

BY HIS HONOUR FRANK CLARENCE HUNTER, Esq. Lieutenant and Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Her Majesty's Island of Prince Edward and the Territories thereunto annexed, His Admirals, and Officers of the said Island.

That the said John Leas, late of the said Island, being a freeholder, and being of the age of years, doth hereby certify that he is the true and lawful owner of the premises hereinafter mentioned, and that he is desirous to sell the same, and to have the same sold by public auction, and to have the proceeds thereof applied to the purposes hereinafter mentioned.

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VOUNTEERS PLEDGE LOYALTY TO QUEEN

"We do make oath individually that we will be faithful and appear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Victoria her heirs and successors and that we will, in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, in person, crown and dignity, against all enemies and will obey all orders of Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, and will bear true faith and allegiance to her. So Help Me God."

With those words 21 men banded together in 1864 to form what was known as Company R in the centre of Prince County.

Those of the company who could write signed their names, the rest made their mark on a fantastic strip of parchment 30 inches long by four inches wide.

The document was made even more legal when it also bore the inscription: "Sworn before me, Chas. Grassell, J.P., Casseque, Aug. 16, 1864."

First to sign the paper was the man who organized the new military force, Captain John Hunter, who gave to the area in which he lived the name of Duvor and later petitioned the government to add it to his own name. In his petition he asserted that his name was first being read by other men of the same name and money was occasionally not being received by him.

Just 11 years after formation of the company another document, this time an imposing one, came into possession of the soldier.

The preamble to it reads: "BY HIS HONOUR WILLIAM CLEAVER FRANCIS ROBINSON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Her Majesty's Island of Prince Edward, and the territories thereunto belonging, Chancellor, Vice Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, etc."

It is addressed to Major John Hunter-Duvor appointing him to be Lieutenant Colonel in the 4th Prince County Regiment of Militia. The document was issued January 10, 1871, by Command, and signed by JOHN HAMILTON GRAY, Adjutant General, the same man who seven years before became part of history as a Father of Confederation. It is also signed and sealed by William Robinson, Lt. Gov.

Colonel Peter D. Stewart, Adjutant General, in a despatch to Lieut. Governor Dundas, concerning activities of the Volunteer Brigade of the Island ending 31st January, 1864 after referring to the great help received from the Imperial Government and the small amount received from local public funds, says: "It reflects the highest credit on the Volunteers themselves, that I receive comparatively speaking so little support from public funds, they have been able to hold their own with the most favoured Volunteers from other Provinces. I need hardly allude to the occasion on which they competed with the rifle. Two out of three Inter-Colonial prizes won by Island Volunteers remain a testimony of their proficiency." (From Old Charlottetown, 26th April, 1860)

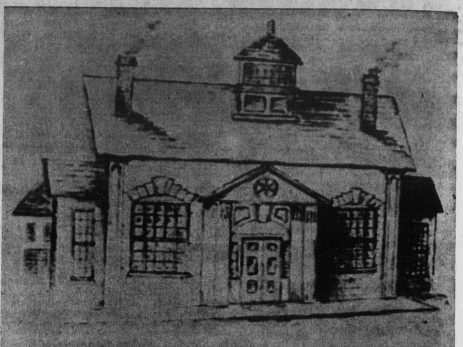
The fourth Rifle competition took place on Government House grounds on 29th September. Of 88 competitors, Allan Stewart, of the Dundas Rifle made the highest score, and won 10 pounds and medal of Rifle Association. Range 300 and 400 yards — five shots at each. (From Pollards' History page 132.)

November, 1778. The barracks were erected about 1798. After the regular troops were withdrawn in 1854 the site had become a parade ground for the Volunteers and a favourite resort for pleasure of the citizens, who were not as a whole at all pleased at its being turned into building lots.

On the 31st May, 1864, Lieutenant Robert A. Copley of the Volunteer Artillery was made Captain and transferred to the 2nd Queen's County Regiment of Militia, and on the 1st June was appointed Inspector of the Volunteer Brigade, assuming office of Quarter Master and Store Keeper. (District Order of 31-5-64.)

