

steward at the fort, and a party of mounted constables guided by a half-breed interpreter named Brazeau set out to find *Ka-ki-si-kut-chin's* camp. Inspector Gagnon showed marked ability in the search which revealed unmistakable evidence that the prisoner was a cannibal. Confronted with the chewed bones, the suspect confessed his guilt, saying that he had acquired a taste for human flesh several years before, when to save his own life he was forced to eat the body of a companion who had died of starvation.

The accused was condemned to death by Stipendiary Magistrate Hugh Richardson on August 8 following a jury trial. It was while awaiting execution that he and Bagley became acquainted. He took a great fancy to the youthful constable (Bagley in the evening of his life often mused whether the cannibal's interest in him could be attributed to the fact that he was young and tender). The night before the Indian was launched into eternity he presented Bagley with a pipe and fur-beaded pouch—mementos of the first legal hanging in the Northwest Territories, which are still among Bagley's private collection of early-West keepsakes.

The corpulent form of Reg. No. 254, Cst. J. D'Artigue, who also guarded the cannibal, brought a hungry look to *Ka-ki-si-kut-chin's* saucer-like eyes every time it entered the guard-room. D'Artigue was the author of *Six Years in the Canadian North-west*, published in 1882, the first book written on the Force. He and his sister, Marie, were great friends of Major and Mrs. Bagley in later years.

Ka-ki-si-kut-chin was hanged early in the morning of Dec. 20, 1879.

The following summer, Bagley escorted two murderers and a lunatic from Fort Saskatchewan to Stony Mountain Penitentiary near Winnipeg. He spent the winter at Fort Qu'Appelle attached to B Division. Upon arriving there he promptly became a member of the band under Reg. No. 990, Cpl. W. Davis. Now an able musician, Bagley was a welcome addition to the group which, except for a few changes in personnel, was the Fort Walsh band that had dissolved two years previously.

Spring saw Bagley on his way to Battleford, a rising town at the junction of the Upper Saskatchewan and Battle rivers, which had become the capital of the North-

west Territories after the seat of government had been moved from Swan River. Now a member of D Division, he served as far as Macleod in the escort that accompanied the Marquis of Lorne, Governor General of Canada, on his summer tour of the West.

When the winter of 1881-82 settled down on Battleford, two or three dances a week provided about the only diversion in the capital. Bagley was much in demand. At these picturesque if somewhat fervid demonstrations, he drew a melodious bow across a fiddle and picked harmony from the strings of a banjo with equal facility. Naturally, he became exceedingly popular with the local belles and their swains as they swept around the hall lost in the Terpsichorean art.

He was promoted corporal on May 1, 1883, and nine months later, Feb. 1, 1884, was made sergeant.

* * *

NEARLY a year before the Rebellion of 1885 broke out he figured in an affair with the Indians which called for the utmost in coolness and steadiness.

In June, 1884, Big Bear and his following, very much against the Indian Department's wishes, in response to an invitation visited the reservations of Chiefs Poundmaker and Little Pine. These reservations adjoined each other and were situated some 35 miles south of Battleford. It was an unwholesome alliance, and perhaps inevitably trouble resulted.

A few days after Big Bear's arrival a member of his band entered the Indian Department store house on Little Pine's reservation and wanted some flour for a sick child. John Craig, the farm instructor in charge, refused to accede to the request. The stranger angrily departed, but returned shortly with his brother and repeated the demand. Not being a member of that reservation the Indian was not entitled to receive any rations there, and upon being refused a second time, an altercation took place. In the excitement Craig "shoved" the troublemaker aside and was in turn struck on the shoulder with a helve.

Craig complained to Reg. No. 565, Cpl. R. B. Sleight who, upon going to Little Pine's reservation to look into the matter, found the annual thirst dance in progress. The Indians were in a very tempestuous mood and, accounting it foolhardy to at-