

THE MONTREAL CAVALRY.

In 1812, now sixty-six years since, a number of persons in Montreal enrolled their names to form a troop of Volunteer Cavalry, and offered to serve wherever His (then) Majesty required them. The Governor-General accepted their offer, and in recognition of the loyal and spirited manner in which they proffered their services, gave the corps the title or distinction of "The Royal Montreal Cavalry," and this Royal Montreal Cavalry has, under one name or another, continued to exist, *without intermission*, to the present day.

Its first officers were: George Platt, Captain; Robert Gillespie, Lieutenant; John Molson, Cornet; David Wilson, Qr.-Master; Benjamin Holmes, Sergeant; Archibald Ogilvie, Sergeant; Charles Penner, Sergeant; Thomas Torrance, Corporal; Alexander Ogilvie, Corporal.

All our old citizens will remember most of these gentlemen, many of whom were amongst our most respected merchants. At Mr. Platt's death, Mr. Gillespie became Captain; then Mr. John Molson; then, in 1827, Major Gregory took command with the Hon. J. L. Mo-

Cord as Captain of the Montreal Troop, and Charles Penner, Captain of the Lachine Troop, the two forming the squadron.

There are not many now living who served in 1827 as troopers. The Hon. Judge Badgley, and Messrs. C. M. Delisle and Beniah Gibb may also be named.

The information of the first formation of the corps is derived from Major Charles Penner, very lately deceased at Kingston, at a very advanced age, and who was himself one of the original members; and also from the records since 1827, still extant.

Our old and active citizen, that gallant veteran, Col. Dyde, C.M.G., who himself served in 1812, well remembers the cavalry of that period and its history.

A number of the Montreal ladies, in 1818, presented the Montreal Cavalry with a beautiful and costly standard of silk very heavily worked with gold, said to have cost 100 guineas; the standard is now in the possession of the present commander of the troop.

The Montreal Cavalry has been on escort duty during the visits of the Prince of Wales and Prince Arthur to Montreal.



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FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY N

The troop was reorganized in 1855 by Lieut.-Col., then Capt. A. W. Ogilvie, at the full strength of fifty troopers, as an independent corps, purchasing their uniforms at a cost of about \$45 per man.

At the time of the first Fenian raid twenty-five of the troop, commanded by Captain W. W. Ogilvie, were on duty at Cornwall, and twenty-five at Huntingdon under the command of Captain, (now Major) John Smith, and since then they were on Frontier duty at Huntingdon and Pigeon Hill, commanded by Captain (now Major) James Muir. The troop has at all

calls to duty turned out promptly in full strength; Col. Fletcher at its recent inspection spoke very highly of the efficiency and smart appearance of the troopers. He said the horses were good and well fitted for duty. He spoke of Trumpet-Major Clapham as one of the best trumpeters in the Dominion, and expressed a desire of having a cavalry band.

The present officers are: John Tees, Captain, Commanding; Collin McArthur, Lieutenant; R. W. G. Stewart, Cornet. Col. Lovelace has been drill instructor during the last 18 years.

VARIETIES.

NEW LADIES' FASHIONS.—At Goodwood there were two attempts at the adoption of the Greek style of dress which has of late been so encouraged among the artistic members of society. The dresses were, of course, the great object of curiosity among the company in the royal stand, and much interest was expressed as to the secret of their make. When the mystery was revealed they were simply pinned on, all one piece, like a long Indian shawl, folded to the shape of the wearer, confined on the shoulder, and the ends left to fall over the bosom and

shoulders. Nothing can be more simple and graceful than this style of dress. The economy of the construction should be a great recommendation beside.

CELESTIAL PORTRAITS.—Some grand dames and princesses are reviving the fashion of the last three centuries of sitting for their portraits in the costumes of goddesses. It is a charming idea. A portrait thus made would not grow old, and would never offer that ridiculous aspect which, in spite of the painter's talent, is inevitable when it is depicted with the accessories which are authorized by the doubtful taste of the