



TORONTO, 5th September, 1891.

ANOTHER exciting news comes from Drummondville, Ont. In opening up a sand-pit on the opposite side of the road from the cemetery a trench was reached in which lay a number of the soldiers who fought in the Battle of Lundy's Lane, 25th July, 1814. Fifteen bodies have been exhumed, and these, with all that may yet come to light, will be reverently re-interred in the cemetery, the Lundy's Lane Historical

Society,—President, Rev. Canon Bull,—having taken the matter in hand. Many of the red coats are in good preservation, as are also the buckskin vests, the tobacco pouches and also officers' braid. The buttons show the men to have been of the 89th and 103rd regiments. Both of these regiments suffered severely in this severe engagement. The 89th had two officers, 27 non-commissioned officers and men killed, 11 officers, 177 N.C.O. and men wounded, and 37 N.C.O. and men missing. The 103rd had 6 privates killed, 1 officer, 46 N.C.O. and men wounded, 3 officers, 4 N.C.O. and men missing.

An idea of the tremendous work put in by our men at this battle may be gathered from the account of the movements of one of the regiments whose dead has just come to light in so unlooked for a manner. Capt. Cruikshank says in his *Battle of Lundy's Lane*, 2nd edition, p. 32-3:

"The action had now continued for nearly three hours, and the British force had been reduced by casualties to less than twelve hundred officers and men, and its situation seemed perilous in the extreme. It could no longer be a matter of doubt that they had to contend with the whole American army. But relief, though long delayed, was close at hand. After the original order of march had been countermanded, the troops encamped at Twelve Mile Creek (now St. Catharines) and remained quietly in their quarters until the afternoon. Then the order was received from Gen. Riall, directing a portion of the force to advance immediately to his support by way of De Cew's Falls and Lundy's Lane. This meant a march of fourteen miles under a burning sun. Colonel Scott instantly obeyed, taking with him seven companies of his own regiment (the 103rd), seven companies of the Royal Scots, Lieut.-Col. John Gordon; five companies of the 8th, Major Evans; the flank companies of the 104th (the regiment that marched from Fredericton, N.B., to Montreal on snow-shoes), Capt. R. Leonard, and a few picked men, selected from some of the militia battalions in camp, under Lieut.-Col. Hamilton; yet owing to the weak state of the companies his entire column did not muster more than 1,200 of all ranks. This force was accompanied by three 6-pounders and a 5½ inch howitzer, under Capt. Mackonochie. The advance guard was already within three miles of the field of battle when they were met by an orderly, bearing a second despatch from Gen. Riall, announcing that he was about to retire upon Queenston, and directing them to retreat at once. They had retraced their steps for nearly four miles, when the roar of cannon burst upon their ears, and they were overtaken by a second messenger summoning them to the scene of conflict. It was accordingly nine o'clock (at night) before the head of this column, weary and foot-sore with a march of more than twenty miles, almost without a halt, came in view on the extreme right."

"Finally," says our author in summing up, "when it was almost midnight, the thinned and wearied ranks were again closed and urged up the hill side. Headed by the light company of the 41st, led by Capt. Glew, they pressed steadily up the slope and at length stood triumphantly on the summit."

Such were the prices paid for our British liberties upon Canadian soil. Yet there are those who bid us give them away.

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That high class, literary and patriotic journal, *The Orillia Packet*, which rarely sends out an issue without some records or reminiscences of much historic value, gives, in its present number, the conclusion of certain papers it has been reproducing lately, as an anniversary contribution to the date of "Bulger's Victory." During the war of 1812 Lieut. Bulger, of the Michigan Fencibles (then a part of Canada) had been sent round by the Georgian Bay to check an American advance in that direction, and had achieved a brilliant success at the opening of the Nottawasaga river at a point therein that has since borne his name. I have not the records at hand and cannot be exact, but think it worth while to bring a name and a victory not often found in our popular histories of the war, since it may lead to more enquiries and a better presentation of facts that would be interesting to students of history.

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The *Orillia Packet* also gives place to a cutting from the *Hamilton Spectator* which is of more than ordinary interest, since it adds one to our list of Canadian heroines, albeit the damsel's name was Irish.

The *Spectator* says: "To-day Mrs. John Winer enters upon the 91st year of her life. She was born on a farm near Niagara Falls, on the Canadian side of the river, August 28th, 1801. In her girlhood Sarah Ryan (Mrs. Winer's maiden name) was famed throughout the whole country-side for her fearlessness and daring. One exploit of hers, when she was only twelve years of age, deserves to be recorded in history. The war of 1812-15 had been in progress a year, and as her father's farm was near the frontier the child had become familiar with the sounds of battle and the sight of soldiers. She was intensely patriotic and longed to do something to help the Canadian cause. Her opportunity came. A large American force had landed on the Canadian side and cut off communication between a small Canadian force and the main British army. The Canadian officer in command wished to communicate with his superior officer without delay, but the difficulty was how to get the despatches through the enemy's lines. In his dilemma he thought of little Sarah Ryan, whose fearless character and daring horsemanship he had often heard of. He asked the child whether she would carry the despatches. She eagerly undertook the task, and the papers were intrusted to her. The child accomplished the mission successfully, riding straight through the enemy's lines, and never pausing in her long ride until she had placed the precious papers in the hands of the British commander."

