

R. M. C. of Canada at Kingston. Permanent corps— Pay and maintenance of A, B and C batteries, schools of artillery, at Quebec, Kingston and Victoria, B. C.	172,700	} 482,700
Cavalry and infantry schools at Quebec, Fredericton, Toronto, St. John's, P. Q., Winnipeg and London.	263,000	
Improved rifled ordnance	3,000	
Drill sheds and rifle ranges	10,000	
Care and maintenance of military properties transferred from the Ordnance and Imperial government	12,000	
Construction and repairs of military properties	75,000	
Barracks in British Columbia	10,000	

During the course of the budget speech Sir Charles explained that under the head of pensions, the increase of \$13,000 was chiefly due to the new item for pensions to Mounted Police, Prince Arthur Volunteers and Police Scouts in connection with the rebellion of 1885; an increase of \$47,000 was asked for the maintenance of the permanent corps, and \$10,000 for Barracks in British Columbia. In the North-West Mounted Police estimates a reduction of \$16,500 was made, saved in the items for repairs, renewals, replacement of horses, &c., and this notwithstanding the increase of the force.

Records of Our Militia Corps.—VI.

The Quebec Volunteer Cavalry.

(Continued from page 763.)

THE LAST SURVIVOR OF BELL'S CAVALRY IN 1812.

(From my Diary.)

AMONG more than one strange meeting, which that welcome haven of the wearied wayfarer, the wayside inn, has brought me, in the course of my many perigrinations through the length and breadth of the Province of Quebec, none can I recall less anticipated, stranger, than the one which happened to me this 22nd March, 1881, on reaching from the Kennebec railway the parlor of Monsieur Lessard's Temperance Hotel at St. Joseph, Beauce, (such was the euphonious name the License Act awards to the fallacious emblems of comfort and good cheer.) After a lengthy interview, I have this day parted, possibly for ever, with an old and withered *sabreur* of 1812, the last survivor, I have no doubt, of that dashing volunteer cavalry corps raised by Col. the Hon. Matthew Bell, at Quebec, in 1812. I have had the rare luck of having from the very lips of this nonagenarian, an account of the share he had in conducting, as one of the cavalry detachment detailed to escort Colonel Winfield Scott and brother officers from Beauport, where they were confined as prisoners on parole, to the District Prison in St. Stanislas street (the Morrin College), from whence the "big" Colonel and his comrades were taken and lodged in Colonel Coffin's house in St. Louis street. How different the careers. Scott in time became the hero of the war with Mexico, and the dashing cavalry soldier who escorted him, at the age of 89, after 30 years tenure of office, still occupies the position of village postmaster, in the township of Broughton, Beauce. Among the incidents of which my ancient acquaintance seems proud, is the fact of his having played at cards with General Scott and his captive comrades.

Chas. Hy. J. Hall, for such is the clear and well written autograph authenticating the memorandum I drew up for him—a roystering militaire, in our good city, seventy years ago—presents in his person a rare instance of mental and physical faculties preserved until the end—memory, sight, hearing, appetite, all unimpaired.

I felt so interested when he informed me that he had been one of Col. Bell's cavalry, (I felt convinced that, of all the members of this dashing corps, he was the last survivor,) that I questioned him very closely, and cross-examined him on such matters of detail as an eye-witness alone could know. Mr. Hall, the son of the late Wm. Hall, of Fabrique street, Quebec, is connected with several of our most noted families. His father came to Canada about 1783, from the adjoining provinces, a United Empire Loyalist, and became wealthy. Subjoined will be found a short statement taken down as it fell from the lips of my aged new acquaintance, and authenticated by his signature. Mr. Chas. Hall is Postmaster of Broughton, County of Beauce. VIATOR.

I am now 89 years of age. My father, the late William Hall, a well-to-do Quebecker, whose partner in business I subsequently was, lived at what I should call No. 1 Fabrique street (the house recently vacated by Behan Bros). I was born in St. John street. I loved to roam—have travelled the world over and received some hard knocks in my day. As to that part of my career which seems particularly to interest you—the war of 1812—I regret I cannot tell you as much as you wish to know. In 1812 I joined Colonel the Hon. Matthew Bell's volunteer cavalry; we numbered between 90 and 100 men. Our uniform was blue coat, red collar, silver braid; arms: a sabre and holster pistols. As volunteers every man furnished his horse, suit, etc. My horse, which cost me

thirty guineas, I refused sixty for from Col. McNeil; our mounts were of Canadian, American and English pedigree.

