

1) PROMOTIONS IN THE 2ND BATTALION

Further to the notice given in the last newsletter that David Moore has decided to step down as Serjeant of the 2nd Bn and return to the ranks, I am pleased to announce the following:

Todd Girdwood, to Serjeant vice David Moore, retired

Ron Maybee, to Corporal vice Girdwood, promoted

Many of you will be aware that Todd has served as Corporal in the 2nd Bn for two years, having joined Crawford's Company at its birth in 1985. In Dave Moore's absence, Todd has had several opportunities to lead the troops.

Ron also has been with the unit since its inception and with his years of experience in the 1st Bn and the Regular Forces will be quick to fulfill this role.

2) THE WINTER PARTY: APPLEBY COLLEGE, OAKVILLE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1989

For those of you from outside of the Toronto area, Oakville is just to the west of the city. The College is a prestigious school for privileged young men. The facilities are excellent, if not 18C, and the price extremely reasonable. There will be further information mailed as to the exact location, timing and costs.

This year will mark the return of the Skits, with interested parties performing decent, family entertainment, lampooning the Regiment and its leadership and its activities. Or, performing some sterling example of 18C dance or song. Or, some abominable combination of both. Or,

A plaque donated by retired Grenadiers, Gammon & Reeves to the Loyal Provincial Association of Thespians. 'Royal Yorkers' will be awarded to the most likely entertainment. Absolutely anyone may join in this nonsense by banding together into little Communist-like cells and preparing their worst.

In the interest of a moderate level of organization (and some advice as to content if you need it) please telephone Chief Thespian, Cpl Jim Devlin to announce your participation. 416-683-2494

3) THE MUSEUM PARTY: VICTORIA HALL, COBOURG, SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1989

We are going to try out this idea again and this time in the beautifully restored Victoria Hall which we have secured for an unbelievably cheap price. We will enjoy facilities of our own, and escape the turmoil of last year's event with people crawling all over us; however, as there are many rooms within this building, we can expect lots of people to inspect our wares and be subject to our missionary zeal and liberal insanity.

All 18 & 19C units and uniforms are welcome. More details to follow.

4) EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE IN STOCK

BAYONET SCABBARD TIPS: There are an alarming number of you troopers out there with these tips missing from your scabbards. I'm sure that you recognize that you are a hazard to yourself as well as your fellows. These tips **MUST** be replaced!! This is an easy enough job for you to do. First, you remove any of the extra thread which was wound around the outside of the scabbard to hold the tip in place. You then soak the end of the scabbard in hot water and then push the new tip into place. This may require opening the end of the scabbard a few stitches. Then you take your dainty little fingers and using a large needle and extra strong black thread, you re sew the scabbard shut and then wind several turns around the bottom, pulling the thread very tight. This will secure the neck of the tip into place and the leather, being wet, will compress

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to help hold the turns of thread.

Or, if you want to cheat a little bit, instead of wetting the leather, squeeze some rubber contact cement into the opening at the scabbard's end and put a light coating of the cement on the insert end of the tip. Allow to dry for a few minutes and then push into place. You'll still have to do a little sewing, but that's good for you. Do not use electrical tape!!

Place your orders with me at \$2.50 each.

BAYONETS: The superb Ged Godwin reproduction bayonet for the Italian Brown Bess musket is in stock for anyone who wants an improvement. Price is \$54.00 and your old Indian-made repro is acceptable at a \$30.00 turn-in value, unless you've made a disaster out of it.

HAT BLANKS: We have just received a quantity of quality, black wool felt blanks which Todd Girdwood will convert to slouch hats for the Light Infantry and 2nd Bn. All Lights and 2nd Bn guys who are in need should advise Todd of their needs, which must include a head size.

HIVERSACKS: Herb Westhead has just delivered a super supply of his extra heavy duty haverfacks. We are not looking for opportunities to get rid of these; but, if your existing one is in absolutely, falling apart condition and beyond normal repair, then put in for a new one at \$4.75. Give me a call.

WHISK & PICK: Bob Anglin has just delivered a supply of beautiful whisks and picks. This is the variety that includes the brass cylinder to hold the whisk. Every musketeer should have one of these, ie. they are not an optional item. They are available from the Colonel at \$5.00 a set. **NOTE WELL:** If your present whisk & pick has parts missing, we will be pleased to offer a trade-in value for what you return as it is very easy for Bob to make repairs.

