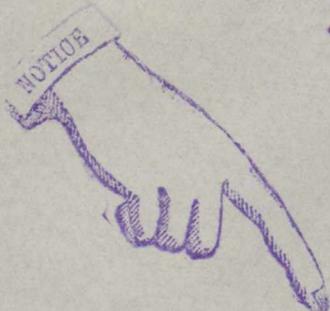


C O P Y



Montreal

To Colonel J. Hambury Williams, C.V.O., C.M.G.
Military Secretary to
His Excellency Earl Grey, K.G.C.
Governor-General of Canada

Sir:-

A recent and deplorable incident relating to the death of an ex-army man in this City, and the spirit of fellowship commensurate with the honour of the Naval and Military profession of the British Empire, has caused some representatives of military sentiment in Montreal to amalgamate in an effort to organize a voluntary Fund to cope with the inadequacy of existing provision for the christian burial of honourably discharged soldiers and sailors of the Empire's Home and Colonial Fighting Forces, who through dire misfortune die in a distant land far from friends or relatives that if opportunity afforded would bear the expense of burial, rather than commit the body to the disposal of the Inspector of Anatomy.

It is felt that a public appeal to the sentiment of soldiers and sailors particularly, and others in general who are imbued with the military spirit of good comradeship and patriotism, in the manner we propose, backed by the Honorary Patronage of His Excellency the Governor - General, and other influential people, could not possibly fail to obtain the desired results.

Incidentally we respectfully desire to submit and emphasise that our appeal to His Excellency is not to solicit a subscription, but his consideration of the advisability of giving this worthy Fund his nominal Patronage, and thus show that His Majesty's Representative approves of our action and its purposes.

Our proposition in detail, is to establish a Fund to be known as the "Last Post" Imperial Naval & Military Contingency Fund, its primary object being as herein stated, to give christian burial and sanctuary to the socially abandoned ex-members of the Empire's Forces, as commensurate with the most honourable of professions.

The Treasurership we would like to place in the hands of a local British Banking Firm, the Executive to be under the direction of Trinity Church of Montreal, (the Military Church used by the Imperial Garrison when here) and to include in its members an Official Undertaker whose business it would be to report and undertake cases that are brought to his notice by the public, Civic, or Institutional authorities.

It is proposed in connection with the Fund, to obtain a large plot of ground, probably in the new Cemetery at Bout-de-l'Isle and erect an appropriate United Service Monument thereon, the names of those interred therein to be inscribed on it with the designation of their respective regiment or ship; the plot could also be available for private Naval or Military interments in cases where there are relatives to meet the cost and are desirous of having them interred in the "Soldiers and Sailor's Plot".

The efforts of the Executive will be to extend the fund throughout the Dominion and watch for cases that require its application.