

demanding an explanation, as otherwise the misunderstanding might have been amicably settled, but said that as things were, Macdonell could not now think of making an apology. Taylor said that Baldwin was determined to have an apology or to fight; and nothing remained but to fix weapon, time and place. Macdonell's duties as Attorney-General—the Attorney-General and Solicitor-General at that time conducted in person all Crown business—necessitated delay till after the Assizes; but the Court ended in a couple of days, and Cameron called on Taylor to say that Macdonell would wait on the Island (then a peninsula) at 6 o'clock the following day.

Macdonell and Cameron crossed the bay in a sleigh—it was April—Baldwin and Taylor on foot, stopping at the Blockhouse¹¹ for Baldwin to execute his will.

Arrived on the ground, the principals were placed back to back, and directed on the first word to face about, on the second to fire—of course the pistol was the weapon.

On the first words the combatants faced each other; the word "fire" followed; but Baldwin noticed that Macdonell stood with his arm down by his side, not raised to aim. He demanded an explanation, and Cameron said: "He waits your fire." Thereupon Baldwin fired aside.¹² Cameron and Macdonell proposed

year, did not prevent him from acting as a second in a duel. He was a Captain in the York Volunteers, and Provincial Secretary. A warm friend of Macdonell, when the latter fell at Queenston Heights he attempted to save him, exposing himself to a shower of bullets which he miraculously escaped. He succeeded in carrying his friend off the field. See Sketches of Glengarry in Upper Canada, by J. A. Macdonell, K.C., p. 199 n. (2).

¹¹ Probably the Blockhouse on Gibraltar Point (now Hanlan's) which was not demolished till 1818. Robertson's "Landmarks of Toronto," 3rd series, 311, 336; cf. Dr. Scadding's "Toronto of Old," 357.

¹² This course was not regular. At the Clonmell Assizes in 1775 the Gentlemen Delegates of Tipperary, Galway, Mayo, Sligo and Roscommon had settled the code for duelling and points of honour, which was adopted for all Ireland, and does not differ materially from the English Code. Rule 13 is specific: "No dumb shooting or firing in the air admissible in any case. The challenger ought not to have challenged without receiving offence; and the challenged ought, if he gave offence, to have made an apology before he came on the ground;