

Melgund, together with the accompanying extract from the *Scottish American* :

Lord Melgund, Private Secretary to the Marquis of Lansdowne, the new Governor-General, is the eldest son of the Earl of Minto, whose family name is Elliot, and whose family seat—Minto—is situated in one of the most picturesque parts of Teviotdale. Minto is mentioned by Scott in the "Lay of the Last Minstrel," and by Leydon in the "Scenes of Infancy." The family is an ancient and an honourable one. Two centuries ago it was sung as—

"The Elliot's brave and worthy men."

It is a family that can count among its kith and kin men who were "inured to foreign wars and feudal quarrels," such as the redoubtable Wat o' Harden and Lorrison, lion of Liddesdale, also the heroic Little Jock Elliot, whose challenge of "Wha daur meddle wi' me" has been enwoven in song and adopted as the motto of the Border Mounted Volunteers—a troop of mounted men of which Lord Melgund is the worthy major. Lord Heathfield, the illustrious defender of Gibraltar, was likewise a member of the clan, and so was "Admiral Elliot, the conqueror of Thurot." Distinguished as Lord Melgund's kinsmen and clansmen have been on sea and land, there were amongst them powerful politicians and successful diplomatists. One of them was Lieutenant-Governor of New York in the old American day, and the first Earl of Minto held the office of Governor-General of India. At present His Lordship's brother, the Hon. A. D. Elliot, represents the County of Roxburgh in the House of Commons. Several members of the family have adorned the bench and the bar, and more than one of them have been poets of renown, for instance Miss Jane Elliot, authoress of the "Flowers of the Forest." Lord Melgund himself has in several capacities, like the stock from which he has sprung—"brave and worthy men"—gained a name in arms, and in the peaceful paths of literature; whilst as a sportsman he has already a long and brilliant career. During his scholastic days at Eton and at Cambridge he was noted for his athletic achievements. As a gentleman he has ridden and won many a steeple-chase, and has even ridden many a winning race under the assumed name of Mr. Rody. His lordly bearing as an equestrian was greatly admired when at the head of the Mounted Volunteers he rode past the Queen at the great review in the Queen's Park, Edinburgh, two years ago.

Lord Melgund began his military career when he was twenty-two years of age by joining the Scots Fusilier Guards. His Lordship has braved the dangers of the battle field, and seen many a sanguinary conflict in different lands. He was in Paris during the red days of the Commune, and acted as correspondent of the *Morning Post* at the headquarters of the Carlist army in Navarre. He was on the staff of General Lennox, the British military *attaché* with the Turkish army, and was present when the Russians bombarded the forts of Nickopolis. He served a while with Riouf Pasha during the same campaign. During this campaign he had a narrow escape of being shot by some Dashi-Bazouks near the Bridge of Biela. As a volunteer Lord Melgund served His Queen and country under Roberts in the Afghan war. His last scene of warfare was in Egypt. He there held the position of captain in the Mounted Infantry. He was wounded at Magyar, and rejoined the corps two days after at Tel-el-Kebir. He afterwards commanded the Mounted Infantry at Cairo until they were disbanded at the conclusion of the war. On his return to Minto House from Egypt he was entertained at a banquet at Hawick by the border Mounted Volunteers, of which he is commanding officer. Three years ago he had an article in the *Nineteenth Century* on the subject of "Newspaper Correspondents in the Field." Lord Melgund entered into a state of matrimony in 1883, by marrying Miss Mary Caroline Grey, youngest daughter of the late General Grey, and sister to Mr. Albert Grey, M.P., for Northumberland. The marriage took place in St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, and Archdeacon Farrar was the officiating clergyman. The wedding presents were costly and numerous, among the givers being the Queen and several members of the royal family.—*Scottish American*.

MAJOR CROZIER, N. W. M. P.

The portrait of Major Crozier, who holds the rank of Superintendent in the North-West Mounted Police, will be regarded with special interest just now, owing to that officer having commanded the detachment of Mounted Police and civilian volunteers who had the disastrous engagement with Riel's followers at Duck Lake. The full-dress uniform of the officers of the police is very handsome, the breast of the scarlet tunic being profusely ornamented with gold lace arranged on the hussar pattern. Major Crozier has always been deemed one of the best and most popular officers of the Mounted Police, in which estimation he should continue to be held until the full particulars of the Duck Lake disaster are known. There was probably never a greater diversity of statement as to the facts of an occurrence—always excepting the reports of any political meeting in Canada, by papers of opposite views—than in connection with this "Battle of Duck Lake." The following despatch from Winnipeg probably reconciles as many of the discrepancies as can be harmonized at the present time:—

A volunteer who took part in the Duck Lake fight confirms the first report that the rebels were 300 strong and were concealed in a house and in the woods, and were not discovered by the police until they were within fifty yards. During the parley an Indian attempted to wrest a rifle from a policeman, and was shot. This was the opening of the fight, which lasted forty minutes. The house where the rebels were concealed was not discovered until after the fight commenced. A cannon was immediately brought to bear, but unfortunately in loading the police put in a shell without powder, thus rendering the gun useless. The volunteers remained standing while the police fought lying down, hence the greater loss of the former. Hon. Lawrence Clarke fought bravely during the struggle while many were being killed by his side. The Prince Albert dead remained on the field for seven days. Riel sent a messenger to the police to come for them, but the latter refusing the messenger himself removed them. The rebels captured fifteen rifles and about 500 rounds of ammunition. The Indians robbed the dead of two gold watches, but Riel has promised to have them returned.

