

General Sir A.C.Macdonell

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have been raised on the battlefields and stacks of grain appear everywhere. Yet, it will be many long years before the area assumes anything like its normal appearance. At Hooze the owner of the Chateau has returned and has built for himself a very fine bungalow. A nice little village is springing up there. Just west of Hooze is a very large cemetery where some six or seven thousand men are buried. It has not been quite completed but it contains a very great many men of your old Brigade. I saw some cemeteries which were completed and they pleased me very much. The one at Remy Siding contains 11,000 graves. Each cemetery is enclosed by a stone fence. They have all been levelled and are covered with a green turf. A cement trough runs along the head of the graves and in the trough stand the slabs, all the same size and all of the same appearance. All Canadian slabs have the Maple Leaf, and a very fine impression of a leaf it is. Beneath the leaf is a Cross and the man's name, regiment and the date of his death. The features of the larger cemeteries are the Cross and the Altar, both very fine special monuments, but the smaller cemeteries have only the Cross. There are many individual unit monuments - such as your division monuments at Vimy - concerning which I think some action should be taken. I intend to write to MacBrien and suggest that the Government ask the War Graves Commission to replace those wooden monuments by stone, otherwise they will disappear in a year or two and I think that would be a grievous mistake.

I find that the people still retain the pleasantest recollections of the Canadians and look upon a Canadian visitor as an old friend.