

March West Contingent

Compiled by Bill Mackay
March 1999

The Command

Commissioner - Lieutenant-Colonel George Arthur French

Assistant Commissioner - Major James Farquharson Macleod C.M.G.

Paymaster and Adjutant - Sub-Inspr. E. Dalrymple Clark (remained at Dufferin, temporary headquarters).

Surgeon - John Kittson, M.D.

Assistant Surgeon - Richard B. Nevitt, M.D. (Remained at Dufferin for a short period and caught up with the column at La Roche Percee).

Quartermaster - Charles Nicolle (remained at Dufferin and later proceeded to Fort Ellice).

Veterinary Surgeon - John L. Poett

Acting-Paymaster and Adjutant - Sub-Inspr. W.G. Griffiths

“A “ Troop

Insp. William Jarvis
 Sub-Insp. Séverè Gagnon
 Chief Constable S.B. Steele

"A" Division

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Aspdin, T.W. | Gagnon, S. | Pulman, C.E. |
| Bagley, F.A | Halpenny, J. | Ridley, J.A |
| Beaulieu, J.RS. | Harding, J.G. | Robbs, G. |
| Belcher, R | Keelip, T. | Ross, W.G. |
| Brown, G. | Kinghorn, A | Schultz, R |
| Carr, E.R | Labelle, T. | Shurtliff, A |
| Coleman, J. | McIntyre, W. | Steele, G.N. |
| Connor, G. | McKernan, J. | Steele, RE. |
| Coutts, D. | Millaly, R | Stewart, A |
| Coutts, P. | Moran, E. | Switzer, T. |
| Curran, P.J. | Murdoch | Taber, S. |
| D'Artique, J. | Murray, J. | Tetu, F.H. |
| De La Court, | Neale,P.R | Thatcher, F. |
| Dorion, E. | Nelson, G. | Thompson, E. |
| Edgar, F.A | Nobbs, G.B. | Todd, J. |
| Egan,G.A | O'Neil, R | Walsh, W. |
| Elliot, G. | Pace, F. | Yorke, J.G. |
| Furtescue, L. | | |

“A” Division

- First troop in the line.
- Rode on dark bay horses.
- On August 1, 1874, "A" Division under Insp. Jarvis, with six sick constables and nearly sixty of the weakest horses, left the main column at Roche-Percée and proceeded northwest via the Saskatchewan trade route to the Hudson's Bay post of Fort Edmonton. On the journey ahead, many of the horses and oxen died as a result of starvation and exposure. In almost desperate condition, the Division finally struggled in to Fort Edmonton in bitterly cold weather on October 27.

"B" Troop

Sub-Insp. E.A Brisebois
 Sub-Insp. Edwin Allen
 Chief Constable Joseph Francis

"B" Division

| | | |
|------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Arnaud, C. | Gilbert, F. | Morrison, S. |
| Beal, R | Grain,W. | Osgood |
| Beal, S. | Grand,C. | Payette, P. |
| Bliss, I.M. | Green, G. | Pouliot, C. |
| Braby, G. | Hamilton, I. | Rolph, G. |
| Briggs, J. | Hardie, T. | Sears, A |
| Bunce, H | Henault, H | Smith, W. |
| Chamberlayne, W. | Herklots, G. | Smyth, M. |
| Clausere, I. | Johnston, W. | Spotten, W. |
| Cochrane, D. | Knowles, C. | Stuttaford, J. |
| Crofton, G. | Knowles, W. | Taylor, S. |
| Davis, J. | Lebel, V. | Tezer, W. |
| DeTilly, N. | Lesieur, G. | Thompson, S. |
| Dun, L. | Locke, J. | Thornton, E. |
| Earnest, W. | Manly, T. | Thurber, S. |
| Ferland, A | Martin, S. | Town, W. |
| Finlayson, J. | Mathew, J. | Venn, E. |
| Forster, S. | McArthur, R. | Weir, J. |
| Fraser, D. | McDonald, J. | Wright |
| Genereux, F. | McIntosh, A | Young, W. |
| German, H. | | |

"B" Division

- Second troop in the line.
- Rode on dark brown horses.
- B", "C" and "F" Divisions, under the command of Major Macleod, remained in the vicinity of the Bow and Belly Rivers as instructed by Commissioner French.
- These Divisions then marched north to search for the notorious Fort Whoop-Up at the junction of the Belly and St. Mary's River. After cautiously positioning his men, Macleod strode boldly through the main gate. All he found were a few Indians and a friendly trader, Dave Akers, who hospitably invited the men to a meal of buffalo meat and vegetables. The fort was searched nom top to bottom, but not a dram of whiskey was to be found.