WORRY EXPRESSED
The following is taken from a despatch to Lieutenant Governor Dundas from the Rt. Hon. Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State, Downing Street, 15th October, 1864: "I learn that the Militia shall not be called out except only in times of war, civil commotion or other sufficient emergency. It appears that this enactment was passed simultaneously with the concession to the Legislature of Responsible Government, so that at the time the inhabitants obtained exclusive power to manage their own affairs, they inaugurated their career of self-government by depriving their Militia of the opportunity of becoming an organized and efficient body. You will, I am sure, concur with me in the opinion that if, in time of peace, a community neglects those measures of precaution by which its independence against foreign aggression can be secured, its safety must be more than imperilled in time of war. Her Majesty's Government are very desirous that no British Colony shall be left in this situation, and I wish that you would confer with the members of your Council with the view of remedying a state of affairs, as respects the Militia, which has no parallel in British North America." In the same despatch the following also appears: "I have observed with satisfaction the inscription: "Sworn before me, Chas. Grassell, J.P., Casseque, Aug. 16, 1864."

LONG AGO JUSTICE



THE OLD COURT HOUSE

No matter what a convicted man believes of justice today there is a slight difference in it and the brand dispensed early in the last century.

In 1823, for instance, the Chief Justice ruled: "That—be branded on the hand, and imprisoned in the Jail in Charlottetown for six calendar months. That—be branded on the hand and be imprisoned for two calendar months." As said Whipping he is only to receive sixty lashes or stripes."

In 1815, Sancho Byers and Peter Byers, on indictments for BURGLARY, were found guilty and condemned to death "without benefit of clergy." They were hanged on "Galloway Hill." Their crime? They were hungry and had stolen a loaf of bread.

Early militia history told

The following items are taken from the Notes on the Military History of P.E.I. by Major T. E. MacNutt, and will interest our readers in this Centennial Year, 1964.

On the 10th January 1864 Captain John Lea, late of the Regiment of Wales Rifles died and was buried with military honours. This was the first death of an officer since the organization of the Volunteers. Captain Lea had formerly been a Subaltern in the City Guards, and when in 1859 the Entfield Rifles arrived was amongst the first to enroll again.

On the 24th May the City Volunteers assembled at Fort St. George to celebrate the occasion of a Royal Salute being fired under Captain Morris, as was a few days before by the Rifle Company. A march past and other movements were much admired on this last parade on the old Barrack Square, as by

an Act of the General Assembly passed during the session of 1863, the Imperial Government granted to the Island the sole use and possession of the Ordnance property situated to the south of the City comprising the Georges Battery and Barrack Ground. The property was divided into twenty one building lots, and sold by public auction on 14th June, 1864, realizing the sum of 5,479 currency. (From Pollards' History)

This one hundred years had passed since Captain Hollis had laid out the site of Georges Battery until it passed out of existence as such. The Fort was not however erected until 1776, following the plundering of the Town by crews of two American Privateers on 17th

November, 1778. The barracks were erected about 1798. After the regular troops were withdrawn in 1854 the site had become a parade ground for the Volunteers and a favourite resort for pleasure of the citizens, who were not as a whole at all pleased at its being turned into building lots.

On the 31st May, 1864, Lieutenant Robert A. Copley of the Volunteer Artillery was made Captain and transferred to the 2nd Queen's County Regiment of Militia, and on the 1st June was appointed Inspector of the Volunteer Brigade, assuming office of Quarter Master and Store Keeper. (District Order of 31-5-64.)

WORRY EXPRESSED
The following is taken from a despatch to Lieutenant Governor Dundas from the Rt. Hon. Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State, Downing Street, 15th October, 1864: "I learn that the Militia shall not be called out except only in times of war, civil commotion or other

sufficient emergency. It appears that this enactment was passed simultaneously with the concession to the Legislature of Responsible Government, so that at the time the inhabitants obtained exclusive power to manage their own affairs, they inaugurated their career of self-government by depriving their Militia of the opportunity of becoming an organized and efficient body. You will, I am sure, concur with me in the opinion that if, in time of