

son in the American civil war. In company with Major-General Sir W. D. Otter he made an exhaustive reconnoissance of the areas of their campaigns.

His work as an officer of the active militia was conspicuous for thoroughness and efficiency and there was much satisfaction when, in 1911, he was appointed a colonel on the permanent staff. He was assigned to the command of Military District No. 13, with headquarters at Calgary, and remained in that post until 1917. As District Officer Commanding, he was largely responsible for the high standard of efficiency and discipline prevailing in the Alberta training centres for troops destined for service overseas during the earlier years of the Great War.

In 1915 he was promoted Brigadier-General. Recalled to headquarters, he was assigned to special duty and went to the Canadian front in France in 1917. While overseas he was a guest aboard the British battle fleet during manœuvres in the North Sea. On his return to Ottawa at the close of the war he was appointed Director of the Historical Section of the General Staff, which post he held until his retirement from service in 1921.

Although busily engaged in journalistic, municipal and military work from early manhood, General Cruikshank yet found time to become an intense student of history—especially military history. At first he concentrated upon the records of the Niagara frontier, but the scope of his work was gradually extended until it covered the whole history of the province of Ontario from the earliest times to the middle of the nineteenth century. In this wide field he became an outstanding authority. His researches were marked by unflagging industry and unsparing care so that the completeness and accuracy of his written works commanded the highest esteem among historians. He was the author of numerous books and pamphlets and contributed hundreds of articles to military and historical publications in Canada, the United States and Great Britain. Mention is made below of the heavy obligation to him under which the Ontario Historical Society lies. The publications of the Royal Society of Canada and the Canadian Military Institute, and those of the Niagara, Lundy's Lane, Welland County, and other historical societies were also enriched by his contributions.

Notable among his works are "A History of the Military and Naval Forces of Canada from 1763 to 1784" in three volumes, "The King's Royal Regiment of New York," "The Story of Butler's Rangers," "The Genesis of the Canada Act," "Life and Letters of Robert Nichol," "The Life of Colonel the Hon. James Kerby," "A Century of Municipal History," pamphlets on individual battles and campaigns, and nine volumes of "The Documentary History of the Campaigns on The Niagara Frontier," collected and edited for the Lundy's Lane Historical Society. A complete bibliography of his works would include hundreds of titles.

Advancing years did not dim his ardor for historical research and writing and he signalized his 83rd year by publishing two noteworthy works—"The Life of Sir Henry Morgan, and the English Settlement of

Jamaica, 1655-1688", and "The Political Adventures of John Henry." The former, a 400-page book dealing with one of the most colorful phases of British West Indian history, won high praise from conservative English reviewers and critics, while the scholarly 200-page review of John Henry's activities, (which had much to do with provoking the war of 1812-14) was warmly welcomed by Canadian, British and United States historians. As the works of an octogenarian, these two books are particularly note-worthy.

In 1908 he was appointed keeper of the military manuscripts in the Archives of Canada, but resigned that post in 1911 to accept military employment, as already noted. While at the Archives he classified the military records and prepared inventories and indexes which are invaluable to those engaged in research.

In 1919 the government of Canada created the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, a body of historical authorities to select and advise regarding monuments or works of preservation in the fortifications, battlefields and other spots of national importance in the history of the Dominion. General Cruikshank was one of the first appointees to the board, and at its first meeting was elected its chairman. Both appointment and election were repeated when terms of office expired and he continued during the remainder of his life to be the directing genius of the splendid work planned by the board and carried out by the National Parks Bureau.

More than two hundred bronze tablets have been erected to commemorate outstanding occurrences in Canadian history and a score of historic buildings or sites have been acquired and preserved. Many other sites have been declared to be of national importance and plans made for their marking, so that the work already accomplished by the board will provide the plan of constructive operations for some time to come. Exhaustive researches and meticulous care have marked the selection of every site and the preparation of the inscriptions to be placed on memorial tablets, with the result that these markers have a status of historical authority, reflecting in many cases the thorough knowledge and painstaking preparation of the chairman of the advisory board.

General Cruikshank's last activities were in connection with historic sites' preservation and his fatal illness was a direct result of over-exertion. After presiding over the four-days' annual meeting of the Board, late in May, he went immediately on a lengthy motor tour to secure sites for new memorial cairns in Eastern Ontario, and on the return trip suffered a chill from which he never recovered. It may be said that he died in the service to which he had given his best of historical knowledge and unflagging zeal during the last twenty years of his life. In the hundreds of memorials dotting Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific, as in his historical writings, he has monuments to his abilities and services that will endure for generations after the last personal memories of the man have faded.

Numerous honors came to General Cruikshank for his military and historical work, and many organizations had the benefit of his counsel in

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different official capacities. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and of the Royal Historical Society of Great Britain, a past president of the Ontario Historical Society, a vice-president of the Canadian Military Institute, honorary president of several societies, and a corresponding, honorary or active member of many others. In 1916 the University of Alberta conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws. In 1935 the Royal Society of Canada awarded him the Tyrrell gold medal for outstanding work in connection with the history of Canada.

