H., Mordon, Man. |
| Bennett, J., Wakopa, Man. | Dunsmore, F. C., Stratford, Eng. |
| Bland, E. M., 218 McNab St., Hamilton, Ont. | Edwards, E. H., Oxford Mills, Ont. |
| Bourne, R., Staffordshire, Eng. | Ewing, A., Elkorn, Man. |
| Bradbury, J., Fox Earth Hall, Stafford, England. | Evans, J., Balkerry, Co Wicklow, Irl. |
| Bride, F., Portage la Prairie, Man. | Farmer, J. T., 34 Oxford St., Toronto. |
| Brigham, J. R., Ottawa. | Fisher, C. W. D., Tudor House, Chaddesby, near Kidderminster, Eng. |
| Brooks, W., Indian Head, Man. | Fletcher, R., Devizes, Ont. |
| Brown, A. M., City Clerk, Win., Man. | Flotten, P., Prince Albert, N. W. T. |
| Bullough, J., Grand Ville, Dewsbury, England. | Fraser, R. N., 444 Pacific ave, Winnipeg. |
| Burton, A. E., Cobden, Ont. | Grammond, C., Fort William, Ont. |
| Campbell, M. G., Whycomagh, N. S. | Garner, A. C., Moosomin, Man. |

Private—Corps—If not belonging to any Corps, Post Office Address.

- Gilroy, H., Regina, N. W. T.
 Glass, N., Willoughby, N. W. T.
 Goodburn, O., Newlands, Putney Vale, England.
 Gooding, J. E. P., Ipswich, Suffolk, Eng.
 Gordon, K., Hazelcliffe, Man.
 Gowler, A. W., Poplar Point, N. W. T.
 Gregory, T., Field, B. C.
 Grestock, H., 8 Fenchurch Buildings, London, England.
 Griffith, J. J., Hagersville, Ont.
 Gurney, W. B. L., Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, England.
 Harley, J. A., Petrolia, Ont.
 Harris, M. R., Falmouth, Eng.
 Hathorne, W., Rosssburn, Northumberland, England.
 Hazeldine, F. R., Manchester, Eng.
 Henderson, J. J., Regina, N. W. T.
 Hogarth, W. R., Strathclair, Man.
 Hudson, W., Haydon, Ont.
 Inkster, J., St. Marks, Man.
 Irwin, H. M., Port Hope, Ont.
 Irwin, F., Fitzmaurice, Man.
 Jackson, W. P., Bournemouth, Eng.
 Johnston, J. D., Snow Hill, Co Fermagh, Ireland.
 Keeling, J. H., Clarkleigh, Man.
 Kempster, H., Winnipeg, Man.
 Kermode, J. O., Bradford, England.
 King, W. J., 169 Frankland St., Toronto.
 Firkpatrick, A., Moosomin, Man.
 Lambert, J. S., Clitheroe, Lancashire, England.
 Lamont, B., Chesley, Ont.
 Locke, C., 7 Mills Road, Acton, Eng.
 Lorsch, A. P., 16 Gromelie St., Toronto.
 Lowe, A. A. R., Moosomin, Assa.
 Lyle, H., Tara, Ont.
 Macdonnell, K. C., Grenfell, Assa.
 Machen, S. R., Rosser, Man.
 Martin, R. W., Treherne, Man.
 Matthews, F. A. W., Essex Lodge, Cheltenham, England.
 Mawerty, J. D., Prince Albert, Assa.
 McAlonen, R., Winnipeg, Man.
 McArthur, J. H., Tobo, One.
 McGillvray, A., Kirkfield, Ont.
 McLaren, G., Wor Road, Minnesota.
 McLean, G., Goulais Bay, Algoma.
 McLeod, W. R., Prince Albert, Assa.
 McLoy, J., Prince Albert, Assa.
 McNaught, J. Y., Nertherhome, Dumfries, Scotland.
 Mills, T., Newmarket, Ont.
 Milligan, W., Brandon, Man.
 Moberley, G. A., Prince Albert, Assa.
 Morrison, J. H., Portage la Prairie, Man.
 Munroe, H. S., Hinnedosa, Man.
 Murphy, W. M., South Norwich, Assa.
 Neville, J. F., Wappella, Assa.
 Nicks, J., Upton Pyne, Exeter, Eng.
 Norquay, A., Winnipeg, Man.
 Norris, F., Church Farm, Dursley, Eng.
 Nyblett, R. W., Nesbit, Man.
 Orr, F. W., Moosejaw, Man.
 Page, C. F., Moosomin, N. W. T.
 Palmer, P. S., Renwyn, Clapham, London, England.
 Palmer, G. S., Richmond, Surrey, Eng.
 Parker, H., Summerberry, Assa.
 Parker, J., 751 Albert Road, Blackpool Lanc. England.
 Perkins, G., Kingsheath, Birmingham England.
 Powell, F. N., Great Malvern, Worcestershire, England.
 Ramsay, D., 10 Kensington Ave. Ashley Down, Bristol.
 Reid, J., Smith's Falls Ont.
 Richardson, A. H. L., Sefton Park Liverpool, England.
 Robinson, A., Winnipeg, Man.
 Rooke, C. W., G. W. Life Insurance Co., Winnipeg, Man.
 Rooke, R. P., G. W. Life Insurance Co., Winnipeg, Man.
 Ross, J. T., Moosomin, N. W. T.
 Rushe, M. J., Pall Mall Gazette, London, England.
 Sabine, H. E., Winnipeg, Man.
 Sawyer, W. L., Lockview, Sunbury-on-Thames, England.
 Saxby, H. E., Shetland.
 Sayce, W., Craven, N. W. T.
 Scott, L. B., Regina, N. W. T.
 Scott, W., Regina, N. W. T.
 Skirving, G. M., Dawson City, Y. T.
 Smith, K. W., Montreal Que.
 Sinnington, A., Elkhorn, Man.
 Stanier, C. Y., Moosomin, N. W. T.
 Starke, T. B., Elkhorn, Man.
 Steadman, C. D., Whitchurch, Shropshire, England.
 Stevenson, A. T., Orillia, Ont.
 Stocker, J. R., 39 Martha St., Winnipeg, Man.
 Stuart, A. W., Sandypoint, Ont.
 Stutt, W., Fairmead, N. W. T.
 Sutherland, A., Collestair, N. W. T.
 Terry, N. F., Buckingham, England.
 Thompson, H. C., Refinery, Montreal.
 Thorne, A., Gore Bay, Ont.
 Thornton, E., Sydney, N. S. W.
 Thomas, C. F., Wrightson, Qué.
 Townsend, P. H., K. I. I., Allahabad, India.
 Traill, W. M., Prince Albert, N. W. T.
 Treston, J., Grand Forks, Minnesota, U. S. A.
 Trelevan, A., 18 Melrose, Road, Dublin, Ireland.
 Van Stan., A., 25 Gibson Square, London, England.
 Wade, R., Smithfield, Ont.
 Ward, J., Church St., Flint, Wales.

Private—Corps—If not belonging to any Corps, Post Office Address.

- Martin, L. A., Vancouver, B. C.
 Matallal, A., Tatamagonda, N. S.
 McDonald, G. A., Winnipeg, Man.
 McDonald, R. S., Owen Sound, Ont.
 McClay, R., 293 Gunnell St., Win.
 McCormack, E.
 McMillan, T., Ayrshire, Scotland.
 McNichol, A., Red Deer, Assa.
 McNair, E. W. C., Roundwood, Ipswich, England.
 McNeil, F. J., Lytton, B. C.
 McRae, D., Upshill, Victoria E., Ont.
 McElray, G. E.
 McIntosh, E., Rossland, B. C.
 McKeege, F. O. E., Ccs lebar, P. O.
 McKinley, M., Edmonton, N. W. T.
 McKugo, G., Custom House, London, Ont.
 Miller, A., Dennison's Mills, Quebec.
 Milne, A., Edmonton, N. W. T.
 Mitchell, G., Chard, England.
 Moir, R. H., St. Mary's, Ont.
 Mulligan, F., London, Ont.
 Murphy, E. D., Strathcona, Alta.
 Newman, F. G., Bradford, Ont.
 Niblock, B. L., Calgary, N. W. T.
 Nichol, H. F., Northumberland, England.
 Nichol, D., 4r E. Claremont Street, Edinburgh.
 Paul, J., Tenitville, Ont.
 Pearce, R. G., Toronto.
 Pearce, E. J., Agricola, Alta.
 Pearson, A., Tib Street, Manchester, England.
 Pinder, E. G. J., Nelson, B. C.
 Percy, H. N., G. T. R., Mon real.
 Perry, T., Bondon Street, Commercial Road, London, England.
 Peyto, E. W., Welwyn, England.
 Phillips, J. W., Belleville, Ont.
 Pillars, K. B., 3 Rue Les Bionosaits, Brussels.
 Playfair, W. S., Aislebank, Scotland.
 Poole, H., Lacombe, Alta.
 Poole, F., Lacombe, Alta.
 Purvis, A. S., Brampton Lodge, Hitch., Hertfordshire, England.
 Quick, H. H., Quick City, Miss.
 Rackham, W., 191 Seymour Road, Haringay, London N., England.
 Reed, W. E., Winnipeg, Man.
 Rice-Jones, I. E. C., 2 Clifton Terrace, Brighton, England.
 Robson, J. S., Lytton, B. C.
 Rogers, H. M., Sheep Creek, Alta.
 Ross, A. M., Portage La Prairie.
 Routh, G. F., 34 Princess Road, Liverpool, England.
 Saddington, W., 14 Axe St., Barking, Essex, England.
 Scott, H. H., Lambton Mills, Ont.
 Scott, F. W., 21 Moreoaks Road, Sheffield, England.
 Shuckburgh, W. C., Trafalgar Terrace, Torquay, England.
 Sharples, W. A., False Creek Station, Vancouver, B. C.
 Shaw, C. W., Medicine Hat, N. W. T.
 Shiles, T., 74 Grosvenor Terrace, Camberwell, London, England.
 Simpson, T., Elm Creek, Man.
 Skinner, A., Lindsay, Ont.
 Smiley, S., 10 George Street, Johnstone, Scotland.
 Smith, J., Poplar Point, Man.
 Somerton, W., Parkington, Ont.
 Spratt, A., 35 Jamieson Avenue, Toronto.
 Stewart, J. S., Brampton, Ont.
 Stranger, P., 85 Woodland Road, Wood Street, Walthamstow, Essex, Eng.
 Swanston, E., Merriton, N. W. T.
 Sutherland, R., Edmonton, N. W. T.
 Thomas, G. D., Halifax, N. S.
 Tompson, F., Macleod, M. W. T.
 Tegart, H., Craven, Assa.
 Townshend, N. S., Parsborough, N. S.
 Tucker, P. H., Bracknell, Bercks, England.
 Vernon, A. A., Victoria, B. C.
 Waite, J. T., Fisham, Surrey, Eng.
 Walker, J. C., Vancouver, B. C.
 Walker, B. G., 24 Carlyle Square, London S. W., England.
 Watts, C. C. M., Virden, Man.
 Watts, A. H., Virden, Man.
 White, S. A., 2 The Cedars, Putney, S. W. England.
 Watson, A.
 Whiteley, C., Holland, Ont.
 Whitehead, C. A. W. Calgary, Alta.
 Wilby, A. W. R., Southsea, England.
 Wilkin, W., Wickham Brook, Suffolk, England.
 Watson, B., Macleod, Alta.
 Willson, F., London, England.
 Wilson, D., 19 Montagne Terrace, Edinburgh.
 Williams, T. H. A. Monmouth, England.
 Woods, W. T., Innisfail, Alta.
 Woodward, W., Ashby-de-la-Zouche, England.
 Woodward, A. J., 5 Union Place, Limehouse, London, E., England.
 Wragge, E. C., London, England.
 Wright, T. W. H., Calgary, Alta.
 Wright, H. H., Walkeringham, Notts, England.
 Wyse, D., Bush Terrace, Musselburgh, Scotland.
 Yemen, N. W., Ripsley, Ont.
 Yule, B., Prescott, Ont.

"C" Squadron

Corps—If not belonging to any Corps, Post Office Address.

- S. S. M. Hynes, J., Fahey Eyre Court, County Galloway, Ireland.
- Private.*
- Abbott, J., Rochford, England.
 Agar, G. S., London, England.
 Albert, G., Pickering, Ont.
 Allan, P. K., Stanley-on-Chobham, Surrey, England.
 Armstrong, J. W., Warwick, England.
 Bell, P. W. W., Vancouver, B. C.
 Bell, W. H., Birkenhead, England.
 Bolton, N. T., Revelstoke, B. C.
 Bonner, L. A., East Lodge, Wanstead, England.
 Boushield, J., 139 Claremont Street, Toronto.
 Bowers, G. A., Nelson, B. C.
 Brent, W., San Jose, Cal., U. S. A.
 Brixton, J., Adelphi Theatre, London.
 Broadbent, E. R., Caldwell, Herefordshire, England.
 Burke, B., Trondheim, Norway.
 Cameron, N. C. J., Christ Church, Hants, England.
 Castelaine, L., Bath, England.
 Chancellor, E. V., Atlin, B. C.
 Childers, H. C., 20 Carlisle Mansions, Cheyne Walk London, England.
 Clark, W. F., Manotick, Ont.
 Cochrane, R. L., Mount Charles, Mofat, Scotland.
 Cook, W., Brandon, Man.
 Cotterill, C. W., Dundas, Ont.
 Cree, A. H., Pemberton Gardens, London, England.
 Curtis, E. F. E., Caynam Court, Ludlow, England.
 Custance, T. F. M., Caldwell, Herefordshire, England.
 Daley, H. M., Rossland, B. C.
 D'Amour, A. P., Notre Dame Street, Montreal.
 Dawson, W. H. N., Rainy River, Ont.
 Davis, L. S., 45 Leonard Street, New York, U. S. A.
 Deering, R., Deer River, Man.
 Duncan, C. J., Glendevon, Perth, Scotland.
 Dunn, F. J.
 Dunn, T., Montreal.
 Edwards, W., Glenceo, Ont.
 Elliott, J., Dunstable, Bedfordshire, England.
 Ellis, F. W., 17 Beverley Road, Anerley, London, S. E., England.
 Eyre, G., Hasborough, England.
 Fader, G. J., Sydney, C. B.
 Fall, C. S., Victoria, B. C.
 Fanning, W., Peterboro, Ont.
 Faulder, E. R., Church Fields, Harrow-on-the-hill, England.
 Fernie, W. L., Macclesfield, England.
 Fernie, M., West Street, Scarborough, England.
 Fischer, J. C., Conductor C. P. R., Mountain Division.
 Foster, J. M., Cochrane, Alta.
 Fraser, J. A., Grenville, Ont.
 Fraser, H., Victoria, B. C.
 Fraser, W., Victoria, B. C.
 Fuller, J. W., Rapid City, S. D.
 Fuller, James, Rio Sulto, Chili.
 Halcro, A. J., Hudson, Que.
 Hall, A.
 Hambly, G., Proctor Knob, Min.
 Hammond, R. B. L., Melbourne, Australia.
 Harding, J. E., Sykston, North Dakota, U. S. A.
 Harper, W. H., Smith's Falls, Ont.
 Harris, C. C., Salmon Arm, B. C.
 Harris, C. B., Salmon Arm, B. C.
 Hawes, H., Spry Harbor, N. S.
 Haynes, W. T., Bridport, Dorsetshire, England.
 Hazel, George, 33 Melbourne Avenue, Toronto.
 Hicks, H. J., Mitchell, Ont.
 Hirsch, John, Park Road, Chester, England.
 Hulbert, T., Portage la Prairie, Man.
 Humfrey, W. H., Pincher Creek, Alta.
 Hunter, E. T.,
 Graham, W. F., Shuswap, B. C.
 Griffin, John, Newent, Gloucester, Eng.
 Grogan, R. N., Cheltenham, England.
 Ingram, W. H., Grand Prairie, B. C.
 Jackson, C. F., Westmoreland, England.
 Johnson, A. W., Belgrave, England.
 Johnston, H. R., Derbyshire, England.
 Jones, A., Pontrellis, Hereford, Eng.
 Jones, E. E., 5 Smith Street, Chelsea, England.
 Kearney, J., North Bay, Ont.
 Kelly, S. A. J., Boston, U. S. A.
 Kennedy, J., Mattawa, Ont.
 Kerr, F., Hanover, Ont.
 Ledingham, G. W., Dominion, Ont.
 Lee, B. H., Herne Bay, Kent, Eng.
 Lefroy, L. B., Ladner, B. C.
 Lindsay, W. E., Toronto, Ont.
 Lockhart, F. C., Kirkcaldy, Scotland.
 Logan, A. E. H., 16 Bouverie Road, Folkestone, England.
 Malalne, J. H., Oldham, England.
 McAllister, D., Dumfriesshire, Scotland.
 McDonald, A., Greenfield, Ont.
 McDonald, G. A., Alexandria, Ont.
 McDonnell, C. R., Kingston, Ont.
 McDuff, J., Point Fortune, Que.

Private—Corps—if not belonging to any Corps, Post Office Address.

