

the best in the State. Lieut. Howard's military career, I believe, began during the war of the rebellion in this country, though where and in what capacity he served I am not certain. I believe he served in the far west on the plains, fighting and keeping the peace with the Indians. I am certain he did not become an officer in that war. His age would have served to make that an impossibility. After the war he enlisted or rather continued in the service of the regular army of the United States, doing duty in and about the States of California, Arizona and other adjoining territories. He served as a private and non-commissioned officer (corporal I think) for five years, then retired to civilian life in New Haven. His term was spent in the cavalry service.

Upon his return to New Haven he enlisted in the Second company, Governor's Horse Guards of New Haven—a sort of an independent cavalry organization, though supported by the State. He still retains his membership, although unable to do duty with the company; his connection with the C. N. G. requiring all his time and services."

This notice would hardly be complete without a quotation from the report of an interview with Lord Melgund, Gen. Middleton's chief of staff, which appeared in the *Winnipeg Times* in relation to the battle of Batoche. His lordship says:—

"Five minutes later we heard a war whoop, and a number of the enemy came right out of the woods, which were close at hand, and made a rush to capture the guns. Lieut. Howard, who was sitting idly on the trail of his gattling gun at the time, took in the situation in a moment, and pushing his instrument forward turned its fire with terrible force on the rebels, who wavered, attempted to rally, and then fell back disorganized into the bush. Howard showed wonderful tact and bravery, and had it not been for his timely work we would probably have a hand to hand fight for the possession of the guns."

PORTABLE RIFLE PITS.

The engravings at the top of page 76 represent the Portable Rifle Pits invented by Major Larmour, late of the Grand Trunk Rifle Brigade, as they would be employed in offensive warfare. This device, for which the inventor has already taken steps for securing a patent, consists of a sheet of steel, strong enough to resist the impact of a rifle bullet. It is about five feet high, three feet in width, and bent in the shape of a V. Near the centre is an aperture through which a rifle can be pointed, and at the top are two eye holes. In practical application it is intended that these portable rifle pits, as Major Larmour calls them, should be carried on waggons, and when skirmishers are deployed, to look for an enemy supposed to be concealed behind rifle pits, as at Fish Creek the other day, each one will take a shield, sling it on his left shoulder by a strap provided for the purpose, and thus accoutred his body is completely protected. The weight, which will not be over 40 pounds, will allow them to be easily carried. Through the eye holes a look-out can be kept for the enemy, and when a puff of smoke is seen the shield may be dropped, the supporting rods acting as legs to steady it, and the rifleman falls on his knees, behind his portable shelter, and his rifle is thrust through the aperture ready to fire with a steady aim whenever a head appears above cover.

The *Stratford Beacon* of the 11th ult. says:—"The apparatus was tried on Monday at the Stratford rifle range, in presence of several crack shots and other citizens, and the principle found entirely satisfactory, though the material then used was defective. Major Larmour had a further test on the new garrison rifle range at Toronto on Tuesday, which was witnessed by a number of expert riflemen. A plate of steel four feet long by two wide, of the thickness of what is known as "13 gauge," weighing 20 pounds, was placed at the angle which it is intended to occupy when in use, and was fired at with the Snider-Enfield and Martini-Henry rifles at 200 yards. After four shots had struck the plate it was examined and found uninjured, although the metal was slightly indented, and a considerable space covered by the splash of the lead. What was considered a very important point was decided by this test, viz., that the glance or diversion of the bullet was upwards and outwards, at exactly the same angle as that in which the plate was placed, thus demonstrating one of the main points claimed for the shield—that the bullets striking it would be harmless to the supports and reserves in their usual position in rear of the skirmishers."

THE HON. EDGAR DEWDNEY.

When the rebellion first broke out a good deal was said about the responsibility which rested upon the Lieut.-Governor of the North-West Territories in connection with alleged grievances. Though the proper time has not yet arrived for the full and complete investigation which will alone satisfy the public mind, one thing is perfectly clear—that if one tithe of the accusations made by the

Opposition press during the last few years could be supported by evidence, to a great want of public spirit must be attributed the fact that Mr. Dewdney has not been impeached by Parliament or the first step been taken in that direction. The *Regina Leader* of April 14 comments as follows:—

"The *Free Press*, of Winnipeg, has been trying to galvanize a dead slander. In its issue of Thursday week it had an article headed 'Dewdney and the North-West,' in which it is stated that Mr. Dewdney has prostituted his position, has made money wrongfully, has deceived the Government and betrayed the Indian, and yet throughout this column of reckless abuse and wholesale libel there is not one fact brought forward."

