

THE DEATH OF LIEUTENANT WEIR  
Canadian Rebellion of 1837  
From  
Chronicles of Canada, by :-  
Alfred D. Descelles

.....  
THE ATTACK ON ST DENIS  
.....

"An episode in connection with the attack on St Denis left a dark  
"stain on the Patriote escutcheon, and embittered greatly the re-  
"lations between the two races in Canada. This was the murder  
"on the morning of the fight, of Lieutenant Weir a Subaltern in the  
"32nd Regiment, who had been sent with dispatches to Sorel by land.  
"He had reached Sorel half an hour after Colonel Gore and his men  
"had departed for St Denis. In attempting to catch up with  
"Gore's column he had taken the direct road to St Denis and had  
"arrived there in advance of the British troops. On approaching  
"the village he was arrested by Wolfred Nelson's orders and placed  
"in detention. As the British attack developed it was thought  
"better by those who had him in charge to remove him to St Charles.  
"They bound him tightly and placed him in a waggon. Hardly had  
"they started when he made an attempt to escape. In this emer-  
"gency his Wardens seem to have lost their heads. In spite of  
"the fact that Weir was tightly bound and could do no harm, they  
"fell on him with swords and pistols and in a short time dispatched  
"him. Then, appalled at what they had done they attempted to hide  
"the body. When the British troops entered ~~the~~ St Denis a week  
"later, they found the body weighted down with stones in the Riche-  
"lieu River under about two feet of water. The autopsy dis-  
"closed the brutality with which Weir had been murdered, and the  
"sight of the body so infuriated the soldiers that they gave the  
"greater part of the village of St Denis to the flames.  
"In the later phases of the Rebellion, the slogan of the British  
"Soldiers was 'Remember Jack Weir' ".

.....  
Excerpt from the latter part of Chapter VIII.