

Here I would like to remark that it appears to me that by assisting every military corps in the country to write up to date, and keep written up, its record of services from the very beginning, the Militia Department could do much in the direction of improving the efficiency of the Force. Had records of the services rendered by the Quebec Frontier Battalions in the defence of this country been preserved and published, very shame would have prevented the loyal people of the frontier counties from allowing their historical battalions, with gallantly earned battle honours on their colours, to die for lack of popular support.

While thanking all who have assisted me in the preparation of this little book, I would especially like to express my gratification at being privileged to embody in these pages what might be described as the military memoirs of that splendid old Canadian soldier, Lieutenant-Colonel A. A. Stevenson, a man known from one end of this country to the other not less for his open-handed hospitality, his exceptional urbanity and his good work in municipal life as an Alderman of the City of Montreal, than for his exceptionally valuable services in the Active Militia.

Most of the information I have embodied in the chapters on the Earliest Days of the Battery, the Fenian Raids, and Service in aid of the Civil Power was given to me, during a series of interviews, by Lieutenant-Colonel Stevenson, and militiamen everywhere, particularly when they are aware of its source, will regard it as a valuable contribution toward the military history of Canada.

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August 31st, 1898.