He was twice married, his first wife being Julia Kennedy of Scranton, Pa., and his second Matilda Murdie of Ottawa. He left no children. He was a member of the congregation of Holy Trinity Church, Ottawa.

He so combined military experience, literary ability, historical genius and a passion for thoroughness and accuracy that he was able to fill many and varying positions with a degree of success seldom attained by one individual. His place in these circles was unique and his activities were so sustained, even in advanced years, that his death was a loss deemed well-nigh irreparable by those who have been associated with him.

The late Colonel George T. Denison, a fellow soldier and historian, wrote of General Cruikshank: "Few historians have been found so trustworthy." The Toronto Globe said: "He ranks with Parkman as a painstaking and just writer." The Mail and Empire: "One of the best military historical writers in the Dominion." The Canadian Military Gazette: "For many years he has made Canadian military history his chief study, and has demonstrated his ability to handle men as very few in this country could do." J. B. Harkin, retired commissioner of national parks, said: "Brigadier General Cruikshank was outstanding in his knowledge of Canadian history. As chairman of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, he provided wonderful leadership in the work of the preservation and marking of national historic sites." Major-Gen. the Hon. W. A. Griesbach wrote: "Few Canadian soldiers have made so valuable a contribution to military efficiency in Canada as did General Cruikshank. He stressed the virtues of precision, promptitude, loyalty, and duty. He was a fine soldier and a great Canadian."

Many other sincere tributes were paid from all parts of Canada and from abroad.

In compliance with his own expressed desire, Gen. Cruikshank's remains were interred in Beechwood cemetery, Ottawa, full military honors being accorded him by order of the Department of National Defence. After a private service at his late residence, 53 Wilton Crescent, on the afternoon of June 26, a public service, attended by a large congregation, was conducted in Holy Trinity Church, by the rector, Rev. Canon Robert Turley. The Minister of National Defence and the Defence Council were represented by Major-General H. H. Matthews, adjutant-general. Other soldiers of note, officials of government departments, representatives of the Royal Society of Canada and of many historical and other organizations also attended.

The honorary pallbearers were Brigadier-General Charles F. Winter, Brigadier-General C. H. Maclaren, Brigadier S. H. Hill, Colonel H.

C. Osborne, Colonel A. F. Duguid, and Colonel J. G. Rattray. The casket, covered by the Union Jack and surmounted by the dead General's hat and sword, was borne by eight non-commissioned officers of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa and conveyed to the cemetery on a gun-carriage drawn by six black horses ridden by constables of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the General's charger, with boots reversed in the stirrups, following.

The escort was furnished by detachments of the Cameron Highlanders and the Governor-General's Foot Guards, the latter regiment also providing the band and firing-party. The troops were under command of Major E. G. Weeks, assisted by Lieut. J. D. B. Smith.

At Beechwood cemetery, after the committal service by Rev. Canon Turley, the customary three volleys were fired over the open grave as a plane of the Royal Canadian Air Force soared overhead. "Last Post" and "Reveille", sounded by the buglers of the Guards, closed Ernest Cruikshank's military career of sixty-two years.

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General Cruikshank, in later years a life member, was elected an honorary member of the Ontario Historical Society in 1899. He had already attained a noteworthy position as an historian, but no one then foresaw the great services he was to render the Society during the succeeding forty years. He was its president from 1920 to 1922, a position he would undoubtedly have reached earlier but for military demands.

Almost from the outset of his connection he began his contributions to the Society's publications. The index to its Papers and Records shows forty-four articles from his pen. In addition he collected and edited for the Society "The Simcoe Papers", the "Russell Papers" and a documentary record of "The Settlement of the United Empire Loyalists on the Upper St. Lawrence and Bay of Quinte in 1784": nine volumes in all. With respect to the last named publication he had, at the time of his death, practically completed a volume of supplementary records. He had completed, moreover, with editorial notes, a collection of the official correspondence and other papers relating to the lieutenant-governorship of the Hon. Peter Hunter. These unpublished works the Society hopes to be able, some day, to put into print.

As an indication of its appreciation of what he had done for it, the Society in 1932, opened an account in its books under the heading "Brigadier General E. A. Cruikshank Account", to which are credited all moneys received otherwise than from fees and government grant. The fund is to be used for special publications only.

General Cruikshank's insistence on a high standard of work was firm. He was unsparing in his vigilance for inaccuracies, deplored any mingling of romance in what purported to be history, and strongly disapproved of a resort to "fine writing" to conceal a lack of information or a misleading presentation. His interest in young writers was unflagging, and he was ready at all times to give advice, recommend sources, and read manuscripts. His influence was wide and will long be felt.