"C" Troop (The Artillery Troop)

Insp. William Winder
 Sub-Insp. Thomas R. Jackson
 Chief Constable J.H.G. Bray

"C" Division

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Adams, W.O. | Harpur, G. | Mullowney, J. |
| Andrews, R. | Hay, F. | Murray, G. |
| Banbury, T. | Hayes, S. | Nash, J. |
| Batersby, J. | Righton, E. | Parker, W. |
| Beattie, J. | Johnson, J. | Parks, J. |
| Biotti, G. | Johnston, J. | Patterson, J. |
| Burton, H. | Keith, C. | Percy, J. |
| Capitaine, L. | Kelly, T. | Pope, F. |
| Carroll, J. | King, P. | Rouse, J. |
| Cato, J. | Kirk, M. | Saunders, H. |
| Costello, R. | Klewe, C. | Schroeder, A. |
| Coulter, R. | Langlois, A. | Scott, W. |
| DeLancon, G. | Lawless, L. | Scribner, P. |
| Dergan, J. | Lebel, G. | Shannon, J. |
| Driscoll, C. | Leggett, J. | Sharpe, S. |
| Dunbar, J. | Lindsay, J. | Shepard, A. |
| Fields, J. | Loiseau, A. | Spicer, F. |
| Fitzgerald, E. | Maher, W. | Stone, S. |
| Geddes, F. | McDonald, R. | Tremaine, R. |
| Gibbons, J. | McKenzie, W. | Uniacke, C. |
| Gireen, R. | McNeil, J. | Vivier, G. |
| Goldsworthy, R. | Mezsam, F. | Wheeler, J. |
| Hall, G. | Mullaly, J. | Wilson, A. |
| | | Wilson, T. |

"C Division - (The Artillery Troop)

- Third troop in the line.
- Rode on chestnut horses.
- Had the pleasure of drawing the field guns and ammunition.
- "B", "C" and "P Divisions, under the command of Major Macleod, remained in the vicinity of the Bow and Belly Rivers as instructed by Commissioner French.
- These Divisions then marched north to search for the notorious Fort Whoop-Up at the junction of the Belly and St. Mary's River. After cautiously positioning his men, Macleod strode boldly through the main gate. All he found were a few Indians and a friendly trader, Dave Akers, who hospitably invited the men to a meal of buffalo meat and vegetables. The fort was searched from top to bottom, but not a dram of whiskey was to be found.

"D" Troop (the Staff Troop)

Insp. James Morrow Walsh
 Sub-Insp. James Walker
 Sub-Insp. John French
 Chief Constable T.W.S. Miles

"D" Division

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Auburn, C. | Keenan, H. | Oliver, W. |
| Ayerst, W. | Kenley, J. | Otter, H. |
| Bell, J. | Knight, C. | Parker, W. |
| Boulton, C | Latimer, W. | Pennie, A |
| Brown, R | Little, D. | Price, H. |
| Brandon, L. | Lowes, A | Richardson, J. |
| Burnette, P. | Lucas, P. | Samey, S. |
| Chisholm, W. | Macdonald, P. | Scott, A |
| Crawford, G. | Maclean, N. | Scouten, A |
| Des Forges, A | Martin, J. | Scouten, S. |
| Francis, J. | Maunsell, E. | Slevin, M |
| Garretsu, S. | McAuley, D. | Smith, W. |
| Gilkinson, C. | McDougal, J. | Ste. Marie, H. |
| Graham, U. | McGee, P. | Stone, J. |
| Grey, T. | McKibbon, A | Stopforth, J. |
| Hamilton, F. | McManama, R | Sullivan, W. |
| Have, A | Meloy, H. | Sutherland, I. |
| Heath, F. | Moorehead, J. | Taylor, G. |
| Hennigan, M. | Morin, D. | Thorn, J. |
| Heywood, H. | Nash, H. | Weir, I. |
| Jenkins, D. . | Oldham, H. | |