"It was a deed," says the chronicler very truly, "scarcely less daring and heroic than the famous walk of Laura Secord."

Ah Canada! thy crown has many gems.

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I am glad to see by the issue, 7th August, of the *Charlottetown (P.E.I.) Guardian* that Mr. Francis Bain, of that Island, has published "Birds of Prince Edward Island, their Habits and Characteristics" (Easard & Moore). It is time a more intelligent interest was taken by Canadians in their native and migratory birds. On every hand, as one travels, the eye is caught by unsightly bunches of dead leaves on our trees, the work of caterpillars, and the number of our birds is becoming less and less. Pot-hunters and nest-robbers are not alone to blame for this we know, since very severe spells of frost will often destroy a large number of our small birds, and the miserable fashion of wearing birds and wings has helped to make them fewer still, while prejudice has its votaries, too, who are alike ignorant and blood-thirsty in the matter of feather, but if a knowledge of our birds, by means of cheap books and lectures or something of the sort, were made popular it would be of advantage both to ourselves, as an innocent and attractive recreation, and to our country at large.

Our maples are dying in many parts, attacked by a borer, and yet there are creatures who will bring in a wood-pecker with the utmost impudence, as a trophy of their skill. I would give such a month at hard labour.

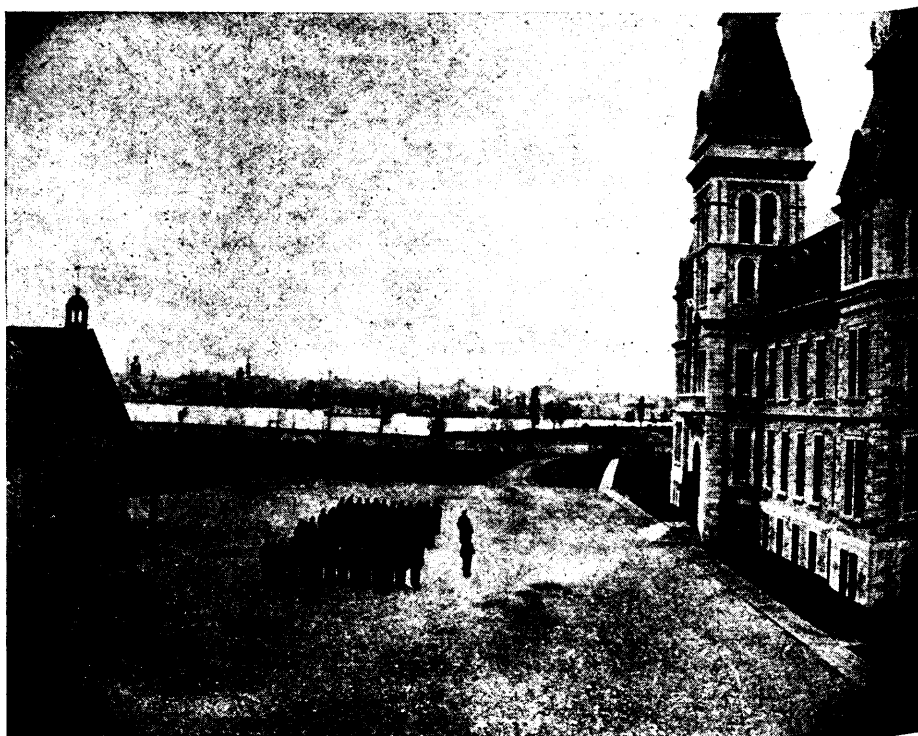
S. A. CURZON.

An Electric Railway.

The House of Lords' Committee have sanctioned the construction of an electric railway from Shepherd's Bush to Cornhill at a cost of £3,000,000 sterling. It will pass beneath Oxford street and Holborn, with thirteen stations on the route. The threatened opposition on the ground that the railway would shake the foundations of St. Paul's Cathedral does not seem to have been persevered with.

A Costly Joke.

At a ball in Liverpool, a gentleman, for a joke, removed a chair just as a male guest was about to sit down. The victim fell to the ground and injured his spine. He brought an action in the Liverpool County Court, and the practical joker was ordered to pay the plaintiff's claim (£46) with costs.



ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE, KINGSTON—THE DAILY PARADE.