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IN MEMORIAM

ERNEST ALEXANDER CRUIKSHANK

While this volume was in press, the Ontario Historical Society suffered the loss of its most distinguished member and the greatest contributor to its publications—Brigadier-General Ernest Alexander Cruikshank—who died at his home in Ottawa on June 23, 1939.

The following sketch of General Cruikshank's career has been compiled by Mr. Ernest Green of Ottawa, a Past President of the Ontario Historical Society, with the assistance, in the concluding part, of the Society's Secretary. It incorporates some passages previously published in the Ottawa "Citizen".

Ernest Alexander Cruikshank was born in Bertie township, Welland county, on June 29, 1853, the son of Alexander Cruikshank of Peterhead, and Margaret Milne, also of Aberdeenshire, Scotland. After attending St. Thomas Grammar School and Upper Canada College, from which he graduated with honors, he devoted himself to the study of languages and was engaged for some years in newspaper and magazine work in the United States. Returning to his birth-place he soon entered municipal affairs and held various offices in Bertie township and Fort Erie village. He was reeve of the latter for fifteen years, and was chosen warden of Welland county in 1886. He was also a member of the Welland Council during the period of county "commissioners".

He subsequently held several appointive offices, including that of police magistrate of Niagara Falls and surrounding district from 1903 to 1908. While residing in Niagara Falls he was chairman of the collegiate institute and general hospital boards.

In 1877 Ernest Cruikshank was commissioned ensign in the 44th "Welland" battalion of volunteer infantry and rose to the lieutenant-colonelcy of the Lincoln and Welland Regiment in 1899. On completing his tenure of this appointment he was made brigadier of the 5th Infantry Brigade, and on many occasions had command of larger bodies of troops during trainings in Military District No. 2.

He was an ardent student of military science and one of his chosen subjects was the tactics and strategy of Generals Lee and Stonewall Jack-