- McKanzie, A. W., Bonny Rigg, Midlothian, Scotland.
 McMullen, J. H., Barnham, Court, Bognor, Sussex, England.
 McKae, D. J., Nashville, Ont.
 McCullough, R. J., Stonewall, Man.
 Melton, E. J., Poseyville, Md., U.S.A.
 Monteith, W. E., Rownham's Mount, Southampton, England.
 Morgan, H. E., Bissett's Creek, Ont.
 Murray, E., Gleichen, Alta.
 Murray, J. W., Hepworth, Ont.
 Nash, J. F. P., Goring-on-Thames, England.
 Nesbitt, J. L., Winnipeg, Man.
 Nicholson, C. J.
 Norton, F., Yalding, Kent, England.
 Norton, C., 4 Springfield, Erdington, Birmingham, England.
 Nonry, H. W., Victoria, B. C.
 O'Brien, A. W., Barrow-in-Furness, England.
 Ogilby, W. L., Poolewe, Ross-shire, Scotland.
 O'Hearn, W., Two Harbour, Minn. Oldham, P.
 Orchard, E. A., Sidmouth, England.
 Palmer, R. H., Army and Navy Club, London, England.
 Parkes, F. C., Kingsland, Herefordshire, England.
 Pearson, A. C., Hullet, Wy., U. S. A.
 Peterson, C., Copenhagen, Denmark.
 Parham, H. J., Chalford, Gloucestershire, England.
 Peddigrew, J., Bright, Ont.
 Pinkerton, T. A., Bangor, North Wales.
 Powell, C. J., Madras, India.
 Press, A., Brandon, Man.
 Pym, T. M. L., Melbourne, Australia.
 Radwell, A., Kilburn, London, Eng.
 Rennie, C., Regina, N. W. T.
 Robson, W., Liverpool, England.
 Routh, P., Toronto.
 Ryan, J., Dublin, Ireland.
 St. George, B. A., Cochrane, B. C.
 Seymour, E., Ragley Park, Alcester, England.
 Shaw, R., Wapella, Assa.
 Shaw, A. J. M., 41 Imaicko Agaba, Tokio, Japan.
 Stillingfleet, H. C., Rhayader, Radnorshire, Wales.
 Simon, A. B. J., Paisley, Ont.
 Skene, J. G., Revelstoke, B. C.
 Simpson, P. E., Aylmer, Ont.
 Spencer, J., Victoria, B. C.
 Squires, C., Kamloops, B. C.
 Strickland, C. S., Dawlish, Devonshire, England.
 Swift, T., Farnsfield, Nottinghamshire, England.
 Switzer, P., Carberry, Man.
 Simmill, J., Stafford Street, Newport, Salop, England.
 Swinburn, A., McKinley, B. C.
 Tennant, C., Gayton Terrace, Hampstead, England.
 Thomas, I., Newport, Mon., England.
 Thomas, H., Okotoks, Alta.
 Tuson, J., Winnipeg, Man.
 Venner, R. P., Guildford, Surrey, England.
 Warren, F. F., Vancouver, B. C.
 West, W., Nottingham, England.
 Wiggins, H. J., 24 Cobden Street, Rocksbury, Mass.
 Wilkie, J. H., 906 Lorne Avenue, London, Ont.
 Winearls, R. A., Martham, Norfolk, England.
 Winkle, W. C., 32 Niagara Street, Victoria, B. C.
 Wright, S., St. John, N. B.
 Woodhouse, F. W. B., Cape Town, South Africa.



Reinforcements First Contingent

OFFICERS

- CARPENTER, Captain A. E., R. C. R. I.
WINTER, Captain C. F., Governor-General's Foot Guards.
Egypt, 1882; North-West, 1885.
BOYD, Captain A. J., 10th Royal Grenadiers.
North-West, 1885.

Non-Commissioned Officers and Men

Private—Corps—If not belonging to any Corps, Post Office Address.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Aitken, R. C., 30th W. R. | Edwards, W., 71st Y. B. |
| Anderson, S., 8th R. R. | Evans, A., 8th R. R. |
| Arbuckle, George A., 4th R., C. A. | Evans, W. J., 10th R. G. |
| Ardagh, H. V., 8th R. R. | Fairweather, Percy, 62nd St. J. F. |
| Austin, E. F., 15th A. L. I. | Ford, J., 12th Y. R. |
| Bailey, P., 10th R. G. | Fraser, James A., 40th N. B. |
| Barnstead, Frank E., H. B. C. | Gerhardt, F., 10th R. G. |
| Beecher, A. V., 26th M. L. I. | Geen, E. D. F., 15th A. L. I. |
| Boulter, John W., 82nd Q. Co. B. | Gladwin, John S., Lacombe, Alberta. |
| Brown, Hubert G., 93rd C. B. | Gurney, Thomas F., 82nd Q. Co. B. |
| Browne, H. G., 3rd V. R. | Holl, Alfred J., 4th R., C. A. |
| Burrett, G. H., 43rd O. and C. R. | Horne, Robert, C. E. C. |
| Butler, J., H. C. C. | Harris, W. M., 82nd Q. Co. B. |
| Cameron, Robert W., C. E. C. | Hodgins, H. A., 2nd F. B., C. A. |
| Cameron, A. R. H., Russell House,
Ottawa. | Holloway, H. B., 3rd V. R. |
| Cowardine, W. H., G.-G. F. G. | Hooper, W. H., 43rd O. and C. R. |
| Convey, J., 8th R. R. | Horan, H. J., 3rd V. R. |
| Cook, Wm. C., C. E. C. | Hove, James, 74th B., S., N. B. |
| Coombs, Wm. E., C. E. C. | Hulme, T. H., G.-G. F. G. |
| Dare, Eric, 103 Provide St., St. Henry,
Montreal. | Jackson, L. F. V., 2nd Q. O. R. |
| Dodds, J. H. F., 30th W. R. | Jones, John, 71st Y. B. |
| Doucet, R. P., 3rd V. R. | Kennedy, Donald R., C. E. C. |
| Drum, A., 8th R. R. | Kirk, R. J., 10th R. G. |
| Dunlop, F. W., 3rd V. R. | Lake, F. A., 2nd Q. O. R. |
| Eaton, W., A. F. B., R. C. A. | Lamden, J., 5th R. S. |
| Edmondson, 10th R. G. | Lillie, C. W., 2nd Q. O. R. |
| | Lucas, L. W., D. Y. R. C. H. |
| | Lutes, B., G.-G. F. G. |

Private—Corps—If not belonging to any Corps, Post Office Address.

Macbeth, Thomas, L., 4th R. C. A.	Proud, W. J., 4th R. C. A.
Mackay, J. D., 40th N. B.	Puddifer, W., G.-G. B. G.
Mackellar, A., 5th R. S.	Rattray, E. E. B., 8th R. R.
McCarthy, V. O., 2nd Q. O. R.	Robertson, D., 62nd St. J. F.
McCormick, A. S., 2nd L. 3rd V. R.	Robertson, James M., 71st Y. B.
McDonald, N., 78th C. H. and P. H.	Russell, P., Q. O. C. H.
McDonald, M., 82nd Q. Co. B.	Scott, Harry C., Athol, N. S.
McEachern, W. A., 4th R. C. A.	Scott, C. C., 8th R. R.
McKerrihan, J. R. D., 2nd Q. O. R.	Sinclair, A., 48th H.
McNaughton, F. M., 8th R. R.	Smith, C. L., 63rd H. R.
Miller, C. J., G.-G. B. G.	Tennant, James, 71st Y. B.
Milliken, J. B., 26th M. L. I.	Tierney, George V., Prince St. Dart-
Mills, Thomas, H. B. C.	mouth, N. S.
Moodie, G. H., 43rd O. and C. R.	Turnbull, D., 43rd O. and C. R.
Mudge, H., 3rd V. R.	Walters, M. P., Hull, P. Q.
Munnis, Charles H., 63rd H. R.	Wandless, John, F., 71st Y. B.
Nicholson, John D., Provincetown,	Watson, Alex. H., 38 Tudor Villa,
Mass.	Eglantine Avenue, Belfast.
Nixon, C. J., R. C. R. I.	Webber, Maurice, E., 66th P. L. F.
Pardee, J., 27th St. C. B.	Webster, P. G. A., 48th H.
Pay, A., R. C. A.	Welch, George H., 15 Gascony Avenue,
Pepper, J. T., 2nd Q. O. R.	Brondeburg, London, England.
Phillips, Henry, 62nd St. J. F.	Wilson, James J., 17 South Hollis St.,
Pigot, James A., 4th R. C. A.	Halifax, N. S.
Playfair, S. B., 2nd Q. O. R.	Wolfe, P., 8th R. R.
Price, E. H., R. C. R. I.	Wright, T. M., 71st Y. B.



Reinforcements Strathcona's Horse

OFFICIER

ADAMSON, Lieut. A. S. A. M., Governor-Generals Foot Guards.

Non-Commissioned Officers and Men

Private—Rank, and Post Office Address of next of kin.

Anderson, G., Millarville, Alta.	Maddougall, J. G., 648 Rideau Street Ottawa.
Andrews, A. M., 37 South Grove, Highgate, London, N., England.	Malet, C. C., Hirewood Road, Merton London, S. W., England.
Bartram, W. B., Ottawa.	Martin, J. S., Market Drayton, Shrop- shire, England.
Blakmore, P. H. J., Car of Canada Life Assurance Co., Montreal.	McArthur, A., Lobo, Middlesex Co., Ont.
Bruce, G. B., Knee Hill, Calgary, N. W. T.	McDougall, J. B., Calgary, N. W. T.
Buchanan, J. J., Morden, Man.	McMillan, C. W., Gladstone, Man.
Burnet, David, Ottawa.	Morris, Cecil, 1 Albert Mansions, Brigh- ton, England.
Campbell, T. G., Orillia, Ont.	Myers, L., Winnipeg, Man.
Campbell, W. J., Maryfield, Assa.	Palmer, W., Lodge Road, Knowle, Birmingham, England.
Clampitt, J. H., Redjacket, Assa.	Paton, S. C., Toronto, Ont.
Carey, S. T. St. G., Care of H. S. King & Co., 65 Cornhill, London, E. C., Eng- land.	Preston, A. J., Folkestone, Kent, Eng.
Cooke, J. T., Cannington Manor, Assa.	Robertson, D., 192 Concession Street, Ottawa.
Della-Torre, W. J., Sydney, Cape Bre- ton.	Robinson, H. L., 12 Burlingham Road, Redland, Bristol, England.
Fowler, W. R., Hamilton, Ont.	Rose, D. W., Gladstone, Man.
Gilbertson, J. E., Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	Ritchie, D. V., 285 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa.
Greaves, J. B., Douglas Lake, Nicola Valley, B. C.	Shuttleworth, P. P., Petersfield, Hants, England.
Green-Armytage, H. R., Fergus, Ont.	Slocock, E. F., Goldwell House, New- bury, England.
Grey, Charles, Wellington, England.	Smith, W., McLeod, N. W. T.
Griffith, W. K., Perth, Ont.	Sparkes, F. D., Address unknown.
Hall, G. L., Calgary, Alta.	Sparkes, G. A. S., Care of Mrs. Vincent, Basset, Southampton, England.
Henderson, T. A., Moosomin, Assa.	Stewart, D. M., Westbourne, Man.
Heron, R. B., Scarborough Junction, Ont.	Stringer, A., 152 Wallwood Road, Ley- tonstone, Essex, England.
Heygate, W. A. N., 12 Bennett Street, Bath, England.	Tucker, R., Lacombe, N. W. T.
Howell, T. E., Waghorn, Alta.	
Hunt, W. de Vere, Millarville, Alta.	
Hutchison, W., Fergus, Ont.	
Isbester, C. J., 173 Daly St., Ottawa.	

Graduates and Cadets of the Royal Military College, Kingston, Serving in South Africa

- Denison, S. J. A., Major R. C. R. I., A. D. C. to Field Marshal Lord Roberts.
- Dixon, F. J., Capt. R. O., Historical Recorder, Canadian Contingent.
- Laurie, R. C., Maj. Strathcona's Horse.
- Campbell, H. M., Major Royal Artillery.
- Hogan, H. H., Trooper Duke of Edinburgh's Horse.
- Sears, J. W., Captain South Staffordshire Reg't.
- Cartwright, Robt., Major R. C. R. I., Special Duty, First Contingent.
- Greenwood, H. S., Lieut.-Col. 3rd C. D., Capt. 1st Battalion, C. M. R.
- Hodgins, A. E., Capt. Nelson Rifle Co., Lieut. A Co., 1st Contingent.
- Ogilvie, G. H., Major R. C. A., Capt. E Battery, R. C. A.
- Laidlaw, G. E., Lieut. Strathcona's Horse.
- Gray, P. E., Major Royal Horse Artillery.
- Van Straubenzee, B. W. S., Captain South Wales Borderers.
- Nanton, H. C., Capt. Royal Engineers.
- Carruthers, W. B. M., 14th P. W. O. R., Sergt. D Co., 1st Contingent.
- Strange, H. B., Capt. Royal Artillery.
- Chalmers, T. W., late N. W. M. P., Lieut. 2nd Battalion, C. M. R.
- MacDougall, J. C., Maj. R. C. R. I., Adjutant First Contingent.
- Sanders, G. E., Supt. N. W. M. P., Major 2nd Battalion, C. M. R.
- Von Hugel, N. G., Captain Royal Engineers.
- Duffus, E. J., Capt. Royal Artillery.
- Kennedy, J. N. C., Captain Royal Engineers.
- Girouard, E. P. C., Director of Railways, Lieut.-Col. Royal Engineers.
- Macdonnell, A. C., Captain 2nd Battalion, C. M. R.
- Kirkpatrick, G. M., Captain Royal Engineers.
- Smith, H. C., Captain Royal Dublin Fusiliers.
- Hensley, C. A., Captain Royal Dublin Fusiliers.
- Leader, H. P., Capt. 6th Dragoon Guards, Carbineers.
- Joly de Lotbinière, H. G., Capt. Royal Engineers.
- Barker, F. E. L., Capt. Royal Artillery.
- Williams, V. A. S., Major R. C. D., Major 1st Battalion, C. M. R.
- Dobell, C. M., Major Royal Welsh Fusiliers.
- Morris, E. M. Adj. Thorneycroft's Horse, Capt. Devonshire Reg't.
- MacInnes, D. S., Kimberly, Lieut. Royal Engineers.
- Van Tuyl, T. W., Lieut. D Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery.
- Scott, R. K., Captain Royal Artillery.
- Tacker, H. C., Capt. R. C. A. Adjutant Brigade Division, R. C. A.
- Panet, H. A., Capt. R. C. A., Capt. C Battery, R. C. A.
- Courtney, R. M., Capt. 1st P. W. R. F., Lieut. Strathcona's Horse.
- Burstall, H. E. Capt. R. C. A., Lieut. E Battery, R. C. A.
- Duffus, F. F., Lieut. Army Service Corps.
- Clinch, H. W., Lieut. Army Service Corps.
- Armstrong, C. J., Lieut. 5th R. S., Lieut. E Co., First Contingent.
- Leckie, J. E., Lieut. Strathcona's Horse.
- Magee, R. H. B., Lieut. Strathcona's Horse.
- Frith, G. R., Lieut. Royal Engineers.
- Cory, G. N., Lieut. Royal Dublin Fusiliers.
- Osborne, J. W., Lieut. Scottish Rifles.
- Kirkpatrick, G. H., Lieut. Strathcona's Horse.

Cantlie, W. H. N., Lieut. Royal Artillery.	Hamersley, H. St. G., 2nd Lieut. Royal Artillery.
Leach, F. E., Pte. 2nd Battalion, C. M. R.	Caldwell, A. C., Lieut. First Con.
Parks, J. H., Lieut. P. L. Hussars, Corpl. 1st Battalion, C. M. R.	Poole, H. R., 2nd Lieut. Royal Gar. Artillery.
Wood, C. C., Lieut. Loyal North Lancashire Regiment.	Ridout, J. Y. H., 2nd Lieut. Royal Gar. Artillery.
Lafferty, F. D., Lieut. R. C. A., Lieut. First Contingent.	Kaulbach, H. A., Lieut. Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Tobin, H. S., Lieut. Strathcona's Horse.	Jago, J. B., Sergt. E Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery.
Sosby, N. W., Lieut. 48th Highlanders, Gr. C Battery, R. C. A.	McLean, C. W. W., 2nd Lieut. Royal Field Artillery.
Hendrie, M., Pte. C Company First Contingent.	Magee, J. K. G., Pte. First Cont.
Bland, E. M., Pte. Strathcona's Horse.	Vernon, A. A., Pte. Strathcona's Horse.



Officers who have Resigned their Commissions and Enlisted in the Ranks for Service in South Africa

First Contingent

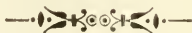
Anslow, C. W., Lieut. 12th F. B., C. A., Pte. G Co.	Mellish, A. J. B., Lieut. 82nd Q. Co. B., Pte. G Co.
Carruthers, W. B., Lieut. Graduate R. M. C. Sergt. D Co.	O'Meara, D. A., 2nd Lieut. 8th R. R., Pte. E Co.
Cowan, H. J., 2nd Lieut. Man. D. Pte. A Co.	Oxley, W., Captain. 93rd C. B., Pte. H Co.
Ferguson, W. R., 2nd Lieut. 93rd C. B., Corpl. H Co.	Rood, T. A., 2nd Lieut. 82nd Q. Co. B., Pte. G Co.
Gardner, J., Captain M. B. S. R., Corpl. E Co.	Rorke, J. H., Lieut. 31st G. B., Pte. C Co.
Gorman, F., Captain 27th St. C. B., Sergt. B Co.	Ross, A. L., Captain 30th W. R., Sergt. D Co.
Hulme, G. G., 2nd Lieut. 15th A. L. I., Corpl. D Co.	Southey, E. C., Lieut. 46th D. B., Lce.-Corpl. D Co.
Irvine, A. B., 2nd Lieut. 90th W. R., Corpl. A Co.	Stewart, L., Lieut. 82nd Q. Co. B., Pte. G Co.
Larue, L., Lieut. 87th Q. B., Pte. F Co.	Wall, A., Captain 16th P. E. B., Pte. D Co.
McCormick, A. S., 2nd Lieut. 3rd V. R. with reinforcements.	Wallace, T. G., Captain 36th P. B., Pte. C Co.
McCosh, P., Lt. 35th S. F., Pte. C Co.	Ward, G. L., Captain 68th K. Co. B., Pte. H Co.
McHarg, W. H., 2nd Lieut. R. R. Co., Corpl. A Co.	Whimster, P., Captain Man. D., Sergt. A Co.
Magee, J. K. G., Cadet, R. M. C., Corpl. C Co.	

