

of March, but officers were allowed little rest, and on the 15th of the next month, April, the General, then captain and a staff officer to Sir Edward Lugard, took a leading part in one skirmish with the rebels at Agemghur, where, for the personal bravery he displayed, and for his heroic conduct in risking his own life to save those of comrades, he was recommended by General Lugard to Lord Clyde for the Victoria Cross. The story of his heroism is as follows: Captain Middleton was commanded by General Lugard to take command of a troop of the military train in an attack upon a large force of the rebels. In a desperate charge, in which the Third Sikh Cavalry took part, Lieutenant Hamilton, of the troop, fell from his horse. Some Sepoy rebels rushed at him to cut him to pieces, when Captain Middleton and another officer named Murphy rushed to the aid of the wounded officer, and, killing some of his assailants, drove off the rest, and defended him until he was carried off the field. Within an hour of that gallant act, a private named Fowles was unhorsed and wounded, and Captain Middleton came to his aid, and after driving off his assailants, coolly dismounted, and placing the wounded man on his own horse brought him into camp. Lord Clyde refused to recommend Middleton for the Victoria Cross on the ground that he was on the personal staff at the time. His companion in this first heroic act, however, received the Cross. General Middleton served throughout the mutiny, and was many times specially mentioned in home despatches. In 1861, General Middleton came to Canada as major of the twenty-ninth regiment, sent out here during the Trent affair. The station of the corps was at Hamilton. While in Canada he married Miss Doucet, a member of a well known family of Montreal. After serving for ten years on the staff of General Wyndham, he left Canada on the withdrawal of the British troops. He then received the appointment of the commandant of the Royal Military College, where he had studied. In November last, just in time to prevent his retirement, under the new rules, from active service, he was appointed to the command of the militia of Canada on retirement of General Luard.

A correspondent writes thus of General Middleton's activity while in the field:—

"The General roughed it the same as the men. He is up in the morning at five o'clock, and is always first on parade; in the saddle all day, spends about two hours at the telegraph wire directing the movements of his different divisions and Government business, answers his letters, and directs everything here—in fact, until we reached Humboldt, he never got to bed before 1 a.m., and during most of the time he has had a bad cold, but is getting over it now. He is greatly pleased with all the men, and thinks they have done wonders, but he does not take much stock in newspaper men, although he is willing to give what information that he can that he thinks will interest the public; but as to telling us what he is going to do, or what his plans—nothing."

He is thus, it will be seen, no ordinary man, and General Middleton has further added to his fame by the splendid manner in which he has conducted the operations against the recalcitrant half-breeds. His eminently practical turn of mind was exemplified in every detail of the campaign, one of the most characteristic, perhaps, being some of his first remarks concerning the 90th. It is reported that when he arrived at Winnipeg he enquired of Captain Gauthier what kind of men composed the 90th Battalion of that city. The Captain said they were pretty good stuff, and proceeded to explain that several of the men distinguished themselves as crack shots at Wimbledon. "Hem, Wimbledon," says the General, "don't think much of that. Will soon see, whether they are the right kind of material to do business with. But I tell you it's a very different thing to make crack shots at Wimbledon, where the marksman lies down or assumes any other convenient position while he takes long and careful aim, than it is to do so out on the field, where the target is firing back at the crack shot."

Of the General's staff, the first person to notice is Lord Melgund.

Lord Melgund, Private Secretary to the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Governor-General, is the eldest son of the Earl of Minto, whose family name is Elliot, and whose family seat—Minto—is situated in one of the most picturesque parts of Teviotdale. Minto is mentioned by Scott in the "Lay of the Last Minstrel," and by Leydon in the "Scenes of Infancy." The family is an ancient and an honourable one. Two centuries ago it was sung as—

"The Elliott's, brave and worthy men."

It is a family that can count among its kith and kin men who were "inured to foreign wars and feudal quarrels," such as the redoubtable Wat o' Harden and Lorrison, lion of Liddesdale, also the heroic Little Jock Elliott, whose challenge of "Wha daur meddle wi' me" has been enwoven in song and adopted as the motto of the Border Mounted Volunteers—a troop of mounted men of which Lord Melgund is the worthy major. Lord Heathfield, the illustrious defender of Gibraltar, was likewise a member of the clan, and so was "Admiral Elliot, the conqueror of Thurot." Distinguished as Lord Melgund's kinsmen and clansmen have been on sea and land, there were amongst them powerful politicians and successful diplomatists. One of them was Lieutenant-Governor of New York in the old American day, and the first Earl of Minto held the office of Governor-General of India. At present His Lordship's brother, the Hon. A. D. Elliot, represents the County of

