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MEN OF NEW BRUNSWICK LOOK WITH PRIDE ON THE GLORIOUS RECORD OF THE 104TH REGT.

DR. HANNAY OUTLINES CAREER OF THE REGIMENT FROM ITS MOBILIZATION TO END OF WAR

The Natural Successor of the Old New Brunswick Regiment, It Was Not Particularly Well Treated by the Assembly of That Day, but Made Its Mark in the Campaign of 1813 and Won Honor in Every Battle.

In connection with the presentation to Lieut.-Col. George W. Fowler, of the sword carried by Lieut. W. B. Phair of the original 104th New Brunswick Regiment, information prepared by the late Dr. Jas. Hannay and Venerable Archdeacon Raymond of the career of this famous regiment will no doubt be of more than passing interest. Dr. Hannay describes at some length the organization and the activities of the regiment, while Dr. Raymond devotes his attention very largely to the famous march from Fredericton to Quebec.

Succeeded the Kings N. B. Rgt.

Dr. Hannay explains that the 104th Regiment was the natural successor of the King's New Brunswick regiment which was raised in 1793 when war broke out between Britain and France and was disbanded in 1802 after the peace of Amiens. The war with France being renewed in 1803 the folly of this demobilization became apparent, and New Brunswick at once set about the task of raising another regiment which eventually became the New Brunswick Regiment of Fencible Infantry, numbering twelve companies and with a strength of upwards of one thousand men. Of those officers who had originally belonged to the old New Brunswick Regiment only two, so far as is known held commissions in the new organization, these being, Captain Dugal Campbell, Wm. Barry Phair, W. R. Bradley and Dr. Thos. Emerson. The New Brunswick Regiment of Fencible Infantry was stationed in this province from the time of its formation until February, 1813, after the outbreak of the war with the United States, excepting that in June 1808, Capt. Shore and two companies were sent to Garrison Sydney, C. B., and that in 1809 when the 101st Regiment was removed from St. John to the West Indies, part of the New Brunswick Regiment came here from Fredericton to take its place. During that summer the troops were employed in making a road from St. John to Fredericton, and in February, 1811, in view of the prospect of war with the United States the regiment was garrisoned at St. John. The 104th Regiment, the first colonial regiment ever absorbed into the British line. This was an important event in the history of the corps and was very properly regarded as a highly honorable distinction.

List of Officers

War broke out with the United States in June 1812, and as New Brunswick had to be defended it was not until February, 1813, that the 104th could be spared for service elsewhere. Its place in New Brunswick was taken by a battalion of the 8th regiment, the other battalion of which was then serving in Upper Canada. The officers of the 104th Regiment at the time were as follows: Colonel Martin Hunter. Lieut.-Col. Alexander Halkett. Majors, William Drummond, Robert Moodie. Captains, Thomas Hunter, Staff, Richard Leonard, Staff, A. G. Armstrong, Peter Dimack, Wm. E. Bradley, B. A. Loring, G. V. Geran, John Maule, Major, George Shore, William Proctor, Edward Holland. Lieutenants, George Jobling, John Jenkins, Adj. Frederick Shaffalisky, James De Lancey, John Carmichael, Thomas Leonard, Samuel Rigby, Alexander Campbell, A. W. Playfair, J. McCutcheon, R. J. Ireland, Henry Long, Andrew Rainsford, Charles Rainsford, John McKinnon, Wm. B. Phair, L. Bassor, C. D. Rankine, T. B. Sutherland, H. N. Moorsom, George Crood, A. C. Macdonald, Frederick Moore, James Grey. Ensigns, E. W. Solomon, A. Graves, James A. Macleachlan, William Martin, Constable, James Miller, Charles Jobling, James Coyne, James Coates, H. H. Carmichael, Paymaster; Wm. McDonald, Quartermaster; John Jenkins, Adjutant; Wm. D. Thomas, Sur-

Presentation of the Sword Carried by Lieut. Phair of the Regiment of a Century Ago Recalls the Career of the First Colonial Corps to be Absorbed Into the British Line and the Wonderful Record Made by Those Heroes of the Snows.