Second Contingent

Armstrong, B. R., Captain 3rd Re- giment, C. A., Pte. 1st Battalion, C. M. R.	Jago, J. B., Lieut. Gr. R. M. C. Sergt. E B., R. C. A.
Arnold, R. H., Lieut. 8th P. L. H., Pte. 1st B., C. M. R.	Leach, F. E., Lieut. Gr. R. M. C. Pte. 2nd B., C. M. R.
Butler, A., Lieut. 1st P. W. R. F., Pte. 1st B., C. M. R.	Leach, W. D., 2nd Lieut. 46th D. B., Gr. D B., R. C. A.
Campbell, J. A., 2nd Lieut. 30th W. R., Gr. D B., R. C. A.	Markham, R. F., 2nd Lt. 8th P. L. H., Sergt. 1st B., C. M. R.
Campbell, J. A., Hon. Capt. H. C. B., Gr. E B., R. C. A.	Metzler, H., 2nd Lieut. 74th B., S., N. B., Pte. 1st B., R. M. C.
Cosby, N. W., Lieut. 48th H., Gr. C B., R. C. A.	Moorehouse, A. H., 2nd Lieut. 74th B., S., N. B., Pte. 1st B., C. M. R.
Garnett, C. E., Capt. 26th M. L. I., Gr. D B., R. C. A.	Parks, J. H., Lieut. 8th P. L. H., Corpl. 1st B., C. M. R.
Hayward, G. F. H., Lieutenant 3rd P. W. C. D., Sergt. 1st Battalion, C. M. R.	Read, H., Lieut. 46th D. B., Gr. D B., R. C. A.
Hope, R. S., Lieut. 20th L. R., Bdr. C B., R. C. A.	Rayan, R. H., R. of O., Corpl. 1st B., C. M. R.
	Warren, D. I., Lieut. G. G. B. G., Pte. 1st B., C. M. R.

Artificers Enrolled for Service with the Regular Forces in South Africa

<p>Belleveau, A. L., Saddler, 63 Patrick Street, Quebec.</p> <p>Blackwell, Fred'k W., Shoing-smith, 50 Elm Street, Toronto.</p> <p>Brierly, Joseph, Wheeler, 787 York Street, London, Ont.</p> <p>Cass, Patrick B., Wheeler, 93 Campbell Road Halifax.</p> <p>Cooper, John T., Wheeler, 18 Artillery Street, Quebec.</p> <p>Cumming, Geo. A., Shoing-smith, Meadowville, Ont.</p> <p>Dickey, William J., Shoing-smith, Campbellford, Ont.</p> <p>Hicks, John T., Shoing-smith, Welland, Ont.</p> <p>Lauder, George, Shoing-smith, 371 Burgess Street, Montreal.</p> <p>Laying, Wm., Shoing-smith, 118 Ossington Avenue, Toronto.</p> <p>McMillan, Donald, Shoing-smith, Winnipeg, Man.</p>	<p>McMoris, Rupert, Shoing-smith, 21 Poplar Grove, Halifax, N. S.</p> <p>Patton, J. A., Saddler, Corbetton, Ont.</p> <p>Pierce, Herbert McK., Saddler, New Glasgow, N. S.</p> <p>Poynter, Arthur, Wheeler, 20 Ellis Street, Toronto.</p> <p>Rankin, Hugh, Shoing-smith, Bolton, Ont.</p> <p>Smith, Alex., Wheeler, Carp, Ont.</p> <p>Smith, Horace, H., Saddler, Dartmouth, N. S.</p> <p>Smith, John, Shoing-smith, Port Perry, Ont.</p> <p>Speak, John, Saddler, 23 Yorshire Street, Burnley, Lancs., England.</p> <p>Thomas, William Henry, Saddler, Long Ashton, near Bristol, England.</p> <p>Wetmore, Henry A., Saddler, Mimicoe, Ont.</p> <p>Whiteoak, Norman, Shoing-smith, Markham, Ont.</p>
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CASUALTIES

Killed in Action, or Died of Wounds (1)

"Then, here's their memory;
May it be for us a guiding light,
To cheer our hearts for liberty,
And teach us to unite!"

J. K. INGRAM.

OFFICERS

Major Saunders, G. E.
" Howard, (Gat.)
Capt. Arnold, H. N.
" Hensley, C. A.
Lieut. Osborne, J. W.

Lieut. Wood, C. C.
" Blanchard, M. G.
" Borden, H. L.
" Burch, J. E.
" Chalmers, T. W.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Q. M. S. Elliott, T.
Sergt.-Major Pearson, J. A.
Sergt. Logan, A. E. H.
" Brothers, J.
" Edward, C. Parker.
" Scott, W.
" Bredin, H. H.
" Munsey, S. W.

Sergt. Evatt, E.
Corpl. Morden, J. F.
" Taylor, J. R.
" Goodfellow, R.
" Bradley, W. C.
" Latimer, W.
" Withers, F. W.
" Withey, B.

PRIVATEES

Arnold, T. G.
Angus, Jenkins.
Brown, A. W.
Barry, C. H.
Burns, O. T.
Clarence, C. Owen.
Cotton, H.
Cruikshank.
Dafoc, J.
Donegan, J. A.
Findlay, J. H.
Floyd, F. G. W.

Frost, W.
Ingram, W. H.
Jackson, C. E. E.
Jackson, W.
Johnston, Jos. M.
Jones, A.
Lee, B. H.
Léonard, J. W.
Lester, C.
Lewis, Z. R. E.
Living, F. J.
Manion, W. T.

Maundrill, A.
McCreary, P.
McQueen, A.
Neild, J.
Norris, F.
Orman, G.
Page, F. C.
Radcliffe, A.
Riggs, W. A.
Roy, A.
Scott, J. B.
Scott, L. B.

Sievert, J.
Smith, R.
Somers, J. H.
Spence, M. D.
Taylor, R. D.
Thomas, C. T.
Todd, J.
Wadell, F.
West, W.
White, H. B.
White, W.
Wiggins, W. J.

(1) This list is as complete as is possible, being from the official returns; and the readers will find mentioned the corps to which each man belonged on the Muster Roll. Now, if I do not note the name of the places where they were wounded, or died, it is because their glorious sacrifice was the same, whether at Paardeberg, Spion Kop, or elsewhere.



WOUNDED

OFFICERS

Lieut.-Col. Otter, W. D.	Lieut. Ingles, W. M.
“ Pelletier, O. C. C.	“ Young, H. W.
Captain Nelles, C. M.	“ Armstrong, C. J.
“ Turner, R. E. W.	“ Ross, J. M.
“ Macdonnell, A. C.	“ Masson, J. C.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Sergt. Ryan, R. H.	Corpl. Miles, R.
“ Hayes, W.	“ Brown, H. M.
“ Shreeve, J.	“ Moody, F.
“ Peppiatt, W.	“ McDonald, R. D.
“ Sippe, G. R. B.	“ Coombs, F. W.
“ Norways.	“ Smith, J.
“ Douglas.	“ Stevens, R. C. H.
“ Abbott.	“ McDonnell, C. R.
“ Vine.	Lcc.-Corpl. Van Norman,
Far. Sergt. McCulloch, D.	R. C.
Cr. Sergt. Thompson, C. H. D.	Lcc.-Corpl. Powell, L.
Corpl. Baugh, T. E.	Bomb. Hope, R. C.
“ Baines, H. H.	“ McCaskill, J.

PRIVATEs

Adams, W. G.	Burns, W. J.	Crawley, A. V.	Fletcher, Gr. G.
Allan, L.	Burney, J. A.	Davies, A. E.	F.
Andrews, H.	Bull, J. V.	Day, E. C.	Foster, P. R.
Armstrong, A.	Burns, D.	Day, J.	Fradshaw, H.
Aspinall, A.	Clarke, C. P.	Dickson, W. J. G.	Flynn, W. B.
Bagot, A.	Coggins, H.	Donohue, W.	Gibson, C. A.
Baugh, E.	Cole, A. E.	Downing, W.	Gifford, B.
Beach, A. C.	Coleman, J. D.	Duncalfe, C. W.	Gorman, J. F.
Brace, N. T.	Corley, J. B.	Durant, H. E.	Gray, J. W.
Bradshaw, J. L. H.	Culver, J. W.	Deering, R.	Gray, N.
Brown, F.	Childers, H. C.	Dodd.	Green, W. J.
Burns, R.	Carters, C. L.	Finch-Smiles, F.	Garner, A. C.

Greewall, F.	Lutz, J.	Monteith, W. G. S.	Sprague, F. W.
Harris, J. A.	Legott, M.	Niebergall, H. E.	Stewart, M. M.
Harrison, C.	Lord, J. W.	Neild, Gr. J.	Sutherland, A.
Haydon, A.	Marentette, V. F.	Nicks, J.	Sutton, J. H.
Hill, E.	Matheson, O.	Northway, T. J.	Switzer, P.
Holland, C.	Moore, T.	Paddon, A. E.	Seymour, G.
Holland, J.	MacAulay, A.	Parker, A.	Stuart, A. W.
Hudon, J. A.	McCollum, G. D.	Patton, Gr. W.	Sparks, C. A. S.
Harvey, J. J.	McCollum, Gr. W.	Pelky, A.	Taite, Gr. H. B.
Hammond, K. B. L.	McConnell, J. F.	Proulx, H.	Thériault, A.
Hare, W. R.	McGill, D. R.	Pratt, F. J.	Thomas, A. P.
Hudson, W.	McGiverin, L.	Palmer, R. H.	Thompson, C. C.
Jackson, Gr. R. C.	McIver, W.	Quinn, M. J.	Turner, A. J.
Johnson, Jas.	McKenzie, H.	Regan, W. J.	Unkauf, W. C.
Jordan, J.	McLaren, C. D.	Richardson, F.	Usher, J. F.
Kane, Driver J.	McLaughlin, R. H.	Ritchie, W. G.	Utton, F. W.
Kennedy, Jas.	McLaughlin, H. P.	Robarts, G. P.	Vanderwater, W. J.
Kidner, R.	McLean, A. R.	Robinson, J. B.	Vickers, J. R.
Kingswell, J.	McDuff, J.	Rorison, C. K.	Warde, S. M.
Kerr, R. J.	McGregor, S. J.	Ross, Dr. G. H.	Wayne, J. F.
Laird, A.	McCarty, P.	Robinson, Strath.	Wheatcraft, A. H.
Larue, L.	Marriott, T. H.	Scott, J. A.	Woollard, Gr. C.
Leavitt, H.	McArthur, A.	Shaw, A. C.	Watts, C. C. M.
Letson, J.	McDougall, J. C.	Simpson, A.	Whiteley, F. C.
Lohman, A. O.	Mulloy, L. W. R.		

DIED FROM DISEASES

OFFICERS

Captain Pearse, C.
" Sutton, F. H. C.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Q. M. S. Hunt, S. B.	Sergt. Clunnie, P.
Sergt. Beattie, A.	" Inglis, L. J. S

PRIVATEES

Adams, J.	Cooper, Dr. J.	Hughes, Tr. W.	O'Reilly, Gr. P.
Adams, W. G.	De Rochejacque-	Irwin, R.	O'Kelly, J.
Barr, H. B.	lain, A.	Kelly, G. M. O.	Picot, Gr. E.
Blight, W. S.	DesLauriers, E.	Liston, B.	Purcell, E. S.
Polt, G. H.	Duhamel, J. W.	Leit, R.	Purcell, J. J.
Bradley, Gr. R.	Dunsmore, R. J.	Larue, L.	Ramsay, D. L.
Bradley, Tr. G.	Daudy, Ch. R.	Moore, D. L.	Raspberry, J.
W.	Davis, L. S.	McMillan, Shoe-	Ross, W. J. H.
Bing, A. B.	Farley, J. E.	ing-sm. D.	Simmill, J.
Chapelle, M. C.	Forest, H.	McNicholl, A.	St-George, B. A.
Clements, H. H.	Farrell, G.	Mullins, E.	Valentine.
Curphy, J.	Harrison, R.	Merchant, E.	Woollcombe, J.
Cotterill, C. W.	Hull, W. A.	Maxwell, Fernel.	Zong, A. E.
Crowe, D. J.	Hampton, W. J.	McIntosh, Ed.	

EMBARKATION OF TROOPS

DATE OF SAILING.	FROM	STEAMSHIP.	LINE.	TROOPS.	OFFICERS.	N. C. OFF. AND MEN.	HORSES.	HORSES LOST.	ARRIVED AT CAPE-TOWN.
1899. Oct. 30th...	Quebec...	Sardinian...	Allan.....	1st Contingent.....	63	998	7	Nil	Nov. 29th, 1899
1900. Jan. 21st...	Halifax...	Laurentian...	"	{ D. & E. Field Batteries, { R. C. A.....	{ 22 {	343	263	26	Feb. 17th, 1900
Jan. 27th..	" ..	Pomeranian..	"	2nd Battalion, C. M. R....	18	304	295	9	Feb. 26th, 1900
Feb. 21st...	" ..	Milwaukee..	{ Elder Demp- { ster & Co..	{ 1st Battalion, C. M. R., { and C. & F. Batteries.	{ 28 {	605	614	38	March 21st, 1900
Mar. 17th..	" ..	Monterey..	{ Elder Demp- { ster & Co..	{ Strathcona's Horse, and { 100 men for 1st Con...	{ 34 {	613	599	163	April 11th, 1900
May 1st.....	Montreal..	Vancouver...	Dominion ...	Strathcona's Horse, extra..	1	50
				TOTAL.....	166	2913	1778	236	

APPENDIX

THIS Appendix is surely in place, especially in view of the death of the ever-to-be lamented Queen of England, and the manifestation of Canadian loyalty, on that sad occasion, so corroborative of the remarks contained in the first part of this volume.

The reader will, therefore, not be surprised to here find the expression of the most deeply loyal sentiments, not only by the Canadian people in general, but, above all, by the most eminent personages in the religious, military, political, civil and administrative spheres.

Apart from all this, these few pages have been reserved for the latest details that the arrival of the Second Contingent and of the Strathconas affords us ; for, as our work commences with the departure of our Contingents for the seat of war, it necessarily should not close until the return of the last soldier — otherwise our story would be incomplete and unsatisfactory. Moreover, we deemed it proper to here give the names of a few Canadians who have fought, or who are still fighting in various quarters of the globe. Such the purpose of this Appendix !

Consequently these concluding pages will furnish the reader with an account of the home-coming of the Second Contingent and that of the Strathconas ; the striking evidences of French-Canadian loyalty towards the British Crown ; and, finally, to mention but a few, the tribute we feel bound to pay to the memory of Major Hébert, formerly of the 65th and of "B" Battery, who died of enteric fever, in 1882, in Egypt. Nor shall we forget the number of *Canadian Voyageurs*, whom, during the expedition of 1884-85, the waters of the Nile swal-

lowed up, or the sands of the desert covered over forever. We shall also recall the death of the kindly Colonel Kennedy, of Winnipeg, who succumbed during the voyage, under the deadly influence of that terrible malady, even as did the regretted Captain Sutton, Sergeant Inglis, Private Deslauriers, and the half-breed Henderson — all of whom found a last resting-place beneath the billows of the great ocean. And again, there are others: Lieutenant E. Carsley, who died in India; Reverend Mr. Leslie, a victim of Chinese barbarism; Major Boulanger and Alfred Bergevin, at present in China; James Welch, of Port Hope; Oscar Grégoire and Adjutor Vohl, of Quebec, now in Manilla, and a great number of other Canadians of whom the press has largely spoken, and to whom references are still daily made.

Honor be to all the heroic ones who spread abroad, over the world, the fame of Canada and the renown of Canadian bravery and worth!

Honor be to the brave and valiant Strathconas, who have remained in South Africa to complete the grand work of the Contingents, and to whom it has been reserved to eventually deposit at the feet of Canada the crown of glory that shall for all time immortalize our Canadian Contingents.

GASTON P. LABAT.



RETURN OF THE 2nd CONTINGENT

From the *Gazette*, January 9th, 1901.

WHEN the booming of guns announced to those who had anxiously watched for some sign of the transport since Monday that the *Roslyn Castle* was sighted, the quarantine steamer and a tug raced down the harbor to meet her. On board the tug was a large party of ladies, some of whom were the wives of the returning officers. The moon was just rising, as the *Roslyn Castle* came within sight, and by its faint light the party on board the tug were enabled to see a flag flying at half-mast from the transport's after peak. Long before the tug came within hailing distance of the steamer the doctor's boat had reached it, and turned back to order the captain of the tug to put back to shore. The ladies on board piteously begged the doctor to tell them who was dead before they started back. On the doctor's boat was the Reverend Father Sinnett, who gently broke the news to Mrs. Sutton, one of the ladies who made up the light hearted party aboard the tug, that her husband, Captain Sutton, had died two days before the transport reached port. She could not realize for a moment the full meaning of what she heard. When she did her grief was pitiful. Mrs. Sutton had been one of the gayest of the little party on board the tug and did not attempt to restrain the joy with which she looked forward to meeting her husband again. She had only been married eight years when her husband answered his country's call to arms, and left her for South Africa. Some time ago Mrs. Sutton left for England, hoping to meet him on his arrival there, only to find that he was coming direct to Halifax, which she managed to reach just in time to welcome him.

“The first boat to leave the transport was the Government tug *Argus*, bearing the remains of Captain Sutton. The remains were enclosed in a casket and the young wife, who had travelled eight thousand miles to welcome her husband, received his dead body at the landing stage.

“Captain Sutton contracted enteric fever in South Africa, but was apparently in fairly good health. Towards the latter part of the voyage, when cold weather was encountered he was taken with pneumonia, and, although every human effort was made to save him, he died on Saturday last.

“The other officers' wives on the tug that met the transport were Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Ogilvie, Mrs. Drury, Mrs. Eaton and Mrs. Randolph. The meetings with their husbands took place on the deck of the transport with great tears of joy.

“The death of Captain Sutton was not the only one. Two days out from St. Vincent, Sergeant Inglis died of enteric fever, and his body was consigned to the deep, one of the chaplains performing the last sad rites. His body was shot down a plank into the water.”

Captain Sutton was highly appreciated by his chiefs and his men, as a good soldier, hearthy comrade, and by society, for his noble and distinguished manners. He was at forty-nine engagements, and his last battle was with and for God, who gave him the reward promised to every good Christian.

PRAISE FOR THE TROOPS

“When Colonel Lessard and Major Hurdman were interviewed they showed your correspondent the following communication they had received from General Smith-Dorrien just previous to the departure of the Canadians for home.

“To C. S. O., 4th Division, Middelburg : —

“ Sir,

“I have much pleasure in forwarding attached statements on the gallant behavior of officers of the Royal Canadian forces in the action of the 7th November, 1900, between Witkloof and Lilliefontein, the Komatie emphasize the fact that the behavior of the whole Royal Canadian rear-guard under Lieutenant-Colonel Lessard, was so fine



CAPTAIN F. H. C. SUTTON.

that it makes it most difficult to single any out for special distinction.

