

some forty years in the history of our Province, to take a glance at the history of the Queen's Own Rifles.

In or about the year 1859 Sir Fenwick Williams, the hero of Kars, paid a visit to the Governor of the Province. Sir Fenwick while in Charlottetown advised the Governor to encourage the formation of Volunteer companies where such did not already exist, and this was accordingly done. The informant to whom is due the above account of the origin of the company which is to be described, as well as most of the information contained in the rest of this article, says nothing of the two eastern counties, but confines himself to what fell under his own observation.

In the fall of 1859 there were at least six companies formed in Prince County alone. It may not be amiss to remark in passing, that the captain of the company at Cascumpec was that veteran Militia officer, afterwards well known in Canadian literature, the late Col. John Hunter Duvar.

It is however, the company at St. Eleanor's, then the county town, to which those who read this are now to be presented. Towards the end of 1859, a meeting was held in the Court House, presided over by James Campbell, Esq., for the purpose of taking steps towards forming a company of Rifles. The matter was enthusiastically taken up and a good number signed the roll then and there. At this, or another meeting held soon after, the officers of the company were chosen as follows; Captain, Albert Casswell; Lieutenant, John Haszard; Ensign, (now called 2nd Lieutenant) James Campbell. Captain Casswell was not a novice in military affairs, having served for six years in the Royal Wiltshire (England) Yeomanry Cavalry, now known as The Prince of Wales' Regiment Wiltshire Yeomanry Cavalry. The company roll when signed was sent to the Adjutant General, Col. P. Stewart, who returned it for the signature of the Captain elect. This omission having been supplied the company was authorized under the name of "The St. Eleanors' Rifle Company, Letter F." This was in December, 1859. The name, however, was afterwards changed by request, by Lt. Governor Dundas, to "The Queen's Own."

It may be, the writer's information is somewhat limited, that the militiaman's path even now is not strewn with roses, but it is