THE HISTORIC SWORD AND ITS NEW OWNER

Committee Secured This Memento from a Grandson of the Original Owner and Have Had a New Sheath Made to Carry It—Col. Fowler a Worthy Recipient.

The sword which was presented to Lieut.-Col. George W. Fowler, commanding officer of the 104th Regiment, last evening at the great gathering in Queen's Rink was carried through the campaign of 1813 by Lieut. William Barry Phair, an officer of the old 104th Regiment. It has remained in Lieut. Phair's family ever since, and was secured from a grandson of that officer by the Recruiting Committee only after a great deal of difficulty, as the owner naturally did not feel disposed to part with an heirloom of such historic value. The committee turned over the sword to a group of friends of Lieut.-Col. Fowler on whose behalf the presentation was made last evening.

In the passage of years the original sheath was lost, but the committee have had a new one made to fit the Sam Brown equipment now worn by Canadian officers, this work being done by Messrs. Horton & Co. of this city. Like the sword of Roland, which was such an inspiration to the Paladins of France in the days of old, this sword of the old and famous 104th will no doubt prove, in the possession of Lieut.-Col. Fowler, an incentive to the men of the present day 104th to equal or surpass the glorious record of their fellow Britons of a century ago.

Kingston to join General Vincent's command on the Niagara frontier. They reached their destination immediately after the American defeat at Stony Creek, and were placed in the van of the army which was following the retreating enemy. Detachments were pushed forward to occupy the cross roads at Ten Mile Creek, and at the Beaver Dam, the latter place being occupied by a subaltern and 30 men of the 104th. As this little force was somewhat isolated, the Americans formed a design to capture it, and on the 23rd of June, Lieut.-Col. Boerstler with a detachment of infantry, cavalry and artillery, numbering 673 officers and men, left Fort St. George for that purpose. The fate of this detachment is the most extraordinary episode of the war, for it was captured almost without firing a shot by a clever ruse of Lieutenant Fitzgibbon of the 49th Regiment, who summoned Boerstler to surrender and made him believe he was surrounded by enemies, when in reality he was in no danger whatever. The American commander and 542 of his men became prisoners of war.

Suffered From Sickness

During the summer of 1813, the 104th Regiment remained on the Niagara frontier, suffering greatly from sickness, fever and ague being very prevalent that year. It is thus mainly, rather than by loss of life in battle, that regiments and armies are reduced in strength. Later in the year the regiment took part in the operations by which General Wilkinson's attempt on Montreal was defeated, but it was not actually engaged. It missed the glorious victory at Chrysler's farm which put an end to the hopes of the Americans in that quarter.

At Lundy's Lane

The flank companies of the 104th Regiment, numbering about 150 men, under Captains Leonard and Shore,



LT.-COL. GEORGE W. FOWLER AND THE SWORD OF THE 104TH.

took part in the battle of Lundy's Lane. Being on the extreme right, which was but feebly attacked by the enemy, their losses were slight, being one man killed and five wounded. Lieut.-Col. Drummond of the 104th was very active in the battle, and Lieut. Moorsom of the regiment, who was on the staff, was killed. The American army fled to Fort Erie and was followed by General Drummond's force, of which the flank companies of the 104th formed a part. Fort Erie was invested by British and the American army was cooped up within its walls. To facilitate the attack on Fort Erie it was deemed necessary to capture or destroy the American batteries at Black Rock, on the opposite side of the Niagara River. The flank companies of the 104th were a part of the force detailed for this operation, but it failed, mainly because the enemy had received warning of it and had entrenched themselves in a position which could not be carried. A few men of the regiment were killed and wounded in this affair.