Roxburgh in the House of Commons. Several members of the family have adorned the bench and the bar, and more than one of them have been poets of renown, for instance, Miss Jane Elliot, authoress of the "Flowers of the Forest." Lord Melgund himself has, in several capacities, like the stock from which he has sprung—"brave and worthy men"—gained a name in arms, and in the peaceful paths of literature; whilst as a sportsman he has already a long and brilliant career. During his scholastic days at Eton and Cambridge, he was noted for his athletic achievements. As a gentleman, he has ridden and won many a steeplechase, and has even ridden many a winning race under the assumed name of Mr. Rody. His lordly bearing as an equestrian was greatly admired when, at the head of the Mounted Volunteers, he rode past the Queen at a great review in the Queen's Park, Edinburgh, two years ago. Lord Melgund began his military career when he was twenty-two years of age, by joining the Scots Fusilier Guards. His Lordship has braved the dangers of the battlefield, and seen many a sanguinary conflict in different lands. He was in Paris during the red days of the Commune, and acted as correspondent of the *Morning Post* at the headquarters of the Carlist army in Navarre. He was on the staff of General Lennox, the British military attaché with the Turkish army, and was present when the Russians bombarded the forts of Nickopolis. He served a while with Rion Pasha during the same campaign. During this campaign he had a narrow escape from being shot by some Bashi-Bazouks near the Bridge of Biela. As a volunteer, Lord Melgund served his Queen and country under Roberts in the Afghan war. His last scene of warfare was in Egypt. He there held the position of captain in the Mounted Infantry. He was wounded at Mayar, and rejoined the corps two days afterward at Tel-el-Kebir. He afterward commanded the Mounted Infantry at Cairo until they were disbanded at the conclusion of the war. On his return to Minto House from Egypt, he was entertained to a banquet at Hawick by the border Mounted Volunteers, of which he is commanding officer. Three years ago, he had an article in the *Nineteenth Century* on the subject of "Newspaper Correspondents in the Field." Lord Melgund married, in 1883, Miss Mary Caroline Grey, youngest daughter of the late General Grey, and sister to Mr. Albert Grey, M.P., for Northumberland.

General Strange's chief part in the campaign was the defence of Edmonton. His force consisted of the 65th Montreal, 315 strong; 150 scouts; 250 men of Col. Osborne Smith's Light Infantry Battalion from Winnipeg; 60 scouts, and 50 Mounted Police under Inspector Steele. He and his ancestors have been notable and interesting individuals. In *The Scot in British America* is an allusion to Robert Strange, afterwards Sir Robert, the father of English engraving, an art which he developed when an exile in Italy, following the broken fortunes of the House of Stuart. Having previously fought at the battle of Culloden, in the body-guard of the prince, he was attainted and sought refuge in the house of Miss Lumsden, his affianced bride. While with her, the "Seider Roy" (red soldiers) appeared in the court-yard, and the officer entered to seize the body of the traitor Strange, as he was termed, by proclamation. His fiancée, with womanly promptitude, lifted the enormous hoops which extended the dresses of the period and placed her lover in safety beneath them, while she resumed her former occupation of playing loyal airs on the spinette. The direct descendants of Sir Robert Strange and Miss Lumsden have been gallant and distinguished sailors, soldiers, men of science and law, including Col. Strange, Madras Cavalry, subsequently employed on the survey in India, and inspector of scientific instruments; Admiral Strange, (whose son, Lt.-Col. Vernon Strange, went down in the ill-fated *Eurydice*); Major Charles John Strange, R.A., distinguished in the Crimea, all sons and grandsons of Sir Thomas Strange (son of Sir Robert), judge in the Hon. East India Service. This branch of the family remained in the mother country. Two collateral branches settled in Canada. Of one branch, the late Col. M. W. Strange, who served in the rebellion of 1837-38, in the Kingston Volunteer Rifles, was representative of the city in the Ontario Parliament, police magistrate and district paymaster, brother-in-law of Sir A. Campbell, and Dr. O. S. Strange, ex-mayor, and now penitentiary surgeon, were the descendants. The last branch to settle in Canada has done so in the person of Major-General Strange, an officer on the Royal Artillery. The Army List says he served in India in 1857-58, and was present at the actions of Chonda, Sultanpore and Dhowra, siege and capture of Lucknow, actions of Korsee, Nawabgunge, Seragunge, affairs of 23rd and 29th July, passage of the Gumtue at Sultanpore, including affairs of 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th August, and Doodpore. 20th October. In all, he served in thirteen engagements, was mentioned four times in despatches, and wears a medal and clasp. He represents an old military family of Scotch origin, and in the maternal line descent can be traced from Charles Martel and Charlemagne through a long line of warriors. On the evacuation of Quebec in 1871, Col. Strange was commissioned to form and command the first garrison of Canadian artillery. He established upon enduring foundations, the schools of gunnery in which so many have been trained for service in different capacities, and especially as artilleryists, and the efficiency of the batteries now at the front is largely owing to the fact that the Government has adopted the more important recommendations which he, as inspector of artillery, has seen fit to make. He is a man of marked will power, a disciplinarian, and yet