"D" Division (The Staff Troop)

- Fourth troop in the line.
- Rode grey horses.
- Also included in this troop was the Force's Headquarters.
- Upon receiving two telegrams from the Dominion Government at Fort Benton, Montana, Commissioner French was to leave a large force in the vicinity of the Belly River and to return to his new headquarters located near Fort Pelly, the proposed seat of government for the Northwest Territories. On September 29th, with "D" and "E" Divisions, he began the return march of more than 800 miles to Fort Pelly.

"E" Troop

Insp. Jacob E. Carvell
Sub-Insp. John Henry McIlree
Chief Constable J.B. Mitchell

"E Division

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Armstrong, W. | Griffith, E. | Munro, J. |
| Beaton, H. | Honeysett, J. | Onzman, W. |
| Bernard, A | King, George | Orr, S. |
| Boyd, J. | Leyton, W. | Parks, F. |
| Carscadden, J. | LaCain, H. | Powers, T. |
| Crawford, J. | Leonard, J. | Richer, W. |
| Curry, D. | Lewis, H. | Salmon, G. |
| Davis, J. | Lusignan, I. | Smith, J. |
| Diamond, W. | Marshall, H. | Thompson, C. |
| Fitzgerald, J. | Martin, A | Juke, W. |
| George, E. | McCarthy, W. | Welstead, B. |
| Gopsill, C. | McCrum, G. | Woods, J. |
| Gorris, J. | Mitler, E. | Wyld, R |
| Graham, D. | Mooney, T. | |
| Grant, W. | | |

"E" Division

- Fifth troop in the line.
- Rode black horses.
- Upon receiving two telegrams from the Dominion Government at Fort Benton, Montana,
- Commissioner French was to leave a large force in the vicinity of the Belly River and to return to his new headquarters located near Fort Pelly, the proposed seat of government for the Northwest Territories. On September 29th, with "D" and "E" Divisions, he began the return march of more than 800 miles to Fort Pelly.

"F" Troop

Insp. Theodore Richer
Sub-Insp. LiefN. Crozier
Sub-Insp. Veron Welch
Sub-Insp. Cecil E. Denny
Chief Constable T.R Lake

"F" Division

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Antrobus, W. | Griffiths, R | Norman, F. |
| Barrell, E. | Homand, R | Parks, G. |
| Baxter, F. | Johnston, S. | Pell, J. |
| Brooks, P. | Johnston, W. | Perrault, 1. |
| Budin, J. | Jones, J. | Ritchie, 1. |
| Buttand | Kenna J. | Robinson, P. |
| Cherry, J. | King, C. | Ryan, B. |
| Cleeve, F. | Larkin, E. | Scott, R |
| Clyde, T. | Maher, J. | Sinclair, C. |
| Cook, I. | Marlin, J. | Turner, J. |
| Cranwell, C. | McDonald, W. | Vibert, J. |
| Frazer, G. | McLennan, D. | Whelan, E. |
| Gille, J. | Morrow, W. | Wilson, 1. |
| Careen, J. | Nixon, J. | Woods, W. |

"F" Division

- Sixth troop in the line.
- Rode on light bay horses.
- "B", "C" and "F" divisions, under the command of Major Macleod, remained in the vicinity of the Bow and Belly Rivers as instructed by Commissioner French.
- These Divisions then marched north to search for the notorious Fort Whoop-Up at the junction of the Belly and St .Mary's River. After cautiously positioning his men, Macleod strode boldly through the main gate. All he found were a few Indians and a friendly trader, Dave Akers, who hospitably invited the men to a meal of buffalo meat and vegetables. The fort was searched nom top to bottom, but not a dram of whiskey was to be found.