Assault on Fort Erie

The same companies of the 104th were in the assault on Fort Erie which took place on the 13th August, 1814, their strength being at that time reduced to about 80 men. They formed a part of the centre column under the command of Lieut.-Col. Drummond. This column, after desperate fighting, took possession of the salient bastion of the Douglas Battery, but were nearly all destroyed by an explosion which took place within it. The bastion had been mined, and when General Gaines saw that it was in the possession of the British he fired the train and blew it up. This was no doubt a legitimate act of warfare, but this fact did not justify him in falsifying the record and stating in his official despatch that the British were driven out of the bastion at the point of the bayonet. The

British in the bastion were blown up and most of them killed by the explosion. Lieut.-Col. Drummond of the 104th had been killed before the explosion, while gallantly fighting at the head of his men. On the 30 men belonging to the flank companies of the regiment who went into action, 53 were killed or wounded. Captain Leonard was wounded, and Lieutenant Macleachlan was wounded severely. The British loss in the assault on Fort Erie was 905, a larger number than were killed and wounded in the battle of Lundy's Lane.

Had No Recruiting Base

The 104th Regiment lost heavily from disease and other incidents of warfare from the time it took the field, and it had no recruiting ground by means of which its losses could be made good. As soon as it took its departure from New Brunswick, another corps, the New Brunswick Fencibles, was organized by General Coffin, and the recruits from this province which ought to have gone to the 104th were taken into the new organization. Thus the best method of replenishing the wasted ranks of the 104th became a matter of serious concern, and Earl Bathurst, the secretary of the Colonial department, proposed that the negro slaves of Virginia who had fled to the British ships to obtain their freedom should be permitted to enlist in the New Brunswick regiment. This suggestion does not appear to have been carried out.

Disbanded in 1817

The military services of the 104th Regiment ended with the close of the campaign of 1814, for the war was ended nearly in 1815. The regiment was then sent to Quebec where it remained a year. It afterwards did garrison duty at Montreal until the 24th of May, 1817, when it was disbanded. Most of the soldiers received grants of

DR. RAYMOND'S STORY OF THE WONDERFUL MARCH TO QUEBEC THROUGH COLD AND HUNGER

On Snowshoes, and Pulling Toboggans Carrying Their Food, These Hardy Pioneers Fought the Wildest Winter on Record, Making Such Progress as Surprised Themselves—A Graphic Story Graphically Told.

land and became settlers in Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Those who were going to the two latter provinces were sent in vessels to Halifax and St. John, receiving two months' pay on their arrival. General Drummond had been very anxious that the 104th Regiment, and two other provincial corps, the Glenagarry Regiment and the Canadian Fencibles, should be retained in the British army, but his advice was not heeded, and so these veterans of the war who were looked upon with pride by their fellow countrymen were scattered and their services lost to their country. Even the memory of their achievements seems to have soon faded away, for no attempt was made to obtain from the survivors of the 104th a narrative of their services in two campaigns, and now the story of their battles can only be gathered from the official despatches, which contain but the barest outline of the facts recorded.

Dr. Raymond's Story

The following interesting particulars concerning the famous winter march of the old 104th Regiment during the war of 1812 were written a few years ago by Rev. W. O. Raymond, and in view of the formation of the 104th Battalion now exceeding its full strength they are here reproduced. The King's New Brunswick Regiment, organized by Governor Carleton for the defence of the province during the war with France in the year 1793 was disbanded in 1802, peace having been proclaimed. The peace was of short duration, for war broke out again the following year. By the efforts of Major-General Hunter a new provincial corps was raised, called the New Brunswick Fencible Regiment. It was in this corps that Captain John Jenkins, the hero of the battle of Ogdensburg, began his military career, his commission as ensign being dated September 19, 1804.

The regiment soon attained a good degree of efficiency and the province was justly proud of it. The House of Assembly, at their session in 1807, voted fifty guineas for the purpose of providing a silver trumpet with the arms of New Brunswick engraved thereon, and also for the purchase of such instruments for the regimental band as the colonel should think proper. The efficiency of the New Brunswick Fencibles was such that on February 8, 1811 the corps was garrisoned at the 104th Regiment of the British line.

