

but the rebellion was put down by Sir Garnet Wolseley, and Canada took possession in 1870. Only a small eastern portion of the new territory was organized, under the name of the Province of Manitoba, while the great plains stretching for a thousand miles westward, and northward from the boundary line to the Pole, were in a sense free from control, the Hudson's Bay Company being no longer responsible for its government, and Canada being little more than nominally at the helm.

PURPOSES OF ITS ORGANIZATION

Accordingly, we find that men like Sir William Butler, the famous author of "The Great Lone Land," a book written as a result of his western trip, and Colonel Robertson Ross recommended the organization of a mobile armed force to patrol this vast area, in order to keep the Indian tribes in order, to prevent crimes like horse-stealing, to suppress the legion of bootleg whisky sellers who preyed upon the Indians, to guard against prairie fires, to prevent the untimely extermination of the buffalo, to protect any scattered settlers that might come to ranch or farm, and generally to be "a terror to evildoers and a praise to them that did well." This was a large order, and only men of the best stamp could fill it.

And so, in 1873 Sir John A. Macdonald, then Premier of Canada, a keen and diplomatic statesman, introduced in the House of Commons a bill respecting "the administration of justice and the establishment of a police force in the Northwest Territories." An interesting fact was that this was to be a civil force in uniform, not a military organization subject to the Queen's regulations, but



PHOTO SHOWING SON OF CHARLES DICKENS

This historic photograph was picked up in the ashes after the Indians had burned Fort Pitt, on the Saskatchewan, in the Riel Rebellion time. The figure in riding-boots is Inspector Dickens, who was in command of the Mounted Police at Fort Pitt at the time. He was a son of the world-famed novelist, and a gallant officer. The tall man beside him is Quinn, the government agent, who was shot by the Indians in the Frog Lake massacre. In the centre is James Simpson, the Hudson's Bay Company clerk and interpreter, while on the left, with the dog at his feet, stands Stanley Simpson, who was drowned in Lake Winnipeg when trying to save Chief Factor Horace Belanger. Inspector Dickens died a few years ago.

dependent for discipline upon the personality of the officers, the *esprit-de-corps* that would be generated, and the *noblesse oblige* idea that would emerge in the course of service. And all these things in course of time actually developed. The officers were never weaklings, but men of outstanding strength; a strong sense of loyalty to the organization grew up, and the fact of wearing the scarlet-and-gold of the force was enough to impel every Mounted Policeman to do his duty and thus live up to the unbroken traditions of the organization. They did not readily conform to rigid rules of war discipline, for