TRIANGULAR TOOLS or SCREWDRIVERS: This is the tool that every musketeer must have for replacing ruined flints or knapping dulled ones. There are two models; the first is a three pronged effort which is copied from a British pattern. Most of our guys have this model. The second is an American pattern which has one screwdriving edge and the other end is a pick for the touch hole. We have stocks of both models, Norm Agnew has the triangular type and the Colonel has the American. The triangular is \$13.00 and the Yank is \$10.50.

5) HISTORICALLY ACCURATE, REPRODUCTION SHOES FOR TROOPS AND FOLLOWERS

TROOPS The King's Storehouse:

This supplier reputedly has the best quality in the business. The only drawback in dealing with them is their popularity which means a long backlog. If we place our orders soon, we should be able to have our shoes by the start of the next Campaign. The designs which they have chosen to reproduce have been selected to span both the Seven Years and Revolutionary Wars.

You have the choice of purchasing either rough or smooth-side out. There are many authorities who maintain that smooth-side out is proper for troops as well as Officers, besides when the rough-side out are properly waxed the roughness is largely obscured in the same manner as a properly waxed bayonet scabbard.

However, if you want to be 'safe', the rough-side out shoe is likely the better choice, although maintenance is higher.

These are straight last shoes, that is there are no right or left shoes. It's up to you to change from one foot to the other to even out the wear. This is correct for our period and makes a great conversation piece.

Prices are \$90.00 per pair with hob nails at \$5.00 extra. They also offer a range of buckles. There are 3 styles that are suitable for Private soldiers are \$15.00 per pair. All prices are in US Funds, so add another 25% + as well as shipping. I think you are looking at about \$140.00 Canadian for shoes with hobs & buckles.

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buckles.

This supplier is offering us a discount of \$10.00 USF per pair if we order 10 pair. Women's shoes can be added to the total order to achieve the discount.

FOLLOWERS:

The ladies have many choices from this supplier. They can have the same style of shoe made as worn by the men as described above. This is accurate for the period and looks well with your camp clothing.

Another style which has more feminine appeal is their Leather shoe which would not be out of place in the camp; but, also would appear quite well with more formal clothing. This shoe has a high heel which the supplier is referring to as the 'Provincial' pattern. Like the mens', the women can have their leather rough-side in or out. See comments above for the men.

A third type is the Stuff shoe, which is completely covered in printed fabric, either supplied by yourself or selected from their stock. This mounts a high heel referred to as a 'Continental' pattern and requires some ribbon edge trim. Debra Parks has a pair of these, much to the envy of many of the followers. She supplied the maker with her choice of fabric.

A fourth model is the Pantoufle which is like a Mule. This is also fabric covered, again from your supply or their stock and mounts the Continental heel and some ribbon trimming. These would be grand for a Ball, but for anything else.....

All women's shoes, leather or fabric are \$90.00 per pair with buckles extra at \$16.00 per pair with four patterns to choose from. The Pantoufle are \$60.00 per pair. All prices are US Funds. Like the troops, I suspect you're looking at \$140.00 Cdn by the time they're delivered into your hands.

As noted, womens' shoes can be combined with mens' to achieve their discount of \$10.00 USF if we order 10 pair.

ORDERING

There are special forms for ordering your choice. If you let me know of your interest, I will mail the form to you for completion.

I would ask that you then return it to me so that we can build our order to the required 10 in order to qualify for the discount.

Ladies can order without having made their choice of fabric. That is, we can put the order in and ask for swatches of fabric and trim to be mailed for examination. By doing it this way, we can build up to gain the discount.

Either phone me at 416-833-6435 after 7:30PM or write to RR #1, King City, Ont. LOG 1KO. The money will be required when you return the completed order form.

6) GOOD NEWS ABOUT MUSKETS

I received a call from our old friend, Robin Upton former leader of the 84th Royal Highland Emigrants who now runs a militaria shop in Niagara-on-the-Lake called the Musket & Drum. He advises that the tooling from Bob Seymour's Toronto gunsmithing operation is about to be purchased and put into use again by a Canadian concern in the St.Catherine's area. Robin will serve as the sales arm.

