



Department of Militia and Defence,

Ottawa, Canada,

16 September, 1920.

Dear Sir Arthur,

I have been intending to write to you for some time with reference to the appointment of Forbes to the Permanent Force. The situation at present is that Malone has returned to duty with the ~~Cheshires~~ *Patricias*, it is possible and likely that his services will be dispensed with within the next few weeks, but at present there is no vacancy to which Forbes can be appointed. In case Malone is dismissed or allowed to resign, I think it is a choice between Scroggie and Forbes for the vacancy of captain in the Patricias'. There appears to be no other place where Scroggie can be given a permanent home so it would appear to be a choice of the two. There seems to be little doubt that Scroggie is much the preferable, I have heard several reports concerning Forbes as to his personal habits not being good in that he drinks too heavily, although I understand that his work in the field was excellent.

I thought I would write to you on this matter as there will be in all probability a delay before any definite action can be taken. A ruling has been given by the acting Minister that no submissions are to be dealt with by Militia Council which entail expenditure of any great amount or new appointments until the return of Mr. Guthrie from England which will be in about five weeks time.

Everything goes fairly well here. Elmsley is fitting into his new position nicely and Ashton is busy taking over Q.M.G. work. Morrison has gone to the Coast.

I trust that you are enjoying your new work and that you and your family are enjoying good health.

With kind regards

Yours very Sincerely,

General

Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

J. H. Mackenzie