

A CANADIAN HERO.

This afternoon His Excellency received a telegram from Lord Roberts informing him that yesterday near Pretoria, Lieut. Borden was killed in action. Lieut. Borden was a young man who enlisted recently to fight for the Queen in South Africa. He was only 23 years of age, a young man of great promise, athletic in figure, bright, intelligent, a model boy in every way. He had, as I am informed, already made a mark in his career, attracting the attention of his chiefs by his coolness under fire, by his daring, and by his courage, and had won the affections of his comrades by his amiable disposition. This precious life has been cut short by the uncertainties of war. Now, this event, I am sure, will reach the heart of every member of this house.

The Premier.

The South African war has cost the lives of many good and brave men. It has taken none better or braver than this fine example of Canadian manhood.

Montreal "Gazette."

Borden was twice before brought to my notice in despatches for gallant and intrepid conduct.

Lord Roberts.

Halifax, July 17.—The sad tidings of the death of Lieutenant Borden was received in this city with universal expressions of sorrow and regret. Lieutenant Borden was very popular in Halifax. His work in connection with the organization of the Mounted Rifles here attracted favorable attention, while his attractive personality and sterling qualities won him many friends.

Kentville, July 17.—The news of the death of Lieutenant Borden came as a shock here and in Canning, his home. His sister is now at home in Canning, and is grief stricken. Mrs. Dr. Borden is his step-mother, but regarded him as a son. He was popular here. He commanded Kings county Hussars at Aldershot one year and was complimented on his work. He held a first-class certificate of the Royal School of Cavalry, and was qualified for high rank in the second contingent. He left here with the best wishes of all, and said on leaving: "I will not send those under me to any place that I will not go myself." He has done his duty to the credit of our country.

When the second summons to Canadians to share the duties and responsibilities of the Empire arrived, among those who promptly volunteered to sail across the seas and fight for the freedom and protection of our kin in South Africa was Harold Borden, the only son of the Minister of Militia. A handsome lad of grand proportions, he made a splendid officer. Yet, among the thousands who have died for Queen and Empire, he is only one. But in the distant province of Nova Scotia, in a pretty village nestling under the shadow of Blomidon, he was the "only one" thought of and dreamed of, and followed with prayers and hopes for his safe return. The writer remembers him as a sweet tempered, strong and handsome boy, with fearless eyes and dark hair, a brave and loveable lad with a marked fondness for horses. He fulfilled the promise of his happy school-days, and became a remarkably tall and handsome young man. Following in the footsteps of father and grandfather, he commenced the study of medicine, and was attending McGill University at the outbreak of the war in South Africa. The country round about his Nova Scotia home supports

a troop of cavalry, composed of "stalwart tillers of the soil," the owners of good horses and able to ride them. The young lieutenant of B squadron, Second Mounted Rifles, was the commanding officer of this capital troop of cavalry, and the news of his death will bring the tears of sorrow for one who never shall return to the men who live in the quiet and peaceful valley of Cornwallis, where the fresh air sweeps over the Bay of Fundy dashing its waters against grim and frowning Cape Blomidon, and waving the grain and grass in meadow and pasture land. Quiet and modest as he was brave, he deserves the tributes of sorrow and regret which his untimely although glorious death has drawn from those who knew this splendid type of the youthful Nova Scotian. He has done his duty as a voluntary soldier of the Queen, and if, just before he fell,

"With a fleck of red on his pallid lip and a film of white on his eye,"

some one had complimented him upon doing his duty, he would probably have said, in his soft and sympathetic tones: "What should you expect me to do?" Such was Harold Borden!

As an eloquent member of the House said on Tuesday last, Lieutenant Borden's grand but untimely death has deprived a father of his only son, and his country of a valuable life, yet he has "won the great prize of death in battle."

CADET CORPS—No citizen of Montreal who has had the pleasure of watching his son or his nephews marching "with light, springing footsteps" through our streets, will dare to say that such drill and discipline as our young soldiers get in the course of a year is harmful to them. Yet the Woman's Journal views the proposed establishment of school-boy brigades, with fear and trembling for the future of the empire. Under the heading "England's Ominous Step," the paper in question says: "More ominous of England's future than any of the army bills called for by the present war, and more significant of the poor prospects of permanent peace among the nations than the comparative failure of The Hague Conference, is a step that the British Government is about to take, regarding which almost nothing has as yet been written. It is to make every public-school-boy in the land a semi-official adjunct of the British Army, compelling him to take thorough military training under military inspection so long as he remains in the public schools, and providing for the establishment of school-boy militia in the shape of cadet corps and battalions under the direct control of the War Office, and receiving therefrom \$500,000 a year by way of support. Unless some unforeseen circumstances change present arrangements, the resolution will be presented to Parliament within the next few weeks. It will be broached in the House of Commons by Sir James Fergusson, a Crimean veteran, and in the House of Lords by Earl Brownlow, formerly Under-Secretary of State for War. The plan will affect about 4,000,000 boys in the United Kingdom.