We were commanded by Col. Bell, Hon. Wm. Shepperd (late o Woodfield) was our major, Mr. Hale our captain, Hedley Anderson our lieutenant. I cannot say, in reply to your question, whether the late Hammond Gowen was our cornet. Our house stood next to that where General Brock had lived, in Fabrique street. I was in 1812 one of the escort who took Gen. Winfield Scott, and Col. Winder—from Beauport; I remember well the big Col. Scott, as I played cards with the American officers who were, on their parole, quartered in Judge De Bonne's house, on the site of which a wing of the lunatic asylum has since been erected. I formed part of the escort which conducted the American officers to the Quebec jail, in St. Stanislas street, previous to their being located in a St. Louis street house. During the war, under Sir George Prevost, I formed, in March, part of the detachment of cavalry sent with a company of the 103rd to the parish of St. Joseph, Beauce, to arrest some militiamen who had refused to enlist. The ice-bridge before Quebec started a few minutes after our last horse crossed. CHAS. HY. J. HALL.

St. Joseph, Beauce, 23rd March, 1881.

N.B.—I can read yet without glasses; I reckon I am the last survivor of Bell's cavalry.

It will interest our readers to see some of the general orders at the opening and closing of Parliament, and a review on the Esplanade on the day appointed to celebrate the King's birthday, 23rd April, 1824, when our volunteers, consisting of the Quebec Cavalry, commanded by Major Bell, an Artillery company, commanded by Lieut. Ceuigal, a Rifle corps by Capt. Dunn, the Grenadiers and Light Infantry of the 3rd battalion of Quebec militia, commanded by Capt. Cary and Melville respectively, marched past His Excellency.

HEADQUARTERS,

Quebec, 24th November, 1823.

"M.-General Orders.—His Lordship the Governor in Chief intending to open the session of the Provincial Parliament to-morrow, a guard of honor, consisting of the grenadier company of the senior regiment in the garrison, with the regimental color and band, will mount at the Palace at half-past one o'clock.

"The men to parade with their greatcoats over their accoutrements, but will take them off when they receive the Governor-in-Chief.

"The captain of the guard will receive the usual instructions from the brigade-major with respect to placing the guard at the Palace.

"The officer commanding the Royal artillery will give the necessary directions that a salute of 19 guns be fired on his Lordship's leaving the castle, and a second on his quitting the palace to return.

"His Lordship dispenses with the procession, but the officers usually composing it will be ready to receive him at the palace and will proceed upstairs, the staff officers preceding His Lordship and ranging themselves on the right of the chair, and the officer commanding the garrison with the field officers of the garrison on the left.

"His Lordship will leave the castle at two o'clock precisely.

"(Signed,) J. HARVEY, D.A.G."

In the Spring following the next general order upon the closing of the Provincial Parliament speaks for itself:

HEADQUARTERS,

Quebec, 5th March, 1824.

"G.O.—His Lordship the Governor-in-Chief intending to go down to the Provincial Parliament on Tuesday next at 3 o'clock, the same ceremonial will be observed as was directed in the general order of the 24th November last.

"The Volunteer rifle company, under Capt. Dunn, having expressed their wish to attend the Governor-in-Chief on this occasion, His Lordship has much pleasure in availing himself of their services.

"The major of brigade will accordingly receive from the deputy adjutant general the necessary instructions for posting the guard of honor from the line and the volunteers of the rifle company at the palace.

"(Signed,) J. HARVEY, A.D.C."

The following are the general orders for celebrating His Majesty's birthday on the Esplanade, and the Earl of Dalhousie's very complimentary remarks thereon:

"G. O.—Commencing to-morrow, the tattoo gun will fire at 9 o'clock until further orders.

"To-morrow being the day appointed for the celebration of His Majesty's birthday the Royal Standard will be hoisted at sunrise and the Royal artillery will fire a salute at noon. The troops will be formed in the following order at half-past eleven o'clock:

"Major Bell's troop of cavalry will parade at the castle at the same hour for the purpose of escorting His Lordship the commander of the