PARADE OF THE MOUNTED POLICE.

The illustration in our current number is from a photograph taken last fall, and represents a parade of the Northern Division then quartered at Battleford, under command of Major Crozier. The force is formed up in front of the barracks, so as to compose three sides of a hollow square, with the artillery detachment on the right and the mounted men on the left. The dismounted portion of the command, with the band of the division, occupy the centre. *En passant*, it may be remarked that, though the Mounted Police have a much larger proportion of horses for their strength than any British cavalry regiment, and all of them are drilled in equitation, the majority of the force works dismounted, and accomplishes greater rapidity of movement by being conveyed in four-horse wagons or sleighs. The force is generally armed with a Winchester repeating carbine and a revolving pistol. Sabres are worn only by the officers and sergeants. The artillery detachment have seven-pounder mountain howitzers; but are evidently not to be trusted to perform their duty with efficiency unless commanded by a well qualified artillery officer. The episode at Duck Lake, whereby the only available gun was disabled in action, is disgraceful to the discipline of the force, and shows that the gunners must have lost their heads. The absence of Capt. Cotton, formerly adjutant of A Battery, who now commands the police at Fort McLeod, was an unfortunate circumstance on this occasion.

ARRIVAL OF THE ROYAL GRENADIERS AT CAMP DE-OLATION.

Here again we are indebted to Mr. F. W. Curzon for a sketch which has enabled the artist to represent faithfully, and yet poetically, an experience which the Grenadiers are not likely soon to forget. As all who contemplate it have doubtless read an account of the dismal circumstances of the occasion, it is unnecessary for us to recapitulate. Our illustration shows a railroader regretfully explaining to the officer how the troops must remain at this cheerless spot until the disabled engine can bring the train required to convey the troops on the next stage of their arduous journey. Some of the men are endeavouring to rekindle dying camp fires and to solace themselves with their pipes, while others, too exhausted even to divest themselves of their packs, throw themselves on the ground to seek much needed rest. How gratifying to know that, notwithstanding such rough experience of "real soldiering," the troops reached Winnipeg "never the worse," like the little Jackdaw of Rheims, after "that terrible curse."

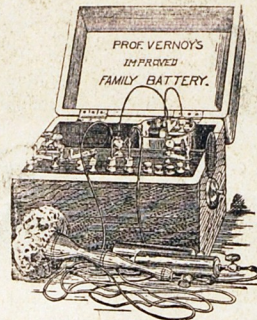
MIDNIGHT TRAMP OF THE ROYAL GRENADIERS.

As to the illustration of the march from Red Rock to Nepigon, on our eighth page, we feel that we should wrong the artist and do scant justice to the *Mail* correspondent if we failed to allow them to tell the story between them:—

After leaving the cars the battalion paraded in line. A couple of camp-fires served to make the darkness visible. All the men were anxious to start, and when the word was given to march it was greeted with cheers. It was impossible to march in fours, therefore an order was given for "Left turn; quick march." We turned obedient to the order, but the march was anything but quick. Then into the solemn darkness of the pines and hemlock the column slowly moved, each side being snow four feet deep. It was almost impossible to keep the track, and a mis-step buried the unfortunate individual up to his neck. Then it began raining, and for three mortal hours there was a continuous down-pour. The lake was reached at last, to the extreme pleasure of the corps.

A SUITABLE "pill for the Russians" appears in the window of the Li-quo Tea Company's store, Yonge street, in the shape of one of the projectiles used by the men-of-war which bombarded the forts at Alexandria. It is said to weigh 700 lbs. and is thrown from a gun weighing 35 tons.

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The First Insurrectionary Movements of Riel.

We have carefully avoided giving currency to the rumors that were floating around all winter, but now that events have called forth action on the part of the authorities, reticence is no longer either necessary or justifiable.

From the information in our possession it appears that Riel has assumed the role of agitator, delivering inflammatory speeches in which he urges his followers to demand from the Government a recognition of what he says are their "rights." In his latest oratorical efforts at Duck Lake he is said to have pointed out that England was now engaged in a gigantic foreign war, and that this was their opportunity, as she could not spare any troops to fight them.

According to their own talk, the deluded men intend to re-enact the old-time scenes at the barricade at St. Norbert, by deciding that on the 15th March they will put a stop to all traffic across the South Branch. A more

suicidal programme for their own interests would be hard to decide on.

Since the above was in type we have received the following despatch, dated eight o'clock:—

"The half-breeds at Batoche are reported to be in a state of ferment. Very little is known of their intentions as yet, but it is thought they contemplate mischief."

"On Sunday Louis Riel addressed a large gathering outside the church in French, the substance of which was that England and Russia would likely be at war in a short time, and the attention of the Canadians would be so much directed to the struggle that it would be a good time for the half-breeds to assert their rights."

"Certain malcontents among the whites at Prince Albert sympathize with the half-breed agitators, and one of them has circulated letters setting forth the half-breeds' claims. One of these demands is that the management of the railways and running of trains in the North-West should be under control of the native half-breeds."—*Saskatchewan Herald*, March 13.