

his father, who had been Captain and Adjutant of the King's Own Borderers, came to Canada and settled near Toronto. Irvine is a native of Quebec of three generations; the family came originally from the Orkney Isles, and his father, Colonel Irvine, had been Aide-de-Camp to many Governors-General.

Both were noble-minded, determined men, and later were to become fast friends, living and camping together and sharing dangers alike.

Trouble arose at the then far-away Red River Settlement. In 1870 an expedition was sent out under the command of Colonel Wolsley (afterwards Lord Wolsley, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army), and Macleod joined the force as Brigade Major of the Canadian Militia; Irvine also joined as Major of the 2nd Battalion of Quebec Rifles. The expedition arrived at Fort Garry, to find the gates open, Riel and his forces having fled. I shall not refer to the half-breed troubles. They are recorded by British and French historians, and by consulting both sources a fair opinion may be formed.

The forces sent to the Red River were the 60th King's Own Rifles, a detachment of the Royal Engineers and of the Royal Artillery and Army Hospital Corps; the First Battalion, or Ontario Rifles, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Jarvis and the 2nd Battalion, or Quebec Rifles, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Casault.

In the autumn of 1870 the Imperial troops returned to Canada (as the East was then called), the 1st Battalion remaining at the Upper Fort, or old Fort Garry, and the 2nd Battalion at the Lower Fort, or Stone Fort, eighteen miles north of Fort Garry.

Colonel Jarvis was the senior officer in command of both battalions, but he went away on leave, and Casault took command of the troops, with his headquarters at the

Upper Fort. Colonel Macleod continued to act as Brigade-Major. Major Irvine was at the head of the Lower Fort, and Wainwright took command of the Upper Fort.

In the spring of 1871 these regiments were disbanded, with the exception of two companies of forty men each of the Ontario and Quebec Battalions, and Major Irvine was appointed in command of these companies, remaining in garrison at Fort Garry.

In the autumn of this year the Fenians of the United States caused great uneasiness. O'Donoghue and other leaders prepared to invade Manitoba. The situation was most serious. It was feared that many of the labourers who had been employed by the Northern Pacific Railway, being now out of work, would join the ranks of the Fenians, and the latter were counting on the French half-breeds of Manitoba also joining with them.

Lieutenant-Governor Archibald had been informed that the Fenians had captured the Hudson's Bay Company's post at Pembina. He consulted with Colonel Irvine and his Ministers and the Colonel was requested to put them out. This officer had a force of eighty men, but anticipating trouble could count on two hundred.

The Lieutenant-Governor issued a proclamation calling upon all loyal citizens to enroll, and the list increased to a thousand. He also wired to Ottawa for reinforcements. Colonel Scott was sent out with two hundred men, and Mr. Gilbert McMicken, who was at the head of the Detective Force of Canada, went to Manitoba overland through the States to find out what was going on. Colonel Irvine and his men had not gone far on their march when a runner arrived with the news that the American troops, under Colonel Wheaton (who held that Pembina was in their territory, the boundary commission not having yet established the boun-