“There is no doubt the men sacrificed themselves in the most gallant way to save the guns of the battery, which they succeeded in doing.

“These statements, added to what I know myself, enable me to bring forward five names for special distinction. The four first of them I emphatically recommend for the proud distinction of the Victoria Cross, and the fifth for some special mark of Her Majesty’s favor.

“1. Lieutenant H. Z. C. Cockburn, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, with a handful of men, at a most critical moment, held off the Boers to allow the guns to get away; but to do so he had to sacrifice himself and his party, all of whom were killed, wounded or taken prisoners.

“2. Lieutenant R. E. W. Turner, later in the day, when the Boers again seriously threatened to capture the guns, although twice previously wounded, dismounted and deployed his men at close quarters and drove off the Boers, thus saving the guns.

“3. No. 185, Private W. A. Kinsley, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, in a most gallant way, carried out of action under a heavy and close fire No. 172, Corporal Percy R. Price, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, getting wounded himself in doing so.

“4. No. 176, Sergeant E. Holland, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, did splendid work with his Colt gun. He kept the Boers off the two 12-pounders by fire from his gun at close range and then, when he saw the Boers were too near for him to escape with the carriage, as the horse was blown, he calmly lifted the gun off the carriage and galloped off with it under his arm.

“5. Lieutenant E. W. B. Morrison, Royal Canadian Artillery, for the skill and coolness with which he worked and finally saved his gun.

“I have the honor to be, Sir,

“Your obedient servant,

H. L. SMITH-DORRIEN,

“Major-General commanding flying column.”

“After shaking hands with the officers, all were asked to give particulars of the deeds which received such substantial recognition, but all declined to discuss their actions in any other way than to state that they had done only their duty.

“True heroes in every sense of the word, their very modesty stamped them as soldiers of the do-and-dare character. None were more proud of such achievements than Colonels Drury, Lessard, Evans and Major H. Hudon, of the R. C. A., R. C. D., and R. C. R., respectively. While declining to make comparisons, the commanders were satisfied that they had been placed over men who would not contrast unfavourably with the best soldiers of the world. Like the men of the first Canadian Contingent, they had been thrown into contact with the pick of the British army, and in fighting and marching they ‘held their own, and a little better.’

“Colonel Drury, the senior officer, was one of the most pleased men on the trooper. He preceded the Canadian Artillery by several months, and joined “D” and “E” Batteries at Cape-Town. Under General Parsons they were taken to Carnarvon, where they did duty in the disaffected districts. Then they proceeded in a north-westerly direction and marched five hundreds miles. “E” Battery then joined General Warren and “D” Battery was detached to guard the line of communication.

LORD ROBERTS’ PRAISE

“But it was “C” Battery, under Major Hudon’s command, which, by its famous march to join Colonel Plumer, and which decided the relief of Mafeking, brought so much glory to the Canadian arms. It was that march which brought them to General Baden-Powell’s relief one-half a day before the historical siege was raised. Their guns were galloped for hundreds of miles, with the aid of relays of mules, sixteen to each team, and stationed twenty-five miles apart. It was the ride which brought forth from Lord Roberts the exclamation: ‘The wonderful, almost incredible, march of these Canadians!’

“At Pretoria, when the majority of the Second Contingent were drawn up before him, the British Commander-in-Chief again took advantage of the opportunity to express his high regard for the services of the Canadians, and thanked them for their efforts in behalf of the Empire,

ON MISSIONS OF MERCY

“But there were other heroes on board whose mission had been rather one of mercy than war. Chaplain Father Sinnett and Reverend Mr. Cox had done yeoman service in comforting the sick and wounded. There were also the young lady nurses.

“Canada’s daughters had not been behind her sons, and seven of these ministering angels accompanied the Contingent home. They were Misses McDonald, Russell, Forbes, Hurcomb, Affleck, Pope and Richardson. In their becoming costumes of khaki, with red trimmings, their rosy cheeks and bright eyes, they did not seem to have experienced much hardship. But these brave women had endured the trials of the others. They moved from place to place as best they could, lived on half rations, and slept, when the opportunity offered, in the open and on hard floors, and all without a murmur. They were from the first placed in the advance guard, and led the army to the Transvaal Capital. Hundreds of poor fellows had felt their kind touch and had been cheered by their sisterly sympathy, and many a ‘God bless you’ had followed these heroines, as they passed from cot to cot.

LANDING TOOK PLACE AT TEN

“The landing took place at the dock yard at 10 o’clock this morning. Two hours before three signal guns from Citadel Hill announced that the boat was to leave for the pier, and the rush for places of vantage continued for several hours. The general public were admitted at the north gate and Governor Jones, the military, Mayor and corporation, and relatives were allowed to pass at the south gate and take up positions on the wharf.

“As the vessel steamed up the harbour a salute of twenty-one guns roared their welcome from Citadel Hill, and the fire bells joined in the reception. Shortly after the troops left the steamer they were formally welcomed back to Canadian soil by Lieutenant-Colonel Biscoe, on behalf of the Imperial authorities. His address was brief, but appropriate. He said that it afforded him great pleasure to welcome, on behalf of the Imperial authorities, the men who had so gallantly upheld the old flag. As a Britisher, he felt delighted over the grand reputation the Canadian Mounted Rifles and Artillery had made on the battlefield. Their work and their achievements were brilliant. They had exhibited in no un mistakeable way that the soldiers of Canada were made of fighting material, second to none in the world. He was highly pleased to learn of the many brave and heroic deeds performed by the Canadian soldiers, but regretted that their ranks had been thinned on the field of action.

“In conclusion, he wished Lieutenant-Colonel Drury and those who had returned under his command long and prosperous lives.”

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR JONES' ADDRESS TO THE MEN

“Lieutenant-Governor Jones, addressed the returning Contingent as follows: —

“Lieutenant-Colonel Drury, officers and men of the 2nd Contingent :

“It affords me the greatest pleasure and gratification to extend to you, on behalf of the people of Canada a most cordial and hearty welcome on your return to your native land.

“During the time you have been absent the people of Canada have watched your movements with intense interest and satisfaction, and when, as on many occasions, your conduct in the field secured you the high approbation of your illustrious commander and generals under whom you have served, a feeling of national pride and satisfaction was felt from one end of the Dominion to the other.

“Every hamlet and cottage had an interest in your movements and shared in the pleasure that all felt at the credit you were reflecting on yourselves and on the country that sent you forth to battle in a righteous cause. You have nobly illustrated in your persons the qualities of the race from which you sprang. Worthy sons of worthy sires; and one of the brightest pages of Canadian history has been furnished by her gallant sons on the field of battle.

“Some of your brethren in arms, who visited England and who lately landed here, have received from her people every possible mark of national appreciation and gratitude; from the highest in the land, there was nothing but kind words and pleasant commendation for the services rendered to the Empire.

“Our venerable and sympathetic Queen, with an emotion that faintly concealed the depth of her feeling, expressed, in graceful and kindly language, her thanks for your devotion and her gratitude for your services to the Empire.

“I have witnessed the occasion of her kind words to a wounded soldier, standing on crutches before her, which was an event that must forever linger in the memory of all who were present.

QUEEN'S WORDS WERE FOR ALL

“The portion of our contingent now before us were not able to be present on that historic occasion, but you must not forget that every word addressed to those who were before her was intended for you all,

and belongs as much to you, one and all, as if you had been actually standing before her. Your services were the same as theirs, your devotion to duty and discipline had been equally great, your conduct in the face of a stubborn foe had been equally brilliant and effective, and you have a full right to share with your brave companions-in-arms the credit and commendation that was given to the soldiers of Canada.

“At the time when it seemed right that our people should share in the conflict for Queen and Empire the only difficulty the militia authorities had to contend with was how to restrict the enthusiasm of our people. No act of conscription was necessary to fill your ranks, thousands were only too ready to join the general battalions who were going forth to the seat of war. Our friends across the border, in their hour of necessity, could only fill their depleted ranks by an act of conscription, but the Old Land, as well as her various Colonies, has never been compelled to resort to that arbitrary manner of securing the services of her national defenders.

“Proud of their glorious country, her history and her institutions, they always have been, and always will be, ready and willing to proceed to the extremest corners of her possessions to fight under the flag which, as Kipling observes: —

“Because on the bones of the English
The English flag is stayed.”

“You men of the Contingent are returning once more to your homes. We earnestly trust that you may be spared a long life of honoured usefulness in the various walks of life with which you have been previously associated.

“Mr. President, I ask all present to join with us in drinking the health of Colonel Drury, his officers and men under his command.

HEARTS SADDENED BY DEATH

“But amid all our rejoicings our hearts have been deeply saddened by the death so near home of two of your gallant band, just as they should have been filled with the pleasurable feeling of reaching their homes and meeting those so dear to them once more. They had faced death in a thousand forms in the face of a stubborn foe, but they were summoned to the Great Muster-Roll at a time when their hopes

must have been high, and loving friends were ready to welcome them again.

“To those who have been so deeply afflicted are extended our most heartfelt sympathy and commiseration; and we pray that the Good Father of all may grant them His blessing and consolation.”

A NURSE AND THE WAR

ONE OF THOSE WITH BATTERY “D” TELLS OF HOSPITAL WORK.

“Miss Georgina Pope, sister of Mr. Joseph Pope, for many years private secretary to the late Right Honorable Sir John Macdonald, and now under-secretary of state, was one of the nurses who went out with the first Canadian Contingent. Miss Pope returned to Ottawa with “D” Battery, and is now the guest of her brother. Miss Pope, in common with the other nurses, was not allowed to go to the front, owing to the hardships incidental to such work. She commenced her labors in alleviating and caring for the sick and wounded at Wynberg Hospital and subsequently served in the hospital at Rondebosch, Kroonstad, and Pretoria. After January last, Miss Pope says, the cases which she nursed were almost entirely of enteric fever, which was of a very malignant type, with complications, and resulted in a heavy mortality.

“Speaking of the hospital question, Miss Pope was under the impression that the state of affairs had been grossly exaggerated. If the field hospitals were in any way defective, she stated that it was due to the inevitable horrors of war. Under the existing conditions it was not to be expected that such improvised institutions could be conducted as well as the regular hospital.

“At Rondebosch there were but thirty deaths in six months, and this, Miss Pope considers, speaks well for the hospital service.

“The nurse met Mr. Burdett-Coutts and also some of the hospital commission, but when they arrived the alleged cause of trouble had largely disappeared. The base hospitals, Miss Pope stated, were excellent.

“The nurse spoke very highly of the work performed by the Red Cross Society and stated that she and others were the recipients of many acts of kindness on the part of Lieutenant-Colonel Ryerson.”

AT THE KINGSTON BARRACKS

“There were the several members of the Reception Committee which was formed to make pleasant the stay of the Canadians in London — the Duke of Abercorn, chairman ; Earl Grey, vice-chairman ; Lord Onslow, Colonel Mackinnon, Captain Simpson, Mr. Fleetwood Wilson, of the War Office, Mr. Oliver Williams, and Major Balfour, of the Home District. The battalion reached the barracks at a quarter past 3 o'clock, and when the men were drawn up in the square Colonel Otter read to them the following letter, written by the Duke of Connaught to the Duke of Abercorn : —

“Royal Hospital, Dublin, November 27th.

“My dear Abercorn,

“I write to you as the chairman of the Reception Committee of the Colonial Contingents visiting England on their return from the Boer war to ask you to express my welcome to the Canadian Contingent arriving to-morrow. I wish I had been able to come over to see them personally. I have read with pride and pleasure the accounts of the splendid services rendered by the Canadian troops to the Empire in the numerous engagements in which they took part in South Africa. I also share with all Englishmen the feelings of sorrow for those brave Canadians who fell in this war.

“I am no stranger to Canada nor to her troops. I always remember with pleasure that I shared with her militia in the defence of her frontier during the Fenian invasion of 1870, and for which service I wear the Canadian medal.

“Wishing the Canadians a good time in England, and a happy return home.

“Believe me, yours, very sincerely,

“ARTHUR.”

“The final report of Lieutenant-Colonel T. D. B. Evans, to the Militia Department as commanding officer of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, contains the following, extract of a highly complimentary character, from a letter written to him by Brigadier-General Alderson, commanding the Mounted Infantry Brigade : —

“I should like to tell you how sincerely sorry I am that the Canadian Mounted Rifles are leaving the mounted infantry brigade.

Since the 1st of May last we have soldiered together, and I can honestly say that I have been very proud and pleased to have those people with me. Everything I have asked them to do has been done, not only thoroughly well, but most cheerfully. I should like you to know how the last has helped me along. Personally I do not think that orders are quite the place to give vent to one's sincere feelings, and, therefore, I write this semi-private letter to you to let your people know how proud I have been to speak (and to write home) about them as 'My Canadians,' and also how sorry, as far as I am personally concerned, though thoroughly glad for their sakes, that they are going, and how sincerely I wish them the best of luck in the future."

BENE MERENTI

"Lord Roberts' despatches mentioning those officers who deserved recognition for their services in South Africa are published in the London press. Among those specially mentioned are Major S. Denison, Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry, A. D. C. to the Commander-in-Chief.

"Captain Brevet Major and local Lieutenant-Colonel E. P. R. Girouard, D. S. O., R. E., Director of Railways, has carried out his duties in a highly creditable manner. The concentration of troops prior to my advance was carried out by him without a hitch, and he has recently performed valuable service in restoring through railway communication between the Orange Free State and Cape Colony.

"Lieutenant-Colonel W. D. Otter, Canadian Staff, Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency, the Governor-General of Canada.

"Major L. Buchan, Lieutenant-Colonel Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry.

"Major O. C. C. Pelletier, Lieutenant-Colonel Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry.

"Captain H. B. Stairs, Captain of 66th Princess Louise Fusiliers.

"Lieutenant and Adjutant A. H. Macdonnell, Captain Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry.

"Sergeant Utton, Private J. Kennedy, Private H. Andrews, Private J. H. Dickson, Private C. W. Duncafe, Private F. C. Page.

"Lord Roberts confidently recommends those named to the favorable consideration of the Government.

“General Warren in his report upon the attack on Faber’s Port commends Surgeon-Major Worthington, Canadian Artillery, for excellent work in the field, and especially mentions Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes, M. P. ; Major Ogilvie, of “E” Battery, R. C. A. ; and Captain Mackie, R. C. A., attached to Warren’s Scouts.”

“GAT” HOWARD IS KILLED

“London, February 24th.

“The War Office has received the following despatch from Lord Kitchener:—

“I regret to say that Major Howard, a very gallant officer of the Canadian Scouts, was killed February 17th.”

“The Major Howard referred to above is “Gat” Howard, who went out with the Mounted Rifles, in command of a machine gun, with the rank of lieutenant. He came to Canada in 1880, in charge of a gatling gun which was used in the fight at Batoche, when Riel’s position was taken. He had formerly been an officer of the Connecticut National Guard. On his return from the West, he was instrumental in establishing the Dominion Cartridge Company, at Brownsburg, near Lachute, of which he was manager. He volunteered for service in South Africa. On the return of the corps he remained in charge of his gun squad and later was given command of a corps of Canadian scouts, whose services have been several times referred to in the telegrams. He bade farewell to his returning comrades at Cape-Town, and returned to duty and, as it has turned out, to death.

“During the past week there was received from him by a friend at Ottawa a letter from which the following was published:—

“I have added to my battery a pom-pom, so we have quite a force, six colt guns, a pom-pom and 100 scouts. We have had two brushes with the enemy since you left, and made them hump each time. We were paraded by the General and given great credit. I may come back in July and recruit a regiment of half-breeds. The Boers are cutting up Hades around here, so you see the war is not over yet or likely to be for the next year. Give my best regards to all. I will meet you in England probably next June.”

“When the mounted men returned home Major Howard preferred to remain, and formed a corps known as the Canadian Scouts, drawn from men of the Canadian mounted Contingent who wished to stay on. Sergeants’ pay was given the men of this corps, showing the high regard in which they were held. On several occasions they distinguished themselves. Poor Major Howard has evidently exposed himself once too often.”

FORMER TORONTONIAN KILLED

“News was received of the death in action of Frank Douglas, formerly of Toronto. Mr. Douglas was a member of the Imperial Oxford Yeomanry and was killed during an action under Lord Methuen on February 16th. He enlisted a little over a year ago. Mr. Douglas was an old Upper Canada College boy and studied architecture in Toronto in the office of Mr. D. B. Dick. He had been practising his profession in London, Eng. Mr. Douglas was the third son of Mr. C. I. Douglas, Brampton, Oxfordshire, and a brother of Mrs. W. M. Boulton, of Toronto. Mr. George S. Holmsted, of Osgoode Hall, was an uncle of deceased. It is supposed that the action in which he lost his life was that at Hartbeestfontein, in which the 10th Imperial Yeomanry distinguished themselves.”



RETURN OF THE STRATHCONA'S HORSE

“Ottawa, January 14th, 1901.

“THE following cable was received at the Militia Department from Lieutenant-Colonel Biggar to-day: —

“Cape-Town, January 14th, 1901.

“Strathconas' sail for Halifax about 21st instant.

“BIGGAR.”

“Ottawa, January 3rd, 1901.

“The Minister of Militia is in receipt of a report from Lieutenant-Colonel Steele, Officer Commanding Strathcona's Horse, dated Potchefstroom, November 27th. The report commences with October 20th, and is tersely written, and of great interest. On the night of November 20th at Elandstadt, the regiment was ordered to cover the movements of the Imperial troops so as to enable General Barton to cross the Valley. One of the Imperial Regiments failed to connect and the plan failed. Then Colonel Steele was requested to send a troop to recall a body of Imperial Light Horse on the other side of the valley. The troops started and rode to what they thought were the Light Horse. That body had, however, retired, and the Strathconas had come within range of a body of the enemy who opened fire. The Strathconas retired. Private Read had his horse shot under him, and surrendered. During the night finding his guard asleep he escaped and rejoined.