one whose commands are not unkindly enforced. But once, while in command of a battery, was he called upon to act the soldier's part in earnest, and that was during the labor riots in Quebec. He acted with a courage and coolness then which showed how well fitted he was for action in an emergency. The Major-General went to Kingston at the time the batteries were transferred in June, 1880. In the spring of 1882 he got his promotion, and soon after left the service. He was chief factor in the organization of the Military Colonization Company, whose ranch is about 35 miles from Calgary. His wife, and the younger members of the family did not leave for their new home, "Nomoka," until last year. His children numbered six, of whom four are living. Two sons accompanied him to the North-west—Harry Bland Strange and Alexander Wilmot Strange. The former is a graduate of the Royal Military College, and the latter of the Ontario Agricultural College.

One of the most noteworthy of the principal characters of the late rebellion, and one of whom, ere we come to the end, we shall hear much, is an American—Captain Howard, a militia officer from Hartford, Conn.

Captain Howard is a spare, dark-complexioned man of about 30, full of dry humour, with an excellent memory of amusing anecdotes, a fast thinker, losing no time in making up his mind to do a thing, and perfectly cool and collected in the doing of it. An incident is told of him very typical of his character: Having issued an order to a subordinate, and seeing signs of hesitation in the performance of it, without a word the captain took the law into his own hands, and with a well-dealt blow, unaccompanied by a single syllable, he showed the hesitating subordinate by a somewhat painful process what he thought of hesitation.

The Gatlings commanded by Captain Howard were borrowed for the occasion from the United States Government. The order happened to arrive in the very nick of time, for the guns are usually made only to order, and Captain Howard asserts that had the request of the Canadian Government arrived some ten minutes later, there would not have been a gun obtainable, as the American authorities were just issuing orders for every Gatling in stock.

One of these Gatling guns is of a comparatively old pattern, with the ten barrels all exposed, only capable of firing six or seven hundred rounds in a minute, and with a very limited vertical play. The other is of the very latest style. It has all the barrels enclosed in a cylinder of brass—which Capt. Howard thinks is anything but an improvement, making them difficult to clean if they do happen to get dirty. This instrument fires no less than one thousand five hundred rounds a minute, and can be pointed almost vertically up—to throw lead into a fort, for instance—or almost vertically down, to destroy an enemy under a high bank or wall. Gatlings are only turned out to order—the manufacturers being the Colts Company at Hartford, Connecticut. Being intended as auxiliary to an infantry force, they are made to fire the same cartridges used by the men's rifles; and almost every nation uses a different cartridge. The two guns now here were made for the regulation cartridge of the United States army. The gauge, too, varies according to the country for which the gun is wanted, the wheel track on the roads of some countries being wider than that of others. The gun and limber weigh altogether only 1,500 pounds, the gun-carriage of one has a capacity of 7,000 rounds of ammunition, weighing 110 pounds to the thousand; the other carriage takes 4,000 rounds. These two guns are only borrowed by the Government for use until two new ones, both of the more improved pattern, can be delivered—in, say, two or three months. By that time it is to be hoped the "North-western Field Force" will have no more use for Gatling or any other sort of guns.

The first attempt at drill with these novel weapons was amusing. The horses purchased by Captain Norman, Mounted Police supply officer, took so unkindly to the strange vehicle behind them, that after dancing for a dozen yards, one of them became quite uncontrollable. The more he danced, the worse he got mixed up in his harness, and at last the pole was smashed, the gun carriage was thrown over, and it took half a dozen men to get the mutinous animal away to a place of retreat and disgrace. After this incident two of the Battery's own horses were harnessed; the evolutions proceeded with something like order, and a little firing practice was gone through on the shores of a neighbouring slough, resulting in the slaughter of a few ducks. But even the regular battery horses showed a decided objection to their new load.

Captain French's scouts were a fine body of men, well deserving a few words. They were well equipped, 18 repeater Remington, cartridge belts, revolvers, buckskin coats, etc. They preceded the expedition. Only two half-breeds were among them, the remainder being Europeans.

Neither must we forget the transport service. S. L. Bedson, warden of the Manitoba Penitentiary, had charge of this, and had it thoroughly organized. There were 350 teams, divided into right and left divisions, each of which was sub-divided into sub-divisions of ten teams under a head teamster. They paid about \$7 per day for the teams, and the drivers found them food and forage. Mr. Bedson was ably assisted by J. H. E. Secretan.

