



The Fenian Raids of 1866 and the Gore volunteers (Part 3)

In 1899 the federal government awarded the Canada General Service Medal to veterans of the Fenian Raids. The list of men who applied for and received medals for their service in 1866 and 1870 was printed in Part 2.

Injury & death

No Canadian soldiers or militiamen were killed in action during the battle of Pigeon Hill, Québec in June of 1866. However, many suffered injury and/or illness and a number died as a consequence of serving.

Among the Argenteuil Rangers, one man—Private Andrew Cousins of Captain Pridham's Co. 7, Grenville—died on October 11, 1866, only four months after he served. He was just 19 years old. His family received \$200 in compensation. Dr. Clarke signed the death certificate.

Another volunteer—Private William Curran of Captain Smith's, No. 2 West Gore company—suffered illness contracted during active service. According to the June 1866 pay list, he was unable to gain a livelihood for his wife and family and he is entered on the Injuries on Service listing as receiving \$136.50 for loss of time.

Bounty Reward

In 1912, many decades after the Fenian Raids, Canada passed an Order in Council, "The Fenian Raid Volunteer Bounty Act" which awarded veterans \$100—about \$2,600 in today's dollar—for their military service. As with the medal, the veteran had to be alive and had to apply for the grant. By 1912 many of the men had died, but for those who survived the \$100 would have been a welcome reward for their

military service. The Bounty Act came into force on April 1, 1912 and veterans had until December 31, 1913 to apply. Cheques finally began to be issued on December 31, 1914. By then, WWI had begun.

The use of the word 'bounty' is a bit odd since in the military parlance it usually means a reward for killing or capturing a person. In this context, however, it simply means a payment made by the government to a soldier after a military campaign.

Back in 1899, applying for the service medal had been a relatively easy process—the veteran gave information on his military service and signed his name. Applying for the Bounty grant in 1912, on the other hand, was a much more complicated business. The veteran had to fill out the application form with information on the battalion/company he served with and the dates he was on active duty. The application had to be signed and then witnessed by a justice of the peace, a commissioner of oaths or another person who held an official position such as a mayor.

The applicant also had to submit a Comrade's Declaration attesting to the information in the application. In addition, another form, this one from the Department of Militia and Defense, had to be filled out and signed. Many of the applicants also wrote letters giving more information on their service.

The following is a list of veterans of the Gore companies who applied for the Bounty reward. Except where noted, all served in 1866. This list shows the place of residence in 1912. It is not clear if all those who applied actually received the \$100 payment. Source: *Fenian Raid Bounty Reward Applications*, Library & Archives Canada.

Name	Company	Residence in 1912
James Armstrong	Co. 6, 1870	Mont Laurier
John Armstrong	Co. 6	Langruth, Manitoba
James Bennett	Co. 5	Arundel
Alexander Boyd	Co. 6	Indian Head, Sask
Nathaneal Boyd	Co 6	Park City, Montana
Matthew Christie	Co. 2	Cardston, Alt
Valentine Christie	Co. 2	Cardston, Alt
William Clifford	Co. 2, 1870	Shrewsbury
Peter Conlin	Co. 2	Traverse City, Michigan
Thomas Conlin	Co. 2	Louisa
Joseph Creswell	Co. 2	Louisa
Robert Creswell	Co. 2, 1870	Wales, N. Dakota
William Curran	Co. 2	Louisa
John Currens	Co. 2	St. Amédée, Labelle
Robert Currens	Co. 2	St. Amédée, Labelle
James Curry	Co. 3	Chazy, NY
Edward Dawson	Co. 6, 1870	Stonefield
Thomas Dawson	Co. 5	Lakefield
Thomas Dawson	Co. 6	Mille Isles
James Day	Co. 3	Montreal
Robert Evans	Co. 6	Lakefield
William Good	Co. 3, 1866 & 70	Shrewsbury

John Hicks	Co. 5	Lakefield	William Payne/Paine	Co. 2	Dunany
Robert Hodge	Co. 5	Hill Head	William Pollock	Co. 6	Montreal
William Kidd	Co. 3, 1870	Holmfield, Manitoba	William Porter	Co. 2, 1870	St. Amédée, Labelle
Robert MacDonald	Co. 2	Arundel	Matthew Rogers	Co. 5	Lakefield
Richard Matthews	Co. 2, 1870	Cookshire	James Scott	Co. 5	North Gore Village
Thomas Matthew	Co. 2	East Angus	Robert Scott	Co. 5	Santa Cruz, California
Duncan McCallum	Co. 2	Weir	William Smith	Co. 2, 1870	Dunany
Henry McDonald	Co. 6	Cookshire	Matthew Strong	Co. 6	Cambria
William McDonald	Co. 3	Wittemore, Michigan	James Swail	Co. 3	Shrewsbury
Robert McKnight	Co. 2	Broadview, Sask	Albert Thompson	Co. 2	Hannah, N. Dakota
George McMullin	Co. 6	California	Joseph Thompson	Co. 3	Shrewsbury
William McMullin	Co. 6	Lachute Mills	Richard Thompson	Co. 3	Shrewsbury
James Miller	Co. 5	Island Brook, Qc	William Thompson	Co. 3, 1870	Wales, N. Dakota
Charles Moore	Co. 5	Arundel	John Westgate	Co. 6, 1870	Mille Isles
James Morrison	Co. 2, 1866 & 70	Louisa	Robert Wilson	Co. 5	Montreal
Charles Morrow	Co. 3	Maxville, On	Thomas Wilson	Co. 6	Cambria
John Neil	Co. 2, 1870?	Louisa	Richard Wood	Co. 3, 1870	Leopold, Argenteuil
Thomas Noble	Co. 6, 1870	Cambria	William Wood	Co. 6	Lachute
James Parker	Co. 5	Lakefield			
William Parker	Co. 5	Dunany			