“On November 11th, General Barton wrote ‘I cannot speak too highly of the practical and efficient manner in which the duty assigned

to your splendid corps was carried out by yourself, and all under your command. I have specially mentioned this in my report to the C. M. C.' General Barton regretted that the movement was not successful, and the loss of one man, and one taken prisoner. Colonel Steele commends Private Stewart for bravery."

THEIR LAST MARCH

"The following interesting account of the last march of Strathcona's Horse in South Africa before their departure for England was contained in a letter received in Montreal from a member of the corps :—

"The regiment left Pochefstroom by rail under orders to go to Aliwal North on the 28th of November. General DeWet was at this time threatening to cross the Orange River into Cape Colony, and our generals feared that the disloyal colonists would rise and assist him. At Bloemfontein, on our way south, we received fresh orders to detrain at Bethulie, near the Cape Colony boundary. We reached the place in the afternoon, and at midnight "A" and "C" Squadrons, under command of Major Belcher, joined a small column, under command of Colonel Long, R. A., which marched east to join the force under command of General Charles Knox. Passing through a very difficult rocky range of hills, the little column joined the force under General Knox.

STRATHCONAS IN ACTION

"The Strathconas were immediately ordered to join the advance guard, which was then in contact with DeWet. Moving forward, one squadron got under a very hot fire. Seven horses went down and three men were wounded and some more were hurt by falls from their horses.

"The rest of the regiment was then ordered up, and taking advantage of a donga, gained a farm house under cover, except for a short distance. A pom-pom was brought up, and under the direction of Colonel Steele, opened a withering fire on the enemy from cover behind the farm house.

"A force of mounted infantry, under Colonel Herbert, about this time turned the enemy's left flank. The Boers retired at once, and

though darkness was closing in they were closely pursued by the Strathconas and mounted infantry under Colonel Herbert. The pursuit was continued the following day, the rain coming down in torrents. A start was made at dawn, and a drift over the Caledon River reached at dusk. The heavy rains had swollen the stream. A halt had to be called until 3 o'clock in the morning, when the water went down again, and the troops were able to cross the drift.

“Continuing the pursuit for several days our boys succeeded in turning General DeWet from the Orange River, which he wished to cross, and compelled him to turn to the north again. Passing through Rouxville, Smithfield and Dewetsdorp, the corps caught up to DeWet's force again at Helvetia, and pressed him close. The following day the enemy again had a hard time of it but on the third day they put out a strong rear guard and only the skill and cunning of our boys saved the advance from a disaster. This was New Year's day.

ENEMY PUSHED NORTHWARD

“Finally towards evening the enemy were pushed further north and as darkness closed in our advance rode into the town of Lindley which the enemy evacuated after a short but warm skirmish. During the march the Strathconas covered about 400 miles at the rate of 20 to 25 miles a day. Owing to the rapid march the transport was exceedingly light and during the wet weather the boys had not enough blankets to keep the cold and wet out at nights. News from Elandsfontein, 13th January, says that the corps had marched 500 miles to date in pursuit of the enemy, in which the casualties were only one man and seven horses killed, and one man wounded.

“The regiment had Christmas dinner at Clocolair when they were in camp. Christmas night the Irish Yeomanry who were camped alongside our boys gave a smoking concert to which the Strathconas were invited.

“One man was killed and another wounded the 24th December. The Irish Yeomanry sent flowers to decorate the former's grave.”

IN AN ALL-DAY FIGHT

“A delayed despatch dealing with the pursuit of DeWet before he escaped from General Knox refers to an all-day fight near Bethulie, in which the Strathconas participated.

“The despatch says: —

“Soon after daybreak the Boers began firing at our outposts. The enemy held a strong position north of and parallel with the road.

“General Knox found Colonel Barker holding the several positions which he had gained the previous day, but the enemy’s centre was a very strong, rugged kopje, traversed by a solid stone wall, affording splendid cover.

“Along the foot of the kopje ran one of the branches of the Silk spruit, and up this a company of the Seaforth Highlanders attached to Colonel Barker’s column crept at the early morning. They were warmly received by the enemy, but they ultimately gained a farm house at the foot of the kopje, while on the opposite side the Boers held the end of the ridge, the eastern portion of which was held by Colonel Herbert.

“When General Knox arrived he ordered Strathcona’s Horse to support the Seaforth Highlanders, and they at once started off with this object. They received a heavy and continuous fire, but quickly took shelter in the spruit. Unfortunately, however, they took the wrong track, and on discovering their mistake, made a bold and plucky dash for some farm enclosures. They met with a terrific rain of fire, but gallantly persisted, galloping at full speed. They were forced, however, to return in conjunction with the Seaforths, having fought the whole day long, but having been well covered, their casualties were small.

“Colonel Herbert and Colonel Williams had meanwhile swung round to the right with great speed, and brought the howitzers of the 36th Battery to bear upon the Boer left. The enemy were unable to stand the lyddite shells, and retired hurriedly, but their centre stood firm till nightfall, and then also retired.

“When this despatch left, DeWet’s convoys, which are three miles in length, were proceeding northward.”

AN INCIDENT IN CHASE OF DEWET

“Kroonstad, O. R. C., January 10th.

“Lord Strathcona’s corps to-day ended its chase after DeWet and likewise its active participation as a regiment in the present campaign. Upon its arrival here this afternoon orders were received for mobiliza-

tion in preparation for an early embarkation for home, and steps in that direction have already begun."

"There are still roving bands of Boers lingering along the main roads leading to the railway with the object of capturing convoys sent out to the columns operating southward of this place. These are very bold and troublesome. They invariably attack the rear guard of every column or convoy passing along the roads. General Barton's column on its way in to Kroonstadt had rear guard fights with these rebels daily. The Strathconas figured in two of these, on both occasions having to hold off the Boers from daylight until dark. In these fights the Strathcona pom-pom did splendid service and saved the men on several occasions. In the last day's fighting the Strathcona pom-pom fired almost a thousand rounds of ammunition which speaks eloquently of the work the gunners had."

KING AND QUEEN ACKNOWLEDGE THE SALUTES OF CANADA'S ROUGH RIDERS

"London, February 14th.

"Though the Strathcona's Horse only landed this morning they occupied places within 200 yards of Buckingham Palace, the roof and precincts of which were crowded with spectators.

"Among the troops lining the Royal route to the Houses of Parliament, the Strathconas, clad in dark overcoats with grey cowboy hats and carrying rifles, looked business-like and bronzed.

"They were in striking contrast with the gorgeously uniformed Guards."

CHEERED THE STRATHCONAS

"The heroes of the crowd were members of the Strathcona's Horse, who came in several four-horse brakes, carrying their carbines and wearing informal, slouch hats and khaki overcoats. They alighted in front of the palace and marched down the line to a position a short distance from the palace, where they were drawn up while the procession passed. The King saluted them most cordially and the people cheered them repeatedly."

RECOGNIZED BY THE KING

“When passing them both the King and Queen, who were raised well above the heads of the crowd in the golden state carriage drawn by six cream coloured horses, and caparisoned in purple, were seen to half turn in their direction. The King and Queen bowed several times.

“Soon after the procession passed the Strathconas marched to the barracks.”

A MEDAL PRESENTED TO EACH OF THE OFFICERS
AND MEN

“London, February 15th, 1901.

“King Edward accompanied by Queen Alexandra, this morning inspected at Buckingham Palace 350 officers and men of Strathcona’s Horse. His Majesty presented the regiment with the King’s colour and gave medals to the men. A detachment of guards held the lawn of the West Terrace and the Canadians were drawn up in front of the terrace. The company present included Lord Roberts in full uniform; General Buller, the Duke of Connaught, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the Secretary of State for the Colonies; Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal who organized Strathcona’s Horse, and many army and court officers. The Royal Standard was hoisted over the palace as the King, wearing a Field Marshal’s uniform, and the Queen in deep mourning, appeared on the terrace, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, Prince Charles of Denmark and the Duke of Cambridge.

“His Majesty shook hands with Lord Roberts and General Buller, and the band of the Coldstream Guards played ‘God Save the King.’

COLONEL STEELE PRESENTED

“Colonel Samuel B. Steele, of Strathcona’s Horse, was presented to King Edward who proceeded to inspect the regiment.

“Returning to the terrace, the King handed a medal to Colonel Steele. Then the officers and men filed past a table, the King presenting each of them with a medal.

“The King’s colour was brought by an escort of Grenadier Guards to the foot of the steps, and His Majesty presented it to the Canadian cavalrymen, saying it had been the intention of his mother to present

it to the regiment, and that he now did so in her name, and in his own.

“The colour was borne to the regiment, the band playing ‘God Save the King.’”

THE KING’S SPEECH

“Afterwards the Canadians marched past, and the King, accompanied by Lord Strathcona, advanced and addressed the troopers as follows : —

“Colonel Steele, Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates,

“I welcome you here to our shores on your return from active service in South Africa. I know it would have been the ardent wish of my beloved mother, our revered Queen, to welcome you. Alas, that was not to be. But be assured she deeply appreciated the services you have rendered, as I do. I feel sure that in entrusting the King’s colour to you, Colonel Steele, and those under you, you will always defend it and do your duty as you have done during the past year in South Africa, and will do so on all future occasions. I am glad Lord Strathcona is here to-day, as it is owing to him that this magnificent force was equipped and sent out. I can only hope your short sejour in England will be agreeable and that you will return safely to your homes, friends and relations. Be assured that neither I nor the British nation will ever forget the valuable services you have rendered in South Africa.”

COLONEL STEELE’S REPLY

“Colonel Steele, thanking the King on behalf of the regiment, assured him that the people of Canada would always do as well as Strathcona’s Horse, if not better, and added that they were, ‘always ready to defend the flag, the King and the rights of the British Empire.’

“After three cheers for the King, the officers were presented to His Majesty, who shook hands with and thanked each of them.”

LORD STRATHCONA’S RECEPTION

“London, February 19th.

“London has rarely witnessed a scene of patriotic enthusiasm that equalled to-day’s luncheon given by Lord Strathcona, at Kensington Palace Hotel, to Colonel Steele, officers and men of the Strathcona’s Horse.

“Owing to the national mourning the gathering was of a semi private character ; but among Lord Strathcona’s personal friends present were Lord Dundalk, under whose command the Strathcona’s fought, Mr. St. John Brodrick, Secretary of State for War, Lord Aberdeen, Earl Grey, Earl Derby, Lord Stanley, and other prominent Englishmen.

“Lord Dundalk’s speech, recording the deeds of the Strathcona’s Horse, roused the gathering to the highest pitch of enthusiasm.

“Lord Strathcona received volley after volley of cheers from the officers and men of the Strathconas ; but the wildest cheering was reserved for General Buller, who unquestionably remains the hero of the fighting Canadians.

“We are,” said Colonel Steele, amid vociferous cheers, “going back to Canada to settle up our little affairs there. When we have done that, we are ready to go back to South Africa to fight for the Empire.”

“The Strathconas are being overwhelmed with kindness at their reception everywhere here.”

TWO BRAVE CANADIANS

“Ottawa, February 4th.

“Captain Fall and Lieutenant J. G. Leckie, of Strathcona’s Horse, have been recommended by Lord Dundonnald for the distinguished service order as reward for bravery in South Africa.”

STRATHCONA’S DEPART

“Toronto, February 23rd.

“An Evening Telegram’s special cable, dated London, February 23rd, says : —

“The Strathcona’s Horse received a most enthusiastic send-off this morning on their departure for Liverpool to sail for their homes in Canada. Though the hour was early, great crowds lined the streets. Lord Strathcona and the Duke of Abercorn were present at the station to bid farewell to the men. One hundred Strathconas remain in England on leave of absence. They will spend the time visiting relatives.

“On the way to Liverpool, the Strathconas met with a hearty reception at Rugby and Crewe.

“At Liverpool an enormous crowd had gathered, and the men were given a magnificent reception.

“The regiment marched through the streets to St. George’s Hall, where they had lunch with the Lord Mayor, who, with the Lady Mayoress, and a great gathering of the militia, received them.

“The Lord Mayor, in addressing the men, remarked that he would be glad to change places with the men. He welcomed them in the heartiest terms, and thanked them for the services they had rendered to the Empire, and wished them God-speed on their journey home.

“The people of Liverpool were wildly enthusiastic over the Canadians, and an enormous crowd assembled at the landing stage to witness their departure on the *Numidian*. As the steamer moved out of the harbor marvellous enthusiasm broke forth.

“Richardson, the trooper who won the Victoria Cross was recognized, and the crowds soon gathered around in an attempt to shake hands with the brave fellow. The Strathconas are immensely pleased and gratified with the reception accorded them in England.

“Most of the members of the Strathcona’s Horse, which arrived here from South Africa last week, left early this morning, and later embarked at Liverpool upon the British steamer *Numidian* for their homeward journey.

“The troopers were played to the station by a band of pipers of the Scots Guards. The large crowds which witnessed their departure and the rousing cheers showed the popularity of the Canadians.

“The color presented by the King was carried by a subaltern. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, the Duke of Abercorn and many other persons were present at the station to bid the troopers farewell.

“The *Numidian* sailed amid great demonstrations in honor of the Canadians.”

A STRATHCONA VICTORIA CROSS HERO

To the roll of heroes who can add the letters V. C. to their names may now be added the name of Sergeant Arthur Richardson, of Strathcona’s Horse. His cross was won at Wolfespruit, near Standerton, where thirty of the Strathconas, found themselves ambushed by some 200 Boers. In the retirement, under heavy fire at short range,

Sergeant Richardson saved a wounded trooper ; in doing so, Sergeant Richardson and his doubly-burdened horse had to gallop a quarter of a mile under heavy fire, until the steed was induced, by the stimulant of a Boer bullet striking him in the hoof, to charge a barbed wire fence which the gallant sergeant was trying to make him leap.

IN STRATHCONA'S HONOR

“A meeting of citizens will take place in the St. Lawrence Hall, on Monday afternoon at 4.30 o'clock, to discuss the proposal to erect a monument to Lord Strathcona.

“Lord Strathcona having expressed the wish that this movement in his honor should take some other form than the erection of a statue to him, a proposal has been made to unite with the Soldier's Monument Fund to obtain the erection of a suitable memorial of Canada's contribution of troops in the South African war, as well as of Strathcona's Horse.”

THE STRATHCONAS

THEIR FINAL HOURS IN LONDON WERE FULL OF ENTERTAINMENT. —
WERE PROUD OF GENERAL BULLER. — AN INTERESTING
INTERVIEW UPON THE CAMPAIGN WITH
CAPTAIN MACDONALD.

From the *Star*.

“London, February 23rd.

“To-day we see the last of the Strathconas. ‘Fine fellows all’ has been the general verdict, and again and again you would hear regrets expressed that Kitchener has not a thousand or two of such men to put on the trail of the slippery DeWet.”

“ When, as one of the guests, I reached the hotel I found the spacious hall and passages lined with Canada's Western warriors, bronzed and khaki-clad and to be distinguished from all the other khaki-clad troops that have been in London of late by the peculiar wide-a-wake character of their hats. The Strathconas might once have been distinguished by the brass letterings upon their shoulder-straps and the Strathcona arms upon the collars of their tunics ; but not one in ten had any such distinctive marks on Tuesday last. I

asked one of the officers why. 'Well,' he replied, 'the Boer girls have got those. They are great curiosity hunters and our boys were tremendous favorites.'

PROUD OF COLONEL STEELE

"The relations between Colonel Steele and his men are evidently of the best. They are proud of their commander, and they are proud to remember that he is returning to South Africa, when, to quote his own words, 'We have been to Canada to settle up affairs and see our little ones,'— as Colonel in the Baden-Powell constabulary force. Indeed one impression brought away from the luncheon was that here, at last, one had seen a happy military family. An explanation of this phenomenon might, perhaps, be found in a little incident, narrated to me by one of the officers. When the Strathcona's landed at the Royal Albert Docks, they were met by an Imperial officer with whom the deputed Strathcona officer proceeded to arrange the matter of deportation and journey to London. As the two officers were talking together, a Strathcona trooper came up and engaged in a conversation of the freest type, with the Strathcona officer. He was grumbling about something or other, and the officer gently reasoned with him and at length sent him away, quite satisfied.

"You allow your men to talk to you like that, do you?" said the British officer.

"Certainly, can't help it," was the Canadian reply.

"Well, I'd soon help it," was the British retort. "If one of my men talked like that to me, I would hand him over to the guard immediately."

"Oh, you would, would you? Well, let me tell you, that if you'd tried any of those high-handed ways with our fellows, in South Africa, you'd have been lynched at the nearest tree, or bulleted on the quiet at night."

A STRATHCONA OFFICER INTERVIEWED

"A conversation had with Captain Macdonald, of the Strathcona, at the Kensington Palace Hotel last Thursday, will be of interest to Canadian readers. When found, the Captain was strolling up and down a corridor of the hotel deep in conversation with Colonel Steele, arranging for to-day's journey to Liverpool. But he spared a few minutes.

“Glad to get home?” the interviewer ventured.

“To see one’s friends and get sight of the country again, of course.”

“Do you intend remaining in Canada?”

“Captain Macdonald laughed, but would not commit himself. “You see,” he said, “I am a lawyer at home, and a lawyer’s life is a little different to the one I have been leading during the last year or so. The spirit of roving is upon me and I don’t think I could ever settle down to humdrum office work again.”

“Are many of your men returning to South Africa?”

“About a hundred, I believe, to join Baden-Powell’s constabulary. Then we left thirty-two behind on private business, and these probably intend to settle or obtain civil employment of some kind. The Colonel himself will not remain long in Canada, returning to South Africa to take up a command in the Police.”

“Speaking as a Canadian, were you struck with the prospects for settlers in South Africa?”

“Well, the country is good enough if you go to the right place. Some of the valleys we passed through were wonderfully fertile and splendidly adapted for fruit farming. It is a curious fact, though, that the fruit is very flavourless and that though roses flourish, they have no smell. The country is not to be compared with Canada, especially with my own Province, Ontario.”

“Did you see much of the British Tommy in action?”

