

took Big Bear prisoner, was a brother of Colonel Smart of the Midland Battalion.

Yes, those were stirring days!

Edmonton Pioneer

The early history of any city or town is generously sprinkled with events, solemn and humorous; happenings, tragic and gay, also political change, hope and fear, everything that in one way or another makes up human nature. For the builders are human beings and as they build their characteristics are engraved in their handiwork. Edmonton, Alta., has had its quota of interesting frontier life, and among the pioneers who helped to make it so was Matthew MacCauley, grandfather of Reg. No. 12836 Sgt. R. Howey of "G" Division.

Mr. MacCauley arrived in Edmonton from Winnipeg by Red River cart in 1879, accompanied by his wife and two children; a few years later his leadership and executive abilities launched him into the Squatters' Claims Dispute and subsequently into public life. The dispute had its beginning in 1881 when the Hudson's Bay Company put surveyors to work and the following year sold lots. Newcomers in large numbers arrived and soon claim jumping was common. The settlers after trying unsuccessfully to adjust the matter peaceably, formed a vigilante committee with MacCauley as captain. In a short time the claim jumpers grew tired of having their homes dumped into the river and decided that the old Edmonton claims were better left alone.

This energetic pioneer was also very active in the disturbance that occurred over the school act, when the large land owners fought the formation of a school district. In all, he gave 19 years of service on the school board and from the very first upheld a spirit of leadership and high ideal for Edmonton schools.

In 1885 during the North West Rebellion he was a member of the Home Guard, an organization that cowed the Indians and was thought to be largely responsible for safety from atrocities such as the Frog Lake Massacre.

One night on sentry duty, MacCauley let an officer whom he knew go by without requesting the countersign. The officer stopped to reprimand him, saying, "You are not a good soldier. I must report you." MacCauley made good shortly after-