An early photo of the Argenteuil Rangers and possibly of Mille Isles Company No. 6, John Pollock, captain. No date. Gary Pollock, a descendant of John Pollock, posted this photo in 2009 along with messages saying it might be of Co. 6, but added there is nothing written on the photo. Terry McMahon believes this is the earliest known photo of the Rangers, but notes it is undated. We include the photo here because it is so interesting and probably shows the entire company. (Sources: Gary Pollock, Almonte, Ontario; Terry J. McMahon, *Down to the Gore: A History of the McMahons in Canada*, LuLu Sales, 2014, p. 70.)

Written for name of Dir 15 2397
 C.O. June 21/12
 FENIAN RAID SERVICE. MAY - 1 1912

THE FENIAN RAID VOLUNTEER BOUNTY ACT
 APPLICATION FOR GRANT.

(This application and the declaration of a comrade in support of the claim, should be sent to The Secretary, Militia Council, Ottawa. Blank Forms may be obtained from Officers Commanding Divisions and Districts.)

I, James Morrison of Louisa
Comptrolleur in the Province of Quebec
 do hereby apply for a grant under the provisions of The Fenian Raid Volunteer Bounty Act.

The grounds of my application are as follows:-
 I was enrolled in the No 2 Coy 11th Batt. Royal Rifles
 and served with it at Frontenac, St. John's, and other places in the Province of Quebec from March 1870 to April 1870 in the month of April in the year 1870.

I was awarded and am now in possession of the Canada General Service Medal for said service.

I have not previously made any application for a grant under the said Bounty Act.

APPLICANT'S DECLARATION.
 I, James Morrison of the Village
 of Louisa in the Province of Quebec
 do solemnly declare that I am the person mentioned in the foregoing application for Volunteer Bounty.

That all the statements made by me in said application are true.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

Declared before me at the town
 of Cochet in the Province
 of Quebec this 1st
 day of April 1912.

James Morrison
 Applicant's signature

St. John's
 A Commissioner, &c.

M. F. A. 1039
 15 M. 413
 H. Q. 9-2

ON active S.P.R. 7122 Coy. exp. 1912

Bounty Reward applications—a sampling



James "Bear" Morrison, Sergeant, Co. 2, West Gore. His Comrade's Declaration was signed by William Good of Shrewsbury. James Morrison also served in the Fenian Raid of 1870. He died in 1915 at age 80 and is buried in St. Aidan's Church cemetery, Louisa.

Thomas Wilson, Co. 6, Gore. Matthew J. Strong, who was mayor of Mille Isles in 1912, signed his application.

THE FENIAN RAID VOLUNTEER BOUNTY ACT.
 COMRADE'S DECLARATION

I, Wm Good of the Village
 of Shrewsbury in the Province of Quebec
 do solemnly declare that I personally know James Morrison
 of Louisa in the Province of Quebec
 who has applied to the Militia Department for a grant under the terms of The Fenian Raid Volunteer Bounty Act, on account of service performed by him with the 11th Batt. Royal Rifles
 and I identify him as the James Morrison
 who served as a Sergeant
 in and with the said 11th Batt. Royal Rifles
 on active service at Frontenac, St. John's, and other places in the Province of Quebec in the month of March in the year 1870.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

Declared before me at the town
 of Cochet in the Province of Quebec
 this 1st
 day of April 1912.

Wm Good
 Comrade's signature

St. John's
 A Commissioner, &c.

M. F. A. 1039
 15 M. 413
 H. Q. 9-2

THE FENIAN RAID SERVICE.
 THE FENIAN RAID VOLUNTEER BOUNTY ACT.
 APPLICATION FOR GRANT.

(This application and the declaration of a comrade in support of the claim, should be sent to The Secretary, Militia Council, Ottawa. Blank Forms may be obtained from Officers Commanding Divisions and Districts.)

I, Thomas Wilson of Cambria
Comptrolleur in the Province of Quebec
 do hereby apply for a grant under the provisions of The Fenian Raid Volunteer Bounty Act.

The grounds of my application are as follows:-
 I was enrolled in the No 6 Coy 11th Batt. Royal Rifles
 and served with it at Frontenac, St. John's, and other places in the Province of Quebec from June 4th to about the 17th in the year 1870.

I was awarded and am now in possession of the Canada General Service Medal for said service.