“The British Tommy?” said the Captain, “he’s simply grand. That is the only way I can describe him. I never want to see anything finer than the way in which the Rifle Brigade stormed a Boer position near Machadodorp. The Boers were well concealed on a rocky kopje and the Rifle Brigade had to advance along a piece of level open ground to get at them. We were posted on a hill protecting the left flank of the British troops and got a good view of the long lines of khaki figures as they advanced, keeping their distances splendidly. Of course, they lost heavily — over a hundred casualties, I believe — but helped by the accurate fire of our artillery, with well placed lyddite and sharpnell, they turned those Boers out with heavy loss.”

“What of British generalship and the British officer?”

“We saw little of Lord Roberts, but he was undoubtedly much too lenient. Lord Kitchener, in my opinion, is just the man for the work. The notion of his undue severity is quite a mistaken one. The

officer who takes his business seriously and means to get on has no better friend. To the lazy, eye-glassed officer, however, he is deservedly a terror. We, of course, had most to do with Buller. His popularity with our men is extraordinary. As an instance, at the King's review last week they asked as a special favour that they might be allowed to cheer him. This, too, although Lord Roberts was present. Naturally the Colonel could not allow it. As for the British officer generally, he is a splendid fellow, always treated us well, and as brave as could be. Some they are sending out now are terribly young, though they seem to lack nothing in pluck."

"What did you think of the Canadian horses?"

"We used them all the time until we reached Pretoria, and found they stood the hard work well. The Argentine horses were very poor in comparison."

STRATHCONA'S HORSE, ARRIVES

From the *Star*.

"Halifax, N. S., March 8th.

"As daylight was breaking on the Nova Scotia coast the staunch ship *Numidian*, with Strathcona's Horse on board, came within sight of the entrance to Halifax harbour. The Captain of the liner was not sorry that the fourteen days' voyage was over, and Colonel Steele and his brave men were more than glad once more to be within hailing distance of Canadian soil. The regiment will be rushed forward without delay, the whole corps proceeding direct from the ship's side to Ottawa. There will be no stay in this city. The men will have dinner on board the *Numidian* as she lies at anchor in the stream, having been paid off in the meantime, and early in the afternoon they will disembark and entrain for Ottawa. The voyage was uneventful except that for the first four days particularly rough weather was experienced. As the ship passed Cape Clear, she encountered a gale which continued day after day. The sea was heavy and the winds were contrary. Even after the long voyage from South Africa, there were very few of the men who escaped at least a touch of sea-sickness."

ONE CASE OF SERIOUS ILLNESS

"Sergeant Miller, of Ottawa, was one of the first men the *Star* correspondent met when he boarded the steamer in mid-stream. He

said that the health of the men generally on the voyage out had been good with no mishaps of any kind. There was only one exception to this pleasant state of affairs, and this was the serious illness of Private A. Robinson of "C" Squadron, who is down with pneumonia. Last night Robinson's condition was so serious that he was hardly expected to live, but to-day he is a shade better and will be removed to the military hospital. Sergeant Miller says that of the thirty-one officers who went out, eighteen return, and of the 569 men, 262 are on board. When Strathcona's Horse left Cape-Town, the regiment had 515 of all ranks. Of these 145 remained in England, on furlough, pending discharge. The regiment has lost 26 men by death since sailing from Halifax a year ago, of whom 12 were killed and 14 died from illness. Thirty-eight of the Strathcona's remain in South Africa in other corps, a number of them having received commissions, and 26 more stay behind there to engage in private business. Two of the Strathconas died of enteric fever in England. Such, in brief, was the interesting statistical story told of Strathcona's Horse, by Sergeant Miller. He said before I left him, that there were three horses on board belonging to officers, one of them an Ottawa man. These horses have had to subsist, since leaving Liverpool, on potato peelings, for no hay was taken on board the *Numidian*."

INDIGNANTLY DENIES STORY

"Colonel Steele was breakfasting with Mrs. Steele, who was here awaiting him, the Captain of the steamer, Colonel Irving, D. O. C., and a number of other local officers, when I boarded the steamer. He looks not a day older for his year's service, just as cool and nonchalant as the day he marched the regiment through the streets of Halifax to board the troopship for Africa. The first thing that occurred to me was to ask him about the story told by an Australian war correspondent, of cruelty to Boers practised by Colonel Steele's men. The Colonel did not feel at first much like talking, but that Australian yarn warmed him up.

"The story is absurd," he said. "Our corps is noted for its humaneness. We never saw an Australian all the time we were in South Africa. Our lot was cast with other corps. No colonials were in our column, except the South African Light Horse, a splendid corps, and Thornycroft's and Beaton's Horse, all first rate regiments.

Our men were most considerate to the enemy on many occasions when severe measures would have been excusable. Boers were more than once caught crawling up to shoot our sentries in the dark, yet they were only taken prisoners and brought in. I have had considerable experience with men, and am prepared to say that there was no more cruelty displayed by Strathcona Horse in South Africa, than there is to-day among the North-West Mounted Police, and we all know what that body is like. There is no better body of men living. Strathcona's Horse have done honour to their country. They obeyed orders strictly and we always had magnificent discipline.

WELCOMED BY BOER LADIES

“They were kind to women and children, so much so that Boer ladies were always anxious for the regiment to camp in their vicinity, for they knew from experience that they would be sure of the kindest treatment. The soldiers of the regular British army also were exemplary in this respect. This war has been conducted on humane lines.

“Yes, I am glad to be back,” Colonel Steele said, in response to an inquiry, and when I asked him what about the future, he said: —

“I have been offered the command of the Petersburg district of South Africa and I may accept. Whether I shall or not depends on circumstances.”

“Colonel Steele referred to the record of Strathcona's Horse in South Africa, remarking that he had heard reports that his corps had ‘raised Cain’ in some towns. His sufficient answer to that was that the regiment had not been in Cape-Town on its way home, more than to pass direct from the train to the steamer.

LORD STRATHCONA PROUD OF MEN

“People have to remember,” Colonel Steele said, “that there are no scrubs in our regiment. They are the sons of Canadian farmers and gentlemen. What we did as soldiers in the field and on the march I leave to our Generals to say, but of their good conduct I can speak. Lord Strathcona is proud of his men. In London they were the talk of the clubs. They looked magnificent when paraded before the King. All the officers were presented to him. Lord Strathcona gave the men two banquets in the Empress room of the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington. Among those present were the Duke of Aber-

corn, the Marquis of Hertford, Lord Dundonald and many noble men. Lord Strathcona presided, and most complimentary remarks were made of our regiment. Lord Dundonald, who commanded the Third Mounted Brigade, to which the Strathcona's belonged, stated that on the field we took everything seriously, and that our regiment was made up from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot of men. Lord Strathcona spoke of the great pleasure it was to have his name connected with the regiment.

"Lord Strathcona, the Duke of Abercorn and Lord Dundonald, saw us off at 7 o'clock in the morning when we left London. At Liverpool we were given a splendid banquet in St. George's Hall. The officers were presented to the Lord and Lady Mayoress, who received in state. All the military staff were present and there were ten thousand people in the galleries of the hall. After the banquet, the regiment marched to the City Hall, the streets lined with a dense mass of citizens, eager to catch a glimpse of us. The Lord Mayor addressed us in terms highly complimentary to the regiment, and to Canada."

GALLANTRY OF CANADIANS

"Before finishing his talk with your correspondent, Colonel Steele said: —

"Our regiment was always delighted to hear of the gallantry of comrade regiments from Canada. We went to do our duty for Canada and the Empire, and we are glad to know that no regiments were more thought of than Colonel Otter's, the Canadian Artillery, and the Dragoons and Mounted Rifles. There was only one opinion of the Canadians among the British troops, and that was that they were highly efficient and worthy of all respect."

STRATHCONA'S LEAVE

COLONEL STEELE'S PATRIOTIC SPEECH. — HE ASKS HIS MEN
NEVER TO FORGET THAT THEY ARE CANADIANS.

— BE EVER LOYAL TO THE EMPIRE.

"Halifax, N. S., March 9th.

"The military special with the Strathcona Horse, hauled by two engines, left over the International at 7 o'clock last evening.

"One of the features of the afternoon was Lieutenant-Colonel Steele's address to the men, every word of it ringing with patriotism.

“After reviewing the men, Colonel Steele said: ‘I thank you Colonel White, officers and men of the Third Royal Canadian Regiment, for the honour you have done Strathcona’s Horse on receiving us in this way on this occasion. I wish to congratulate you on the fine appearance and discipline of your men.’”

“Then, turning straight round to squarely face the men of the guard of honour, his face grave and earnest, rivetting every eye, and thousands straining their ears to hear every word, he said: —

“Boys, never forget that you are Canadians, and that Canada, as a country, has no superior in the wide world. Always be ready to take up arms to defend the Empire whenever occasion calls. The corps you have welcomed home to-day, raised by that patriotic Canadian, Lord Strathcona, have endeavoured in a quiet way to deserve the respect of the Imperial troops in South Africa by endurance and attention to duty. We have not done much, but

WE HAVE DONE OUR DUTY

to the best of our ability. In returning home we have a picture in our mind of a quiet farmhouse, and it should be characteristic of a Canadian that he can convert himself into a soldier and back again into a citizen as required. The Strathconas are proud of being Canadians, and I hope that the young men in particular will always remember that they are Canadians first. I have served in the ranks and carried a rifle many a long day, and can advise you from experience to always endeavour to do your duty in whatever position you are placed, and in the assurance that if you try you can succeed.

“I thank you again for the honour you have done the Strathconas this day.”

“Concluding his brief remarks, the Colonel said, with fine effect: ‘Remember Canada. She is all right.’”

“At this the immense gathering burst into cheers, and the band of the Third Royal Canadian Regiment struck up the Maple Leaf.

“Women pressed forward eager to get a grasp of the Colonel’s hand, and one old Irishwoman ejaculated: ‘That’s good, Colonel; you’ve given us a real Canadian speech.’”

THE KING'S COLOURS

“The King’s colours, presented to Strathcona’s Horse in London, is a really beautiful flag. It is a silk Union Jack about 2½ feet by 3½ feet. The staff is richly mounted in gold, with tassels hanging from the top. On the staff is a silver tablet, with the following inscription: —

PRESENTED BY

His Most Gracious Majesty Edward VII.

KING AND EMPEROR

TO

Lord Strathcona’s Corps

*In recognition of services rendered to the Empire in
South Africa in 1900.*

“It is decided the colours will be placed in Lord Strathcona and Mount Royals’ Private Gallery.

“A group was formed on the *Numidian’s* deck just before the regiment disembarked. The group was composed of Lieutenant Leckie, holding the colours, with Sergeant Murphy and Sergeant Trail on either side with rifles at guard, and in this position they were photographed. Colonel Steele appears in the photo a little to the rear on the left.”

HONOURS FOR COLONEL STEELE

HE IS APPOINTED TO FOURTH CLASS OF VICTORIAN ORDER.

“London, March 9th.

“Lieutenant-Colonel Steele, of Strathcona’s Horse, has been appointed to the fourth class of the Victorian Order.”

The End Crowns the Work.

LOYALTY

THE GOOD QUEEN

“**I** WILL be good,” said the Princess Victoria at the age of eleven, when she first learned that she was heir to the throne.

“It is because she has been good that all the world loves her. Only those who met her could appreciate the charm of her personality, but all the world knew of her goodness. The Queen’s name is always respectfully and even warmly greeted, not because she is Queen, but because there is a general feeling that she is one of the best women that ever lived.

“There can be no doubt that the moral tone of the British Empire is higher because Queen Victoria has reigned over it so long and her influence for good has not been confined to the British Empire.”

A WARM TRIBUTE FROM LORD STRATHCONA

“London, January 22nd.

“Speaking from a Colonial standpoint, Lord Strathcona, Canadian High Commissioner in London, said : —

“The Queen’s serious illness will cause deep sorrow in every part of Her Majesty’s Dominions. Hope will everywhere prevail that our great Queen will soon be restored to her usual health. Her influence for good throughout the Empire stands as one of the most marvellous and beneficent things in the modern political world.”

L A REYNE EST MORTE

"London Times, January 23rd.

Mother of Mothers, Queen of Queens,
 Ruler of Rulers, Lord of Lords ;
 War harvests, but the Reaper gleans
 A richer prize than Swords.

God help our England, for we stand
 Orphaned of Her who made us one ;
 The Honour of the Fatherland,
 Her Hope, Her Trust, Her Sun.

Afar, where Summers burn and glow,
 The subject Peoples of our race
 Shall see their stricken Master go
 With tears upon his face.

The Nation, at her dying, born,
 Shall weep beneath the Southern Cross,
 And with her Mother-Country mourn
 Irreparable loss.

The scattered Islands of Her Realm
 Shall droop the emblem of Her sway
 Who through the long years grasped the helm—
 Through the laborious day.

And flashing lights shall signal far
 Their tidings to the passing ships,
 To tell the sinking of Her Star,
 Her sorrowful eclipse.

Oh Mother Queen ! God's honoured guest,
 Who greatly welcomes those who bring
 Thy great credentials : thine His rest !
 Amen ! God Save the King."

THE VIRTUES AND GREATNESS OF QUEEN VICTORIA

BY ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

(Special to the *Star*.)

"London, February 1st.

"Ella Wheeler Wilcox has written a poem extolling the virtues and greatness of Queen Victoria as follows : —

Colossal woman of an epoch past
Your long, eventful pilgrimage is done ;
Yet, shall the influence of your goodness last
When later centuries their course have run.

Imperial, not imperious, was your sway —
More than an Empress, greater than a Queen.
The watchful world beheld in you always
A virtuous woman of benignant mien.

Peace was your purpose, progress was your aim,
Fair justice was your large soul's honoured guest ;
When war, relentless and resistless, came,
The tender heart broke in your woman's breast.

No impious lust for power defiled your mind ;
Concerned with but the ultimate good of earth —
Because you lived shall unborn rulers find
A nobler meaning in Imperial birth."

KING EDWARD'S MESSAGE TO HIS PEOPLE O'ER
THE SEAS.

"King Edward VII. has sent the following message to all the British Colonies and Dependencies : —

"To My people beyond the Seas,

"The countless messages of loyal sympathy that I have received from every part of my dominions over the seas testify to the universal grief in which the whole Empire now mourns the loss of my beloved mother.

“In the welfare and prosperity of her subjects throughout Great Britain, the Queen ever evinced a heartfelt interest. She saw with thankfulness the steady progress which, under the wide extension of self-government, they had made during her reign. She warmly appreciated their unflinching loyalty to her throne and person, and was proud to think of those who had so nobly fought and died for the Empire’s cause in South Africa.

“I have already declared it would be my constant endeavor to follow the great example which has been bequeathed to me.

“In these endeavors I shall have confident trust in the devotion and sympathy of the people, and of their several representative assemblies throughout my vast colonial dominions. With such loyal support, I will, with the blessing of God, solemnly work for the promotion of the common welfare and security of our great Empire, over which I have now been called to reign.

“EDWARD, REX.”

“The King has sent a special message to the people of India, and a greeting to the ruling chiefs of the native states.”

THE GOVERNMENT

PROCLAIMED A HOLIDAY. — THE OFFICIAL DECREE SUSPENDING
BUSINESS IN THE DOMINION. — BANKS AND PUBLIC
OFFICES WILL ALL BE CLOSED.

“Ottawa, February 1st, 1901.

“As was announced yesterday would be the case, the Secretary of State last night issued a proclamation appointing Saturday to be a public holiday. The proclamation reads : —

“To all to whom these presents shall come, or whom the same may in anywise concern, greeting : —

PROCLAMATION

“David Mills, Attorney-General, Canada : —

“Whereas, Saturday, the second day of February, has been fixed for the obsequies of her late Majesty our Royal Mother of Blessed and Glorious Memory ;

“ And, whereas, well knowing that our deep grief is shared by our loving subjects in Canada, we are desirous to afford them an opportunity of testifying their sorrow and their sympathy with us in the grievous affliction which has befallen us and them ; now therefore we have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Privy Council for Canada, to appoint and set apart, and we do hereby appoint and set apart, Saturday, the second day of February next, as a public holiday to be observed as a general day of mourning by all persons throughout our Dominion of Canada.

“ In testimony whereof, we have caused these our letters to be made patent and the great seal of Canada to be hereunto affixed.

“ Witness our right and trusty and right well-beloved cousin the Right Honourable Sir Gilbert John Elliott, Earl of Minto and Viscount Melgund of Melgund, county of Forfar, in the peerage of the United Kingdom, Baron Minto of Minto, county of Roxburgh, in the peerage of Great Britain, baronet of Nova Scotia, Knight Grand Cross of our most distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, etc., etc., Governor-General of Canada.

“ At our Government House, in our city of Ottawa, this thirtieth day of January, in the year of Our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and one, and in the first year of our reign.

“ By command,

“ R. W. SCOTT,

“ Secretary of State,

“ God Save the King.”

A ROYAL VISITOR

“ Ottawa, February 7th.

“ The formal opening of Parliament took place this afternoon at three o'clock, when His Excellency in all the State consistent with Court mourning, and escorted by the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, drove to Parliament Hill, where he was received by a guard of honour of the Governor-General's Foot Guards. As His Excellency passed over Dufferin Bridge, a vice-royal salute was fired by the Ottawa Field Battery from Nepean Point. His Excellency having entered the Senate Chamber, the Black Rod was despatched to summon the Commons, who arrived headed by Mr. Speaker Brodeur, preceded by the Sergeant-at-arms carrying the Mace.

“Honorable Mr. Brodeur informed His Excellency that he had been chosen Speaker by the House of Commons, and in the name of that House demanded ‘Freedom of speech in debate,’ a privilege which even the impetuous Tudor Queen Elizabeth apologized for having unduly criticized: ‘The preservation of their undoubted and ancient rights and privileges and access to His Excellency’s person at all reasonable times.’

“His Excellency then delivered the speech from the Throne, as follows:—

“Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate, Gentlemen of the House of Commons:—

“Since our last meeting the Empire has been called on to lament the demise of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria. The universal regret and sympathy with which the tidings of her decease have been received throughout the entire civilized world afford the best testimony to the manner in which she has at all times discharged her duties both as a woman and a Sovereign throughout her unprecedentedly long and glorious reign, and I will venture to add that in no portion of her vast territories were those sentiments more profoundly felt than in the Dominion of Canada. You will, I am sure, take early action to express your sympathy with the royal family in their bereavement and your loyalty to the new Sovereign.”