The following were the orders issued by Warden Bedson:—

"The transport service will consist of two divisions.

"The first division will be in charge of J. H. E. Secretan.

"The second division will be in charge of Thos. Lusted.

"Sub-divisions of ten teams will be placed in charge of a head teamster, who will be held responsible by transport officers in charge of divisions.

"Drivers will obey the orders of the head teamsters of their sub-divisions.

"When on the move, sub-divisions will keep together as much as practicable, and head teamsters must see that, in emergencies, teams must assist each other, doubling-up if necessary, in ascending hills or crossing soft places.

"Each head teamster will be supplied with cooking kit for ten men; he will appoint one of his drivers as cook, a mess of ten thus being formed for each sub-division.

"During the preparation of meals head teamsters will detail in regular order one driver, who will feed and take care of the cook's team.

"Troops, when occupying seats in waggons, will be governed by the orders of the transport staff, as approved by the Major-General commanding, and must assist transport corps in every possible manner, and especially when ascending hills, etc.

"Spare waggon-poles, whiffletrees, neck-yokes, etc., will be supplied to each sub-division.

"In event of any breakage, head teamsters in charge of sub-divisions will be held responsible that no unnecessary delay occurs."

The teamsters, too, it must be remembered, had to be drilled, for order and discipline were as necessary in their marches as in those of the troops. The chief part of their drill was learning to form what Warden Benson called "a north-west zariba," the chief object of which was to prevent a stampede of the animals in case of surprise. The plan was to have twenty-five waggons arranged in a square, and opposite the interstices, in the outer lines other waggons, while through the front wheels of the inner twenty-five, strong picket-ropes, with double hitches round the spokes of the wheels, run.

The transport service had no light duties to perform. Over 500,000 pounds of ammunition had been shipped to the West, and 2,000 sets of accoutrements. Armour & Co., of Chicago, received orders from Ottawa for 225,000 pounds of canned meat for shipment to Winnipeg, all of which had to be transported westwards, to say nothing of the hay. This cost the Government, delivered at Clark's Crossing from Qu'Appelle, \$400 per ton; the freight from Qu'Appelle to Clark's Crossing was \$220 per ton. The Government paid \$20 per ton. Five hundred tons per month are being consumed.

PROGRESS OF THE RISING.

The first unlawful acts committed by the rebels were breaking into the settlement store kept by George Carr, and sacking the store kept by Walters & Baker. In all cases the rebels took what goods they found, and then made prisoners of the storekeepers. The object of the rebels seemed to strike at the Dominion Government, as they imprisoned all the Government officials and clerks they could lay hands on. Riel sent couriers up to White Cap to induce him to join them. He said he was going to clean out the white settlement at Prince Albert. Soon after this occurred the more definite outbreak at Duck Lake, which we have already noticed.

This was closely followed by the burning and evacuation of Fort Carlton by Colonel Irvine and his Mounted Police. Despatches from Winnipeg, dated the 29th of March, brought authentic news of this. Colonel Irvine, with 260 police and volunteers, left the post on the previous Friday, after burning the stores and other supplies likely to fall into the hands of the rebels. Its evacuation was rendered necessary from lack of provisions to supply the increased force and the exposed character of the post. Colonel Irvine went to Prince Albert, as being easier to defend and a larger settlement.

Despatches dated a day later, showed danger increasing in the vicinity of Battleford. Battleford is situated on the Battle River, within two miles of its confluence with the North Saskatchewan, and is a thriving village of 300 inhabitants, until recently the seat of Territorial Government, and even yet the headquarters of a troop of Mounted Police and a number of officials of the Government. The high banks of the Battle River which closely overhang it in its upper stretches, recede from the stream as it passes through the village and leave a low, rich "flat," which stretches from the village to the Saskatchewan. Mr. McKay, agent of the Hudson Bay Company there, telegraphed on March 31st: "The half-breeds and Indians are plundering our stores. With the Indian agent I ventured out of the barracks to remonstrate with them, when we were fired upon by the Indians and half-breeds. They tried to cut us off on our way back to the barracks, but we succeeded in getting back safely." A subsequent despatch from Battleford stated that the Indians had killed two farm instructors. Another private despatch stated that the half-breeds about Battleford had joined the Indians, and were in possession of all the stores and buildings outside the barracks. The men in the barracks, it was believed, had sufficient arms and ammunition for their numbers, and could hold out till relieved. The half-breeds were expected at Battleford from Duck Lake. The Stony Indians joined the others, and killed several men. The buildings on the south side were burned, including the Hudson Bay store and Government buildings. The Indians seized all the cattle along the settlement. The Stony Indians on the reserve nearest Battleford were quiet. The rising made the situation very critical. Colonel Herchmer left Regina for