I have not previously made any application for a grant under the said Bounty Act.

APPLICANT'S DECLARATION.
 I, Thomas Wilson of the Cambria
Comptrolleur in the Province of Quebec
 do solemnly declare that I am the person mentioned in the foregoing application for Volunteer Bounty.

That all the statements made by me in said application are true.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

Declared before me at the Cambria
 of Comptrolleur in the Province
 of Quebec this 1st
 day of May 1912.

Thomas Wilson
 Applicant's signature

Matthew J. Strong
 A Commissioner, &c.

M. F. A. 1039
 15 M. 413
 H. Q. 9-2

be act 1912 6 Comptrolleur

5248

Matthew Rogers, Corporal, Co. 5, Lakefield. Matthew Scott of Cambria signed the Comrade's Declaration. Matthew Rogers died in 1922 at the age of 85. He is buried in Holy Trinity Church cemetery, Lakefield

James Parker, Private, Co. 5, Lakefield. Robert Evans of Lakefield signed the Comrade's Declaration. James Parker died June 4, 1914, a few months before the Bounty cheques were issued. His family would have received the \$100. He is buried in the Holy Trinity Church cemetery.

Thomas Copeland, Justice of the Peace, Lakefield, witnessed the applications of both Mathew Rogers and James Parker.

C.O. written for 8/5/13. 9517
ESP

FENIAN RAID SERVICE.
THE FENIAN RAID VOLUNTEER BOUNTY ACT.
APPLICATION FOR GRANT.

(This application and the declaration of a comrade in support of the claim, should be sent to The Secretary, Militia Council, Ottawa. Blank Forms may be obtained from Officers Commanding Divisions and Districts.)

I, James Parker of the Tp. of Gore
Lakefield in the Province of Quebec
do hereby apply for a grant under the provisions of The Fenian Raid Volunteer Bounty Act.

The grounds of my application are as follows:—
I was enrolled in the 11th Batt. Volunteer Rangers
and served with it at Carroll's Co. St. John's in the Province of Quebec
from 6th June in the year 18 66
to June in the year 18 66

I was awarded and am now in possession of the Canada General Service Medal for said service. yes.

I have not previously made any application for a grant under the said Bounty Act.

APPLICANT'S DECLARATION.
I, James Parker of the Tp. of Gore
of Lakefield in the Province of Quebec
do solemnly declare that I am the person mentioned in the foregoing application for Volunteer Bounty.

That all the statements made by me in said application are true.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

Declared before me at the P. Office
of Lakefield in the Province
of Quebec this 15th
day of May 1912
A. M. O. Parker
A Commissioner, &c.

M. P. A. 1059
15 M. 4-12
H. Q. 9-6-2

for cert of no other papers

C. O. Written for 6/8/13. 9509
ESP

FENIAN RAID SERVICE.
THE FENIAN RAID VOLUNTEER BOUNTY ACT.
APPLICATION FOR GRANT.

(This application and the declaration of a comrade in support of the claim, should be sent to The Secretary, Militia Council, Ottawa. Blank Forms may be obtained from Officers Commanding Divisions and Districts.)

I, Matthew Rogers of the Tp. of Gore
Lakefield in the Province of Quebec
do hereby apply for a grant under the provisions of The Fenian Raid Volunteer Bounty Act.

The grounds of my application are as follows:—
I was enrolled in the 11th Batt. Volunteer Rangers
and served with it at Carroll's Co. St. John's in the Province of Quebec
from June in the year 18 66
to June in the year 18 66

I was awarded and am now in possession of the Canada General Service Medal for said service. I have a medal.

I have not previously made any application for a grant under the said Bounty Act.

APPLICANT'S DECLARATION.
I, Matthew Rogers of the Tp. of Gore
of Lakefield in the Province of Quebec
do solemnly declare that I am the person mentioned in the foregoing application for Volunteer Bounty.

That all the statements made by me in said application are true.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

Declared before me at the P. Office
of Lakefield in the Province
of Quebec this 9th
day of May 1912
Matthew Rogers
A Commissioner, &c.

M. P. A. 1059
15 M. 4-12
H. Q. 9-6-2

to cert of no other papers

THE FENIAN RAID VOLUNTEER BOUNTY ACT
COMRADE'S DECLARATION

I, Robert Evans of the Tp. of Gore
of Lakefield in the Province of Quebec
do solemnly declare that I personally know
James Parker
Lakefield in the Province of Quebec
who has applied to the Militia Department for a grant under the terms of The Fenian
Raid Volunteer Bounty Act on account of service rendered by him with the
11th Batt. Volunteer Rangers
and I solemnly declare that I personally know
James Parker
who served as a Private
in and with the said 11th Batt. Volunteer Rangers
on active service at Carroll's Co. St. John's in the
Province of Quebec in the month of June
in the year 18 66

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

Declared before me at the
P. Office
of Lakefield
in the Province of Quebec
this 15th
day of May 1912
Robert Evans
A Commissioner, &c.

M. P. A. 1059
15 M. 4-12
H. Q. 9-6-2

Notes and references

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