The Famous March

The 104th Regiment assisted in the construction of the Martello Tower at St. John, in the winter of 1812-13. They left St. John 11th February, 1813, on their way to Canada, the people helping them out, as far as the roads were passable, in sleighs. At Fredericton they were joined by that portion of the regiment stationed at the capital, and on 14th February, the memorable snowshoe tramp to Canada began. The men were sent in successive detachments in order that the track made by each detachment might harden for the benefit of those that might follow. The first detachment, 100 strong, was under command of Lieut.-Col. Halkett. He had four Indians to act as guides to Riviere du Loup. Each succeeding day a company set out until ten divisions, comprising 42 officers, and 1,000 men were plying their snowshoes up the St. John on their way to the seat of war.

Pulled Toboggans

At Fredericton, as at St. John, the citizens turned out with their sleighs and carried the men one day on the road. Each man of the regiment was supplied with a pair of snowshoes, moccasins and a blanket. The supplies were taken on toboggans, one toboggan for every two men; on this were strapped two muskets and ammunition, two knapsacks and fourteen days' rations. Each toboggan was drawn by

one man in front and pushed, or heeled back as necessity required, by one man in rear by means of a stick made fast Indian fashion to the stern of the toboggan. The winter was a very severe one; on this point we have the impartial evidence of Old Parson Dibble's diary: "February 1—Snow—drifted roads well nigh impassable; March 1—Snow four feet deep on a level; March 19—No church on account of the storm; never, never was there such a season. Drifts in some places ten feet above the fences. Late a succession of storms; people five days setting to Woodstock from Fredericton; roads shovelled only to drift again."

Had Great Appetites

As the several companies marched forward day by day they were obliged to halt about the middle of the afternoon to prepare their camp for the night. After passing Woodstock, where they were treated with great hospitality by the settlers, the only places where they could find any proper accommodation were at the old military posts at Presque Isle and Grand Falls. When they encamped in the woods they dug away the snow, using their snowshoes for shovels; spruce bushes were placed so as to afford shelter, hard wood cut for fires, camp kettles hung on, and then an onslaught on the tea, pork and biscuit. With such severe exercise the standard ration of a pound of pork and ten ounces of biscuit did not go far, and the consumption of provisions proceeded at an alarming rate. The men lay at night on cedar and spruce boughs wrapped in their blankets beside the huge fires, some of them built fourteen feet long and four feet high. So intense was the frost the snow walls behind them stood like marble. Occasionally the brush would catch fire and rouse the sleeping soldiers, and on one occasion the regimental colors were with difficulty saved from the flames.

It Was Heavy Work

The bugle sounded reveille two hours before day, when having breakfasted the men started off as soon as it was light enough to travel. As long as the travelling on the river was good they got on fairly well, although snowstorms sometimes obliterated the track of the preceding day, but wherever rapids or open water was found they had to climb steep banks and make their way through the forest. They kept up their spirits amazingly, all things considered. One of the officers describing the journey writes: "Our poor fellows with empty stomachs had hard work hauling the toboggans up the steep hills, although the load was light, the provisions being nearly finished, and all of us on short rations for several days, yet in the midst of our privations we had some hearty recreation. Some of the men would slide down the hills on the toboggans, and capsize were of frequent occurrence. Our big black drummer straddled the big drum which was lashed on a toboggan, to try the experiment of a slide, but it jumped the track, shooting him off at high velocity and the sable African came up some distance from where he disappeared a white man from head to foot."

Suffered From Hunger

Hunger was the worst thing they had to face. The hard effort of tramping some 25 miles daily through the snow, and climbing steep hillsides, the thermometer often 20 degrees below zero, created such voracious appetites that a pound of pork (bones included) and ten ounces of biscuit seemed to many of the 104th a mere flea bite. It is doubtful whether any but the hardy forest pioneers of New Brunswick could have performed such a march with less loss and discomfort. Another thing should be mentioned, namely, that during the entire march (Continued on page 16)