CANADIAN CONTINGENT

“The Canadian Contingents to South Africa have nearly all returned, and it affords me a very great gratification to be able to assure you that the valour and good conduct of our Canadian soldiers have called forth the highest encomiums from the several commanders under whom they have served during the arduous contest.”

ADDRESS TO THE KING

“Sir Wilfrid moved the address, which was as follows:—

“To the King’s Most Excellent Majesty:—

“Most Gracious Sovereign,

“We, Your Majesty’s dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate and House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled, humbly beg leave to approach Your Majesty with the expression of our deep and

heartfelt sorrow at the demise of our late Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria.

“In common with our fellow-subjects in all parts of the Empire, we deplore the loss of a great ruler, whose manifold and exalted virtues have for three generations commanded the respect and admiration of the world.

“As representatives of the Canadian people we mourn for the beloved sovereign under whom our Dominion first rose into being, and to whose wise and beneficent sway are due in no small measure its growth and prosperity.

“May we venture to add that above and beyond these sentiments which the sad occasion naturally calls forth there has come to each one of us a sense of personal bereavement, which, we say it with all possible respect and duty, makes Your Majesty’s sorrow our own.

“We pray that the God of Consolation may comfort Your Majesty and the members of the royal family in their affliction.

“It is with feelings not less deep and sincere than those to which we have just given utterance that we hail Your Majesty’s accession to the throne of your ancestors. We beg to assure Your Majesty of our devoted attachment to Your Majesty’s person and Government, and to express our unclouded confidence that the glory and the greatness of the British Empire abroad, and the happiness and well-being of Your Majesty’s people at home, will suffer no diminution under Your Majesty’s gracious rule.”

SECONDED BY MR. BORDEN

“Mr. R. L. Borden (Halifax). I have little to add, Mr. Speaker, to the very eloquent and appropriate words in which my Right Honourable friend, the Prime Minister, has moved his resolution, beyond saying that it will meet, with the cordial approval and support of every member of this House.

“The Right Honourable Gentleman has well referred to the condition of this country at the time when her Gracious Majesty ascended the throne and its condition at the present time. Then there were five or six disconnected provinces having no means of inter-communication, with hostile tariffs between them, with our North-West a wilderness and with British Columbia an unknown country. Now, we find this country from the Atlantic to the Pacific governed by one Parliament, subject to the same general laws; and instead of rebellion, we see

our volunteer soldiers returning home from fighting the battles of the Empire across the seas. It is truly a great change and a change which has been to no small extent brought about by the influence of Her late Majesty."

THE SENATORS PAY TRIBUTE

"Ottawa, February 13th.

"The Senate yesterday concurred in the resolution of sympathy with His Majesty King Edward VII. on the demise of the Queen. Honorable David Mills, in moving the resolution, made an excellent, erudite address on the constitutional aspect of Her Majesty's reign, the tributes to her personality being apparently little more than incidental.

"Sir Mackenzie Bowell spoke very briefly and with much feeling.

"The resolution was adopted, and then the debate on the address was concluded, and that disposed of."

QUEBEC LEGISLATURE

"Quebec, February 16th.

"Loyal and patriotic were the speeches of Premier Parent and Honorable Mr. Flynn in the Legislature to-day on the occasion of the moving and seconding of the address of condolence to His Majesty the King.

"Seldom indeed has the impression of the greatness of the British Empire been more vividly shown and those calamity howlers who believe that the many-pieced fabric woven by the world's greatest statesmen is soon to crumble to dust have evidently no knowledge of the nature of that fabric nor of the secret strands that contribute to its strength.

"The Honorable S. N. Parent, Premier of the Province of Quebec, is not an Englishman, and although he speaks English he is much more fluent in his mother tongue, yet he, truly the representative of over one million of his compatriots, of a race at one time at continual enmity with Britain, and of a religion at one time proscribed in British territory, is a true, loyal and honest advocate of British sovereignty, and bears devoted allegiance to Britain's Imperial crown.

"His speech to-day, and that of his political opponent, Honorable

Mr. Flynn, were above all ringing refutations of the base slander that French-Canadians are traitors, and the words of love, praise, and regret that were spoken in regard to our late sovereign, Queen Victoria, the great and good, will be received by Englishmen the world over as the direct result of a policy of liberty, generosity and tolerance, which is a pattern to the other nations of the earth."

MONTREAL CITY COUNCIL

"Montreal to-day presents an appearance unique in its history. Clouds of mourning are flapping from almost every building. Pillars of public buildings are wrapt about with black and tied with bows of royal purple. In sections, the black effects are relieved by monograms, emblems and mottoes. Flags fly half masted from thousands of flag poles, and it is like a Sunday in the business portions of the city. Loose streamers of black and purple float disconsolately in the air and the general effect is one of sadness."

"In addition to the resolutions of condolence on the death of Her Majesty, passed by the City Council of Montreal, there was a resolution of much interest moved by Alderman Ekers and seconded by Alderman Bumbray. It was as follows:—

"That on behalf of the citizens of Montreal the Council seize this mournful occasion to express their loyalty to the throne of Great Britain."

"Like all the other resolutions, it was unanimously adopted.

"In a few words His Worship said the death of Her Majesty was a shock to the whole world. Wherever the sun shone there were mourning hearts over the death of the noble woman who had reigned for so long and so wisely.

"Similar remarks were made by Aldermen Laporte, Jacques, McBride, and others.

"Rising, Alderman Gallery said he would like to say a few words on behalf of the Irish people he represented both in the City Council and as a member of the House of Commons.

"The twentieth century," he said, "comes in with mourning for the British Empire: The news has been flashed across the Atlantic that England's noblest Sovereign, and one of the grandest of women, has just passed away. After the longest reign in the history of

England, Queen Victoria has closed her eyes on the world in which she held such an exalted position.

“As an Irishman, I feel that I should express the sentiments of the vast majority of the people of my race when I state how much more esteemed was Queen Victoria in Ireland than were many of her predecessors.

“I rise to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of a good and noble woman, whose demise has thrown the whole Empire into mourning.

“Her kind heart and many amiable qualities commanded the admiration and respect of the whole civilized world, and especially of her own subjects.

“We lament her Gracious Majesty’s death, particularly when we recollect what a good and noble woman she was, and how worthy of the exalted place she filled with such dignity.”

“Before adjournment, the Mayor said, after consulting the religious authorities, he had decided to proclaim February 2nd as a day of mourning, and that special religious services would be arranged. The exact form of this would be decided later.

“He understood that His Grace Archbishop Bruchési would issue a pastoral letter next Sunday on this subject. Regarding the wearing of mourning by the public, the Mayor said it had been suggested to him, and he entirely approved of it.

“He also remarked that orders had been given to drape the City Hall.”

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

“Toronto, February 13th.

“In the Provincial Legislature, yesterday, appropriate action was taken in regard to the death of the late Queen. An address expressive of the sorrow of the members of the House and the people of the Province, condolence with the King and Royal family, and recording allegiance to His Majesty was moved by the Premier and seconded by the leader of the Opposition. Mr. Ross’s speech was befitting the occasion. It was comparatively brief, but the language was strikingly impressive. Mr. Whitney, who followed, also spoke well, and the House, at the conclusion of his remarks, adopted the address by a standing vote.”

AT WINNIPEG

“Winnipeg, February 1st.

“A proclamation has been issued by the Local Government in a special number of the *Official Gazette*, announcing Saturday, February 2nd, a public holiday on account of the funeral of Her Majesty the Queen and directing that all offices in which Government officials are employed be closed on that day. To ensure that Saturday is properly observed as a day of mourning in Winnipeg. Mayor Arbuthnot has supplemented the Government proclamation with one of a civic nature.”

MOURNING IN THE DOMINION

“The day of mourning for the late Queen is being rigidly observed throughout all the Dominion. In all cities all business is suspended, even hotels being closed. The principal buildings on the main streets are heavily robed in purple and black. Memorial services are being held in the churches. All the city regiments, with beat of muffled drums and arms reversed, marched to divine service. Bells tolled and guns boomed. Everything, indeed, betokened genuine and heartfelt sorrow at the loss of Her Gracious Majesty.”

LOYALTY OF THE CHURCHES

MGR. FALCONIO'S TRIBUTE

“Mgr. Falconio, Apostolic Delegate to Canada, adds a fitting tribute to the memory of the dead Queen, as follows:—

“Her Majesty was a noble, pious lady, who, during her reign, had won the respect, love and veneration of all her subjects, and in an especial manner of her Catholic subjects, who have enjoyed the greatest measure of religious liberty in the Victorian era. Surely, if any should regret Her Majesty's death, it should be the Catholics. I speak from personal knowledge when I say that the Holy Father always held the Queen in the highest possible esteem.”

MGR. BRUCHÉSI'S REMARKS

“At the High Mass sung on Saturday at St. James Cathedral for the Royal family, His Grace Archbishop Bruchési, who attended at

the throne, made the following remarks to the congregation which stood during the delivery of the allocution : —

“ My dear Brethren,

“ At this solemn moment, while we are here gathered together in this Cathedral, the funeral of our late lamented Queen is taking place in the British metropolis. With what sincerity we associate our grief with that of the great Empire to which we all belong! We have rendered homage, as it is our duty to do, to the noble woman, to the model wife and to the illustrious Queen, in whom we have always recognized the sure friend of our country and the protectress of our liberties. What can we all do for her now that she has gone? Each one will find answer in consulting our Catholic faith, which embraces the world, and which teaches us that the tie which unites those who have gone and those who remain, is not broken and that we may aid those who have gone before by prayer and good works. That which the holy laws of our Church permit us to do we are doing to-day. We are praying for the Royal family in deep distress, and we are praying for our new Sovereign, who has just ascended the throne, and in doing this we are putting in practice the precept of St. Paul to the first Christians who recommended them to think of, and particularly before God, those who are invested with power and authority. What the new reign will be, no one but God can tell, but let us pray it be a prosperous and happy one. Let us pray for the Catholic Church, for the Empire, and for the people. This, my dear brethren, is my heartfelt wish.”

After this noble and loyal language, the choir sang three times :
Domine, salvam fac regem! God Save the King.

PASTORAL LETTER FROM MGR. BÉGIN

“ The service at High Mass at the Basilica yesterday morning was most impressive, and was attended by a very large congregation. Mgr. Bégin occupying the Episcopal throne. A draped Union Jack hung at each side of the main altar.

“ Before the sermon, Reverend Cure Faguy read the following pastoral letter from Mgr. Bégin, announcing the death of Her Majesty

Queen Victoria and the accession of the Prince of Wales to the throne of Great Britain and Ireland : —

“ Louis Nazaire Bégin, by the grace of God and the Apostolic See, Archbishop of Quebec : —

“ We have just received, very dear brethren, the official announcement of the sad event foreshadowed by all that has taken place the last few days, and which filled all good citizens with the most poignant apprehensions. Our gracious Sovereign, Victoria, is no more ! She has just closed her earthly career, after a glorious reign of sixty-four years.

“ We hasten to communicate to you this afflicting news, in the firm conviction that you will bestow just regrets on the memory of this illustrious Queen, whose death is a matter of deep mourning for all her subjects.

“ Called while still young to occupy the throne, placed by Divine Providence at the head of the vastest and most powerful Empire the world has ever known, profoundly penetrated by the responsibility attached to the sovereign power, she has spared nothing towards the accomplishment of her formidable mission.

“ It was given her to occupy the throne of Great Britain longer than any of her illustrious predecessors ; during her reign, events of the most remarkable character and of the highest importance for the future and the happiness of the people, have taken place ; She has been a witness of the marvellous progress achieved in every department of human activity, in literature, science, the arts, industry and commerce.

“ And while she favoured and encouraged all these movements destined to enlarge the boundaries of human knowledge, or to increase the glory and prosperity of the State, it can be truly said that social and philanthropic works, movements having for object to relieve or diminish human misery, have always had the preference in this noble heart, and have most largely benefited by her benevolent protection.

“ Her subjects, too, have always surrounded her with the deepest respect, and have seized on every favourable occasion to testify their love and gratitude.

“ As they shared in her sorrows, and showed that they could sympathize with her in her trials (because sorrow and trials visited her, too, giving to her life the last touch of perfection), so, likewise,

they saluted the days consecrated to her triumphs with unanimous and enthusiastic acclamations. For the dignity of her life, eminent qualities of her heart, and a political sagacity to which the whole world had been pleased to render homage, had won all hearts to her.

“Our Canada, like the other portions of the Empire, has benefited by the justice and liberality of her rule ; during her reign, our material progress has advanced far beyond our most sanguine expectations, and the Catholic Church, the great inspiration of all moral grandeur, has been enabled to wield its influence and exercise its beneficent action with the utmost freedom.

“And now she goes down into the grave mourned and regretted by all. Her death is a bereavement not only for one nation, but for that immense multitude of peoples, differing so greatly in race, tongues, creeds and manners, who compose the vast Empire of which she was the loved and venerated Sovereign.

“But the Almighty does not forsake His people in their affliction, and, in the midst of the universal mourning, Providence permits us a subject of consolation and hope in the accession to the throne of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, whom the laws of the Kingdom call to succeed his august mother.

“The sentiments of kindness and benevolence which animate him, give rise to the hope that he will maintain the noble traditions bequeathed to him by his predecessors, and that he will apply himself constantly to the task of maintaining the reign of peace, justice and prosperity.

“It is the duty of every one of us, very dear brethren, to pray for this August Monarch. Let us beseech God, through whom Kings reign, and from whom all power flows, that He may deign to bestow on him His most abundant benedictions, in order that he may be a worthy successor of the great Queen we mourn, and a monarch always equal to the fundamental and important mission entrusted to him, and to the charges which he assumes in circumstances peculiarly difficult.

“Wherefore, We have ordained and do ordain as follows : —

“On the first Sunday following the reception of this mandate, there will be sung in all the churches of this diocese, at the conclusion of the Divine Service, in the morning, a solemn *Te Deum* and thanksgiving for the accession to the throne of the High and Mighty Prince Albert Edward, under the title of Edward VII., and afterwards the psalm *Exaudiat*, with the prayer for the King.

“Given at Quebec, under our hand and seal, the seal of the diocese, and the countersign of our Secretary, the twenty-second day of January, nineteen hundred and one.

“✠ L. N., Archbishop of Quebec.

“By order of Monseigneur,

“J. C. ARSENAULT, Priest, Secretary.”

“At the conclusion of High Mass, God Save the King was played on the organ by Mr. Gustave Gagnon. Mgr. Bégin, the Clergy and congregation standing. A *Te Deum* was then sung in honor of the accession of King Edward VII., Mgr. Bégin officiating, and as the congregation left the sacred edifice, Rule Britannia was played by the organist.”

MONSIGNOR DUHAMEL PARTICIPATES

“The Catholics of Ottawa will unite in a memorial service for the Queen on Saturday. The following Pastoral on the subject was issued by the Archbishop yesterday : —

“Archbishop’s Palace, Ottawa, January 31st.

“To the Clergy and Faithful of Ottawa : —

“Dear Co-Operators and Brethren,

“Last Sunday a circular announcing the death of our gracious sovereign, Queen Victoria, and the accession of Edward VII. to the throne of England was read in the churches of this diocese. In compliance with the order which we had given thereon prayers were offered up to God imploring Him to shower down upon our King His most abundant blessings. We thereby openly manifested that we shared in the deep mourning and the sincere loyalty of all British subjects.

“We shall have next Saturday, on the occasion of the late Queen’s funeral, another occasion to express the sentiments of our attachment to the King and to the members of the royal family, and of our sincere sympathy in the profound sorrow that they will feel, more especially at the moment when the mortal remains of her who was so dear to them in every way shall be deposited in that last abode here below which we call the tomb. As the laws of the Holy Church do not

allow Catholics to assist at a religious service in a non-Catholic church we hereby announce to you that a Solemn Mass will be chanted at the Basilica of Ottawa, at 11 o'clock in the morning of Saturday, 2nd February.

“For the reason that we cannot say the Mass which is celebrated on behalf of the souls of Catholics dying in the bosom of the Church, we will offer up the Mass of the day with the rightful trust that our most fervent prayers shall be granted and obtain consolation to the royal family and the blessing of God upon the reign of Edward VII.

“All the faithful are invited to attend. Seats at the Basilica will be free to all.

“I remain, dear co-operators and brethren,

“Your devoted servant,

“✠ J. THOMAS, Archbishop of Ottawa.”

“Kingston, Ont., February 1st.

“His Grace Archbishop Gauthier has sent word to all the priests of the Archdiocese of Kingston, to have the church bells toll on next Sunday from 11 a. m. to 12 o'clock at noon, out of respect to the memory of Her late Majesty the Queen; and also to have the *Te Deum* sung on next Sunday after Mass in thanksgiving for the new King.

“This afternoon the school children's memorial services were held in Sydenham street church. There were 2,000 pupils present and the singing of suitable hymns was aided by the members of the church choirs. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Lambert, J. G. Elliott, R. Meek and Dr. Herald.”

“Kingston, Ont., February 1st.

“The Ontario Catholic Liberal Committee met here yesterday and passed a resolution of condolence at the death of the Queen.”

THE BAR'S SORROW

“At the meeting of the Montreal Bar, held yesterday afternoon, to receive and adopt the resolutions drafted on the occasion of the Queen's death, the Batonnier, Mr. J. A. C. Madore, M. P., presided, and Mr. C. H. Stephens, Q. C., acted as secretary.

“The following resolutions were adopted unanimously : —

“Moved by Mr. Rouer Roy, Q. C., seconded by Mr. Strachan Bethune, Q. C. : —

“That the members of the Montreal Bar, in council assembled, express their profound sorrow that death has removed our beloved Sovereign, Queen Victoria, who, in sympathy with the governed, and respecting the constitution, for over sixty-three years, has ruled the largest and most populous Empire in the world as a wise, just and humane potentate, administering justice with firmness, and yet with mercy, redressing the wrongs of the people, uplifting the bondsman from oppression's grasp, extending the national commerce, until it envelopes the globe, founding infant communities and fostering them in their growth to nationhood, steadfastly maintaining the honour and dignity of the Empire among the nations of the earth, and exemplifying the gifts and graces which render private life beautiful, and public life illustrious; and that we gratefully recognize that during her benign reign her subjects in Canada obtained the high benefits of responsible government, the land tenure has been ameliorated, and the various Provinces of British North America have been united in a Federal Government.”

