

friends the Major Ward who afterwards died in the Sweeney duel. Major Ward came frequently to Huntingdon, which though a very small place, was, from the superior class of its inhabitants, a sort of centre for the District, on business connected with the establishment of a troop who remained there in garrison for some years. On one of these occasions during the Rebellion, he took my father, then a little boy, upon his knee and amused him by showing some dark stains on his sword and telling him that those were the blood of a rebel. His story was that at the recent fighting on the Richelieu, he found himself at one place alone with his orderly among a growing crowd of French-Canadians. He ordered them to disperse. Most of them seemed disposed to do so. One large man, however, refused, and made such violent menaces that imminent danger of a conflict and a riot arose, and, the man advancing upon Ward in a threatening manner, he was obliged, for these reasons, to run him through. The crowd, of course, fled, but when Major Ward, who was a powerful man, attempted to withdraw his sword from the body, he found all his strength ineffective to pull it out. It was only with the aid of his orderly, and by laying the dead man on the ground, that he finally did so.

W. D. LIGHTHALL.

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