The portrait of Mr. Dewdney which we publish this week is reproduced from a photograph by Mr. Topley, of Ottawa, and is an excellent likeness. He is shown wearing the Windsor Uniform of the class appropriate to his official position. It is, perhaps, superfluous to remark that this costume is only worn on State occasions, as prescribed by regulation. We learn from the *Parliamentary Companion* that Mr. Dewdney, who is a civil engineer by profession, was born in Devonshire in the year 1835, and emigrated to British Columbia in 1859, the year in which the mainland was constituted a new Crown colony. In the year 1864 he married the eldest daughter of Stratton Moir, Esq., of Colombo, Ceylon, but then a resident of Hope, B.C. Mr. Dewdney first entered political life as representative of Kootenay in the Legislative Assembly of the Pacific Province (1868-1869), and he sat in the House of Commons for Yale-Kootenay from 1872 until 1879, when he was appointed Indian Commissioner. He received his appointment as Lieut.-Governor of the North-West Territories Dec. 3, 1881, on the expiration of the term of the Hon. David Laird, whose administration had been highly successful. The seat of government is at Regina, which assumes extra importance in the eyes of Canada just now from the fact that Louis Riel is confined there pending his trial, the place being securely garrisoned by the Montreal Artillery as well as a small force of Mounted Police.

LIEUT.-COL. BOULTON.

The subject of this sketch is Charles A. Boulton, commander of the corps generally known as "Boulton's Scouts." He was born in Cobourg in the year 1841, and at the early age of 17 he raised a company and got his lieutenancy in the Canadian regiment under Col. Dunn. He qualified himself at the Hythe School of Musketry, and was appointed Musketry Instructor to his regiment. He was quartered at Gibraltar for a time with General Middleton and Lieut.-Col. Van Straubenzie (who led the bayonet charge at Batoche), major of his regiment when it came to Canada. Having obtained his company, he retired after ten years' service. He was in Manitoba with Lieut.-Col. Dennis' surveying party at the time of Riel's first rebellion, and at Portage La Prairie was selected to lead a party to Fort Garry, to attack Riel. They left the Portage in sleighs, and hastened to assist the loyal subjects of Fort Garry. A blizzard overtook them and delayed their progress, so that Riel was apprised of their object and prepared to meet them with overwhelming numbers. Riel sent a flag of truce, and offered, if they would lay down their arms, that they might return to their homes unmolested. They submitted, and were thus entrapped, the gates of the fort being closed upon them by their treacherous foe, who thus made them all prisoners. Capt. Boulton, their leader, was ordered to be placed in irons and to be shot next morning at day-break. Bishop Taché, the Bishop of Rupert's Land, Archdeacon McLean and other clergy of Fort Garry and St. Boniface finally succeeded in preventing the execution, and a reprieve was granted. Upon the prisoner's release he returned to Ontario, and was gazetted Major in the 48th Battalion of Infantry (East Durham) under Lieut.-Col. Williams, M.P., and retired with his rank in 1868. On the 30th of March last, in the second Riel rising, Major Boulton tendered his services to General Middleton. They were cordially accepted, and in a week's time he raised a force of 60 mounted men, settlers in his district, and was on the march leading his corps to overtake the General's advance. "Boulton's Scouts" have proved their mettle by splendid service. They were the first to meet the rebels at Fish Creek, and in 15 minutes lost poor D'Arcy Baker, killed; Capt. Gardner and six others wounded, holding their ground till relieved by the 90th (Winnipeg) Battalion. At the battle of Batoche two others of the brave band fell, one killed and one wounded, and the following day Boulton's Scouts brought in Riel a

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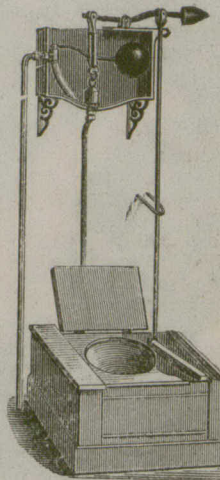
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