“Moved by Mr. F. L. Béique, Q. C., seconded by Mr. G. B. Cramp, Q. C. : —

“That the Bar of Montreal desires to place on record its heartfelt expression of deep and sincere sympathy with the royal family in their great sorrow; and that upon the accession of His Majesty King Edward VII., we renew the honourable declaration of our allegiance and devotion to his person and the throne.”

“Proposed by Mr. C. B. Carter, Q. C., seconded by Honorable L. O. Taillon, Q. C. : —

“That the Bar wear mourning for three months.”

“On motion of Mr. A. Globensky, seconded by Mr. H. C. St. Pierre, Q. C., it was decided that the resolutions be inscribed in the minutes of the Bar, and that a copy of the same be forwarded to the Governor-General for transmission to the proper quarter.

“The meeting was brought to a close by a vote of thanks to the chairman, moved by Mr. Donald MacMaster, Q. C.”

THE BRIGADE PARADE

REGIMENTS OF THE MONTREAL BRIGADE MARCHED TO CHURCH
THIS MORNING.

“The brigade parade this morning was one of the largest in the history of the Montreal Militia, every man who could possibly absent himself from work being present in the ranks of his particular corps.

“The very general manner in which the day of mourning was kept by the business houses, the banks, and manufactories in general, had the effect of making the turnout of troops larger than was at first expected. The boys are aware that the occasion was the last on which they would have the opportunity of paying their respects to their beloved Sovereign, in whose reign all of them had been born and brought up, and consequently the ranks to-day were full of Queen’s soldiers.

“Strange as it may appear a very considerable percentage of the militia of Montreal are still soldiers of the Queen, owing to the failure of past commanding officers in the city to add to the oath of allegiance the words, ‘and to her heirs and assigns.’ Every volunteer in Montreal who failed to swear allegiance to ‘Victoria, and her heirs and assigns,’ or ‘Victoria and her lawful successors,’ is to-day freed from any obligation to serve in the militia of Canada, notwithstanding the fact that his three years’ term of service may not have expired as yet. Consequently there were many in the ranks of the Montreal militia to-day who could not by any stretch of the imagination be termed ‘soldiers of the King.’

“One impressive feature of to-day’s parade was the presence of the Army and Navy Veterans, the Fenian Raid Veterans, the Veterans of the North-West Rebellions, and past members of local corps. These formed a battalion in themselves. It seemed as if everyone in Montreal who had borne arms for Her Majesty at some period in their lives was anxious to participate in the general mourning which envelops and encircles the Empire to-day.

“The different regiments fell in at their respective armories at half-past nine o’clock, with the exception of the Vics. and the 65th, who paraded at nine and half-past eight o’clock, respectively. At half-past nine o’clock the 65th left for St. James Cathedral, where a memorial Mass was chanted by His Grace the Archbishop of Montreal.”

THE VICTORIA RIFLES

“The following message from the Victoria Rifles of Canada, was sent by Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Hamilton to Lord Strathcona, the Honourary Colonel of the regiment: —

“Please convey to proper authority our great grief over the death of our beloved Queen, from your regiment, the Victoria Rifles of Canada.

“ARTHUR HAMILTON,
“Lieutenant-Colonel.”

DECORATING THE QUEEN'S STATUE

“Two little children engaged in decorating the Queen's monument, Victoria square, attracted considerable attention this morning.”

SOLEMN MILITARY SERVICE

“Halifax, N. S., February 2nd.

“At eight o'clock this morning the Royal Standard was run to the top of the flag-pole at the Citadel. Then it dropped to half-mast, and remained. The military were soon astir for the memorial service. The non-conformists in the garrison attended St. Matthew's Presbyterian, where a united service was held.

“Reverend Dr. Saunders, Baptist, and Reverend Dr. Lathern, Methodist, were the speakers. The official, or State, service was held in historic St. Paul's, where the Lord Bishop preached to 2,500 people. This service was attended by the 66th P. L. F. and heads of militia. The Dean of Nova Scotia, Dr. Gilpin, preached in the Anglican Cathedral to a crowded congregation.

“The military service was at the garrison, where Reverend Dr. Bullock, honorary chaplain to the Queen, preached. The scene was a most solemn one. Troops marched to and from church at slow step, but the band did not play. The city is draped in mourning.

“Over in Dartmouth a union service was held in Christ Church, Anglican. The preacher was Reverend F. Wilkinson, and Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian took part. The Mayor and Town Council attended in a body.

“High Mass was celebrated in all Roman Catholic churches.”

THE ST. JEAN BAPTISTE SOCIETY

“The St. Jean Baptiste Society met last night at the Monument National to pass a resolution of sorrow at the death of the Queen. Mr. F. L. Bêique, Q. C., president, was in the chair.

“On motion of Mr. Justice Loranger, seconded by Mr. L. O. David, the following resolution was directed to be sent to the Governor-General.

“Resolved, that the St. Jean Baptiste Association of Montreal, as the interpreter of the French-Canadians, presents an address to His Excellency the Governor-General, praying him to transmit to His Majesty Edward VII. the assurance of its most profound loyalty, and of its most sincere sympathies on the occasion of the death of his illustrious mother.

“The French-Canadian people is one with all parts of the British Empire in deploring the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and in proclaiming that never did sovereign merit in greater measure the affection and loyalty of her subjects, the respect and gratitude of the civilized world.

“This illustrious sovereign possessed in the royal authority a powerful means of exercising a salutary influence upon public and private manners, and of putting into practice the inspiring principle which St. Jean Baptiste Association has adopted as its motto: ‘Make People Better.’

“The French-Canadians in particular cannot forget that under her happy rule they have obtained the definite consecration of constitutional liberties, the complete enjoyment of their religious and national rights.

“United by this thought round the bier of the good and great Queen, they offer her the homage of their most profound gratitude, and pray God to grant her the reward of her virtues.

“They are happy, in the midst of their sorrow, to think that she will have as her successor a prince whom they have learned to love, and who will walk in her glorious steps in receiving the happiness of all his subjects, without distinction of race and religion.”

MESSAGES OF LOYALTY

“All Canada sorrows; and loving tributes to the worth of the dead Queen are coming from all quarters of the Dominion and from all classes. There are spokesmen for the churches, for the press, for the

Bench. The Member of Parliament speaks for his constituents, and the Mayors send messages on behalf of the teeming thousands in the large cities of our country. The official utterances are not formal, but breathe forth a note of sadness.

“All pay a high tribute to the worth of Queen Victoria. Her virtues as a woman are extolled even more than her high qualities as a ruler; for as she lies upon her death-bed her imposing attributes of Imperial Sovereignty are temporarily lost sight of in the expressions of keen and heartfelt sympathy, which are uttered by millions and millions of her subjects from the highest to the lowest, and who, so to speak, are brought side by side, animated only by one feeling as they regard the passing away of ‘Victoria the Good.’”

THE SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

“Quebec, January 21st.

“To the Editor *Montreal Star*: —

“I am quite willing to express publicly my great sorrow in hearing the sad news of the ill health of Her Majesty, most beloved Queen Victoria. I heartily share the sincere grief and sympathy felt through the whole world. Deep interest in Her Majesty is emphasized because her exemplary life has had its influence, not only upon her own subjects, but upon all who know of her kindness, her modesty, her interest in humanity. Her Majesty has been a most exemplary wife, the model of a kind and devoted mother, and there was never a more respected and beloved sovereign. In expressing my admiration, my respect and loyalty to Her Majesty, I am speaking, I am sure, the sentiment of all true French-Canadians, whose loyalty and devotion have been many times shown, even in offering their lives for the defense of her flag. May God spare her life for a few years more for the good and welfare of her subjects.

“C. A. PELLETIER,

“Speaker of the Senate.”

FROM HIS HONOUR LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR FORGET, NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

“Government House, Regina, N. W. T., January 22nd.

“Nowhere will the sorrow at the demise of our beloved Sovereign be greater than in this distant part of the Empire. As mother, wife

and Queen, her life will be an everliving example to all ; as mother for her homely virtues, as wife for her deep affection, as Sovereign for her broad sympathies and loving kindness to her people.

“ A. E. FORGET,
“ Lieutenant-Governor.”

HONORABLE M. E. BERNIER, MINISTER OF INTERIOR

“ Ottawa, January 21st.

“ To the Editor *Montreal Star*: —

“ I really do not see how the opinion of Canadians could greatly differ from those of the people of the whole British Empire, and, indeed, of the world. We love and venerate Her Majesty for her wisdom and her virtues, and her memory will ever live among us as of the best and greatest of sovereigns. Nor will Canadians ever forget that it is under the reign of Victoria, and thanks, in a great measure, to her wisdom and policy, that we have obtained these constitutional liberties which are the foundation of the Canadian Confederation.

“ M. E. BERNIER,
“ Minister of Interior.”

“ Thousands of messages of sympathy from all the Dominion were received at Government House yesterday, addressed to His Excellency the Governor-General : —

“ Quebec, January 23rd.

“ It is with the deepest sorrow that the people of the Province of Quebec, and especially the French-Canadians, have heard of the death of Queen Victoria, whose beneficial reign has made them the most devoted and loyal of her subjects. They will never forget that it is since her accession to the throne of England that they have enjoyed that amount of civil, religious and political liberty, of which they are so justly proud.

“ L. A. JETTÉ,
“ Lieutenant-Governor, Quebec.”

“ Victoria, B. C., January 22nd.

“ May I beg Your Excellency to forward the following message :
The Government of British Columbia express the profound regret

which will be felt by the whole Province to its most remote limits at the sad news of the death of our beloved Sovereign.

SIR HENY JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,
 "Lieutenant-Governor B. C.

"Fredericton, N. B., January 22nd-

"I beg Your Excellency will transmit on behalf of my Government and myself, as well as the people of this Province, an expression of the profound grief which is felt at the death of our beloved Queen, and our sympathy with the Royal Family in their sad bereavement.

"A. R. McLELAN,
 "Lieutenant-Governor, N. B."

"On behalf of the Church of England in the diocese of Ottawa, we most respectfully desire to assure Your Excellency of our deep sympathy with all the members of the Royal Family in their great bereavements and of our earnest prayers that the spirit and blessing of the rule of Queen Victoria may rest abundantly upon the Sovereign Lord King Edward VII."

CHARLES, Ottawa.

JAMES J. BOGERT, Archdeacon of Ottawa.
 GEO. J. LOW, Canon.
 H. POLLARD, Canon.

THE GARDENERS' WREATH

"The Montreal Gardeners and Florists' Club have prepared a most imposing wreath, which was placed on the statue of the Queen on Victoria square. The wreath, which is five feet in diameter, is composed of lilies, roses, and orchids, with groups of heather, shamrocks and roses. The club marched in a body this morning to the statue at 10 o'clock, and deposited the wreath."

"At Temple Grove, Mr. McCord draped the Royal Standard which was hoisted on the Citadel at Quebec on the occasion of the proclamation of the Queen in 1837."

PUBLIC OFFICES CLOSED

“All Custom Houses, and in fact all departments of the Government will be closed to-morrow in honour of the dead Queen. As the first proclamation issued merely called upon the people of Canada to observe Saturday as a holiday and failed to designate it as a public holiday, it did not allow of the closing of the different departments. However, as the addition to the proclamation declares Saturday, February 2nd, to be a public holiday, the Government buildings throughout Canada must close as a matter of necessity.

“The same rule holds good, of course, with the banking institutions throughout the country, and so the public will be obliged to put its bank business off from this afternoon until Monday morning.”

INDIANS EXPRESS REGRET

“Quebec, January 25th.

“The Huron Indians of Lorette have passed a resolution of regret at the death of Queen Victoria and fired a salute of 21 guns as token of loyalty.”

THE MINUTE GUNS

“A salute of 81 minute guns will be fired from St. Helen's Island this afternoon, by a contingent of the 2nd Regiment, Canadian Artillery, in charge of Captain Renouf. The salute will be timed so that the last gun will boom at sun-down. In this latitude the sun will set this afternoon at 5.02, so that the first gun will be fired at 3.41.”

HER LAST FUNCTION

“Lachine Locks, Que.

“To the Editor of the *Star* : —

“Sir,

“I had the honour of being among the first Colonials who were presented to Her Majesty the Queen on November 16th. Every one of us looked eagerly at the magnificent home of Her Majesty. One of my comrades said to me : ‘Of all our visits, this one will live the longest in my memory.’ The inspection took place in St. George's Hall, where the Queen, with Princess Henry of Battenberg was

seated. The Queen asked specially after the wounded men as they limped by, and enquired about Sergeant Legge, who had five brothers at the front. The sergeant, who was presented to the Queen, belongs to the Australian Horse. Sergeant MacDonald, too, of Kitchener's Horse, was addressed personally. The Queen sympathetically asked how he came by his wounds. After we had given three cheers and an extra Colonial cheer, Her Majesty addressed us as follows : —

“It gives me very great pleasure to see you all here to-day and to personally thank you for your loyal services to the Empire in South Africa. I wish you God speed and a safe return home.

“D. MURPHY,

“Late of Royal Canadian Regiment.”

“Private Murphy also enclosed the following verses, which were presented to the Royal Canadians on their visit to Windsor on November 16th by the Mayor of the town : —

Ye winds that blow,

Ye seas that flow,

Fleets to and fro,

(To Afric, Austral, Ind, Canadian sons that go),

Move in one song to-day—stirs sons of Britain so !

Sound, Curfew Tower, Victoria's year,

With joyful, trembling noise ;

Peal, bells, “O serve the Lord with fear,”

Ring, nine times nine ; Rejoice !

Wave Windsor's Flag in stately folds,

High Heaven confirms the story

That length of Days her right hand holds,

And in her left is Glory,

In praise, in prayer the Empire joins

Vast Empire, sprung from Britain's loins.

Eternal God, Immortal King,

Ancient of Days, this day we bring

Great—Greater—Britain's praise, and sing

Thou hast preserved her.

Gifted with Majesty and might
 To smite at wrong, defend the right.
 Victoria ! one and eighty years,
 To crown our triumphs, share our tears.

Beam good-will, peace, all sweet endears ;
 Thou hast reserved her.
 Grant her thy peace, give her to know
 Thy choicest love, and may we grow.

Resolved to hold to Duty's ways,
 Honour, obey her all our days,
 Uphold her Throne, strive for the praise
 That we deserved her.

The Standard waves in proudest folds,
 High Heaven confirms the story,
 The length of Days her right hand holds,
 And in her left hand Glory.

HONOR DEAD HEROES

MEDICAL STUDENTS AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY WILL ERECT A TABLET
 TO THE MEMORY OF LIEUTENANT BORDEN AND GUNNER
 O'RIELLY WHO DIED IN SOUTH AFRICA.

“ A very handsome memorial to the late Lieutenant Harold Borden, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, who was killed in action near Pretoria on July 16th last, and the late Gunner E. P. O'Rielly, of the Royal Canadian Artillery, who died on active service near DeAar, in May last, is under construction for the medical building of McGill University. The memorial is the gift of the medical students of McGill, and consists of a marble tablet mounted on an onyx background, and surmounted by a couple of Strathcona hats. The sides of the tablet are relieved and ornamented with Lee-Enfield rifles, while the base carries a couple of cannon, a pyramid of shot, and other features of an artillery field piece. The ornaments and embellishments, like the tablets, are sculptured out of marble. The design is most artistic, and the whole forms a beautiful memorial to

the dead heroes, both of whom, at the time of their departure for South Africa, were medical students at McGill. The tablet bears the following inscription:—

In Memoriam

Harold Lorthrop Borden, B. A.,

LIEUTENANT CANADIAN MOUNTED RIFLES,

BORN AT CANNING, N.S., MAY 25th 1876.

Killed in action near Pretoria, S. A., July 16th, 1900.

Edwin Patrick O'Rielly, B. A.,

ROYAL CANADIAN ARTILLERY,

BORN AT HAMILTON, ONT., DECEMBER 29th, 1875.

Died while on service near DeAar, S. A., 1900.

Erected by their fellow students as an expression of admiration.

ABOUT LOYALTY

‘The last, but not the least.’

CANADA HAS NO SYMPATHY FOR THE ENEMIES OF THE EMPIRE.—

MR. BOURASSA'S RESOLUTION ON BEHALF OF THE BOERS FOUND

ONLY TWO SUPPORTERS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—

A MAGNIFICENT DEFENCE OF BRITISH POLICY

AND THE PRINCIPLES OF BRITISH LIBERTY

BY SIR WILFRID LAURIER.

“Mr. Bourassa, in moving his pro-Boer resolution — ‘A stop should be put to the speculation of Milner and Chamberlain upon the enthusiasm of Canadians.’”

SIR WILFRID LAURIER

“It has either to be the liberal and enlightened civilization of England of to-day or the old bigotted and narrow civilization of the

Dutch of two hundred years ago. There is but one future for South Africa, and that future is a grand confederation on the pattern of the Canadian confederation. It is a federation in which Cape Colony and Natal and the Orange Free State and the Transvaal and Rhodesia shall be united together under a federal constitution, under the British flag, and under the sovereignty of England. When they have the British flag over South Africa they shall have that which has been found everywhere during the last sixty years under the British flag, liberty for all, equality for all, justice and civil rights for English and Dutch alike."

"The division was called on at 10 o'clock. During the time before the whips came in, Mr. Jabel Robinson, of Elgin, thought the National Anthem the most fitting hymn for a division on such a resolution, and struck up 'God Save the King,' being fairly well supported in his own immediate locality.

"The result of the vote was that the resolution was lost by 3 yeas to 144 nays. The yeas were Messrs. Angers, Bourassa and Monet, the three who last year supported Mr. Bourassa's anti-contingent resolutions.

"On the declaration of the vote the House rose *en masse*, members, visitors and all, save Messrs. Angers, Bourassa, Monet, Fortier and Bourbonnais of Soulanges, and sang in the same spirit with which we now exclaim : —

"God Save the King."



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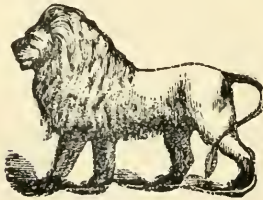


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