They will market three models of Brown Bess. A Long Land Pattern, 46" model suitable for the Seven Years War and Rev War periods; an India Pattern, 39" with either gooseneck or reinforced cock and a Sea Service model both suitable for the 1812 War. Robin thinks these will be priced at \$750.00 + sales taxes. In the case of the Long Land, this would be the most competitive pricing in years and years.

Seymour quality was quite good and these people have surveyed many of the old customer base (usually Historic Sites) to determine what improvements should be made. Seymour simply tapered steel tubing to form his barrels which led to an incorrect shape as well as very heavy weapons. Initial new

6) cont'd

production will follow this same method; but, later models will have correctly swamped barrels.

To me, this is exciting news as it gives our many different units an opportunity to buy correct patterns arms. Let's hope they get off to a great start.

7) JOHN MOORE'S SUPERB OFFERING

The following message was sent by the Duke of Wellington to the British Foreign Office in London in August 1812. While this is certainly not a North American affair, it doesn't take much to imagine Sir John Johnson or John Butler wanting to send a similar answer to the many inane demands made upon them and it is also quite difficult to imagine either of them having quite the panache to make such a riposte or the good fortune to get away with it.

"Gentlemen:

While marching from Portugal to a position which commands the approach to Madrid and the French forces, my officers have been diligently complying with your requests which have been sent by His Majesty's ship from London to Lisbon and thence by dispatch rider to our headquarters.

We have enumerated our saddles, bridles, tents and tent poles, and all manner of sundry items for which His Majesty's Government holds me accountable. I have dispatched reports on the character, wit and spleen of every officer. Each item and every farthing has been accounted for, with two regrettable exceptions for which I beg your indulgence.

Unfortunately the sum of one shilling and ninepence remains unaccounted for in one infantry battalion's petty cash and there has been a hideous confusion as to the number of jars of raspberry jam issued to one calvary regiment during a sandstorm in western Spain. This reprehensible carelessness may be related to the pressure of circumstances, since we are at war with France, a fact which may come as a bit of a surprise to your gentlemen in Whitehall.

This brings me to my present purpose, which is to request elucidation of my instructions from His Majesty's Government, so that I may better understand why I am dragging an army over these barren plains. I construe that perforce it must be one of two alternative duties, as given below. I shall pursue either on with the best of my ability but I cannot do both:

- 1 to train an army of uniformed British clerks in Spain for the benefit of the of the accountants and copy-boys in London, or perchance;
- 2 to see to it that the forces of Napoleon are driven out of Spain.

Your most obedient servant,

WELLINGTON"

8) THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FIRST PLATOON OF CAPTAIN STANNUS' COMPANY OF THE 64TH REGIMENT BLACKENS OUR SUPERB NAME AND ENJOYS IT

I was pleased to receive the most recent issue of this newsletter with which we trade copies. Our Regiment has front page billing in this scurrilous publication. The infamous coloured photo from the Ottawa Citizen that had the caption that made us out to be REBELS has been reproduced in cheap black and

white with a number of additions made to the copy. Here's some quotations:

'K.R.R. INFAMY IN OTTAWA!!

I wanted to make this a full colour fold-out, but I cannot with the equipment at my disposal. So the KRR (King's Regiment of Renegades) will have to be content with being the "cover girls" for this issue."

Under the photo the following, "Under fire: These American soldiers, taking part in a mock 18th Century battle with British troops organized by the Canadian War Museum, were defending their encampment in Hull's Jaques Cartier Park Sunday. "Other than ye spelling mistake, this is a repeat of the Citizen's dismal caption.....then,

"These rebels are seen falling like chaff before the ferocious onslaught of His Majesty's 64th Regiment of Foot. The bold troops of the 64th stormed across the field, shouting, 'Death to the Traitorous deserters who have forsaken the King, and all imperialistic capitalist running dogs of the West!' and other Maoist slogans. Their murderous volleys wreaked havoc on the KRR."

~~Hummmmmmmmm~~..... There will be a tomorrow.



ENSIGN DANIEL MOREAU OFFERS HIMSELF AS A SACRIFICE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE 1989 CAMPAIGN'S BUS TRIP

