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## LIEUT.-COL. WILLIAMS.

Canada boasts but few statues to the men who have fought and died in her defence; that so few exist is anything but creditable to the public spirit of the country, and to those who control the national treasury. Public interest, so long dormant, is being aroused on the subject, and the noble efforts of the patriotic societies of Ontario are beginning to bear fruit. One of the latest of these memorials is that in Port Hope to the late Lieut.-Col. Williams, who organized and commanded the Midland Battalion for service in the North-West, on the breaking out of the rebellion in '85, and whose death, while on duty, aroused so much regret and sympathy throughout all Canada. A short sketch of his career may be of interest to our readers.

Arthur Trefusis Heneage Williams was born at Penryn Park, Port Hope, Ontario, in 1837. He was a son of Tucker Williams, a commander in the Royal Navy, who sat for Durham, in the Canadian Assembly, from 1840 to 1848. In his early boyhood Arthur was sent to Upper Canada College, where he was the pupil of F. W. Barron, Esq., M.A., the principal, and was the fellow-student of many, who, like himself, have figured conspicuously in the history of this country. In 1854, at the age of seventeen years, our subject was left fatherless, and deep indeed was his distress. He was passionately fond of his parents, and was the constant companion of his father whenever he was at home. Shortly after his father's death the guardians of his son sent him to Scotland, where he attended Edinburgh University and enjoyed the valuable instruction of Prof. Aytoun, and other distinguished men, whose friendship he retained in after years. Having completed his college course, he travelled extensively in Great Britain and Ireland, and upon the Continent. Upon coming of age Mr. Williams devoted himself to acquiring a knowledge of the affairs of the large estate left by his father, and actively co-operated with the executors and trustees under his father's will, in the management of the extensive properties committed to them. He married a daughter of the Honorable Senator Seymour, but she died in 1882. He was a man of large and generous public spirit, and connected himself with a number of important enterprises. He began political life by entering the Ontario Legislature at the general election in 1867. In 1871 he was re-elected by acclamation to



Statue of Lieutenant-Colonel Williams.  
Erected at Port Hope, Ont.

the same house. He was first elected to the House of Commons at the general elections for 1878, and was re-elected at the last general election. Through life a zealous Conservative, he was always held in respect and honour by his party; but his personal relationship with gentlemen opposed to him on public questions was always of the most cordial kind. The subject of our sketch entered the Militia at an early age, and when the rebellion broke out in the North-West in 1885, he had risen to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. When troops were needed there from the East, Lieut.-Col. Williams was entrusted with the formation and command of the "Midland" battalion, drawn from various Ontario corps. The gallant conduct of this regiment and its commander at the crowning action of Batoche is well known to all readers of the history of this campaign.

After Batoche, he, with his battalion, the scattered parts of which had now come up, proceeded with General Middleton to Prince Albert, and thence to Battleford and Fort Pitt. From there he was despatched to Frog Lake, in pursuit of Big Bear, and on to a point twenty-four miles north. This was a most fatiguing and wearying march; but he returned to Fort Pitt well and in good spirits. Here, however, his camp was pitched on a muskeg of damp, spongy ground, and there for fourteen weary days they waited, expecting each day to bring them the order for the homeward march. It was during this

time that the disease was contracted which finally carried him off. That determination to accept for himself no luxuries which were not available for his men, which had ever been the distinguishing characteristics of his military life, prevented his accepting the proper camp-bed, which would have raised his body above the dampness and chill of the ground. This brought on a severe cold with pains in his limbs, and added to it was the effect of the burning heat at the church parade on Sunday, the 28th June, which led him to believe that he had suffered a sunstroke. On Wednesday, the 1st July, when a general parade was ordered to celebrate the birthday of the Dominion, he attempted to take the command of his battalion but found he was not equal to the labour. The surgeon advised him to go aboard the steamer *Northwest* and lie down, and he did so, no apprehension of anything serious being then entertained. From that bed in the captain's room, he never rose, and delirium setting in on