

C O P Y.

Oct. 6. 1922.

To Lieut. Col. H.M. Urquhart, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C.
Commanding
The Canadian Scottish Regiment.
Victoria,

Dear Sir,

with reference to your letter of Sept. 28th. and your previous requests that I transfer to the Reserve, I beg to in writing put forward my case as expressed by me at our interview the other day.

At the request of Colonel Peck I took over second in command of the regiment on the understanding that he would soon retire and turn over the command to me. I did not seek this honour or appointment and always urged Colonel Peck to retain charge at times when he expressed a desire to retire as he did on several occasions, and even as recent as his last trip to Victoria a few weeks prior to your appointment. He always expressed his appreciation of the work we were doing and there was never, by anyone, an intimation that my efforts, in carrying out my difficult task of delegated authority, were unsuccessful.

As I stated to you, your letter was the first word I had that anyone considered my work as not efficient. Although I was disappointed at not being advised of your appointment until it appeared in the Press, I felt it my duty as a soldier to carry on and serve under you to the best of my ability. You can, perhaps, appreciate my feelings on receipt of your letter after the personal expectations that had been held out to me. I considered that you had full knowledge of Colonel Peck's arrangement with me and on that account I made haste to offer my congratulations on your appointment, so that you might know that while disappointed I was satisfied.

I could only conclude ~~xxxxxxx~~ that your letter to me was prompted by the most serious objections to me and that the very harsh treatment meted out to me was considered essential and for reasons I could not fathom.

As you know, I took the matter up with Colonel Peck making a special trip to Vancouver to see him and he apologized for the action ~~xxx~~ that had been taken and as I have already stated said that he had acted hurriedly under worry and strain on reports that he received and was not able to check up. He regretted the whole affair and said that he would make things right in that I was never obsessed with the idea that I wanted command. I was always quite satisfied and quite anxious to dig in and work under you as under Col. Peck.

I have waited now for almost a year for some expression of a desire to have me continue. Your letter shows that in so far as you are concerned you intend to stay by your previous decision to have me transfer to the reserve. On receipt of it I asked for our interview the other day to find out if you had anything against me personally, that guided you in remaining a party to, a grievous an injury, as has ever been done me. You assured me that you had nothing against me in any way.

I am very grateful to you for that assurance and were it not for the personal injury that the whole affair has caused to my standing with a large number of citizens and with the officers and men of the Battalion many of whom I personally induced to join I would gladly accede to your request. However under the circumstances as they affect I must insist that I be given the consideration that is due to me.

You took over command against your own desires and I am sure you are the last man in the world that would be a party to injustice to any one. I have put my case before as plainly as I can; if there is anything against me I would like to know it; If you approve of the treatment I have received and are a party to it I have very much misjudged you; If you consider that there is some justice in my case I look to you and Col. Peck to make amends as you can to reestablish me in my former position with your backing and support so that by our united efforts we can make the Battalion the success its record in France Warrants

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) Donald B. Martyn, Major.