

LIEUTENANT JOLY.

EDMOND DE LOTBINIÈRE JOLY, born at Lotbinière, in Lower Canada, the 16th November, 1832, a scion of the noble house of Lotbinière, one of the oldest in the colony, having been in possession of the seignory bearing the same name for the last two hundred years.

Edmond Joly attended the seminary of Quebec for some years, and finally went over to Paris, where he finished his studies. In 1850, he entered her Majesty's service as ensign in the 32nd, and spent the succeeding five years in India with his regiment. India being then in a perfectly tranquil state, he had no opportunities of distinguishing himself beyond what a few trifling skirmishes on the frontiers might afford. We will here give only one instance of his adventurous disposition, and a marked originality which always characterized him. While attached to a division of the army, marching across the Punjaub, the encampment was one evening formed at the foot of a high monument, pointed out by tradition as the tomb erected by Alexander the Great over the remains of his famous horse, Bucephalus. The monument had only one aperture on its summit. At break of day Edmond Joly resolved to explore the interior; providing himself with a rope and torch he succeeded in scaling the pile, and having reached the opening, which had the appearance of a huge well, he let himself down the gloomy recess. A long search followed, but he failed in discovering any interesting relic; regaining the summit with empty hands, but covered with the dust of centuries, he appeared to the wondering army, standing as it were on a pedestal like a titular genius of the spot; to relieve him from this somewhat awkward position his colonel, the celebrated Markham, forwarded him with some despatches; carrying them over the plains he came suddenly, while at full gallop, upon one of the deep ravines or gullies, so numerous in this country; it was too late to draw back, so putting spurs to his horse he gallantly took the desperate leap, it proved however too much; the rider rolled on the opposite top and the horse at the bottom, and both horse and rider rolled to the bottom of the gully; the fall was fatal to the poor animal while Edmond Joly fortunately escaped with a few bruises. Having delivered his despatches, he procured the assistance of a dozen stout Sepoys, and drawing the remains of poor "Nejib" to the apex of the monument, he consigned them by torchlight to the depths below, where, no doubt, they will be found by some future explorer, and pass for the bones of Bucephalus.