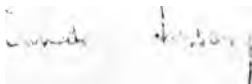


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A VETERAN OF 1812.

JONATHAN PHILLIPS.

Another old settler in the Bay of Quinte region and a veteran of the war of 1812, has been laid with his cotemporaries and companions in arms. As an humble, though representative man, of a class of our population that is gradually disappearing from the scene of active life, the subject of this sketch calls for a somewhat lengthy notice. A few years more and there will not be a living witness of the times and the actions of the resolute men who laid the foundation of our present institutions, by maintaining the connection of the present British American Province with the mother country. The danger that threatened Canada at the commencement of the war of 1812, is perhaps not at the present day fully appreciated. It has, however, been frequently dwelt upon, but we live too near

11. Requiring acCirrilling were being briskly carried on 'about Quebec and Montreal. Some troops began towise, about the beginning of March, 1813, from the Lower Provinces. The 104th Regiment had arrived evesslaud fronacerdickton m Nevv.Brunstviok, by the valley of the St. John's river, through an ha-/Assessable forest, for hundreds of Mike, to Lake Temiseouta, and from thence to Reviere,dw-Jaonp, proceeding Sp wards along the 's 'dish 'shore 'str 'his 'St 4.121'p]1'pe'7# ii's#i PRSP.A q-f''at:op]si

"war, it has never **yet bien brought** *int;
 "nently before the ; **yet it clearly**
"proves that the &feint' of Canada, then
 rested 4vith its inhabitants. 'We **find that**
"though they noisted principally of the old
"U. E. Loyalists' and their descendants, the
***native indians who"had been dispossessed**
"of their possessions in the United States,
 "and their descendants, together with resi-
 "dents from the United StatesL-s emigration
 .. from the Mother country not having been
 "commenced to any extent,—a population
 "thus composed, not exceeding in Upper
 "Canada, **at** most 90,000, without troops,
 "without munitions of war, without resour-
 ces, and without the least expectation of any
 "timely aid from the mother country, with a
 "few troops, unable to contend against a
 "powerful nation, numbering about 8,000,000
 ." with munitions of war, and resources with-
 "out limit, within a comparatively short dis-
 41 tance from maratime cities, also nitniefottis
 11 forces at command, of which they were not
 "slow of apprising us, in the proclamations
 4. circulated from time to time,—it was under

" those cirmmstances that the character and
 "ability of Sir Isaac Brock were brought to
 light. Well knowing on whom he had to
 " depend for the defence of the country, he
 "directed his personal attention to the cloth-
 .. in g, arms, equipment, mess, and personal
 "comfort of the militia, and took every op-
 " portunity of gaining the good will of the
 " Indians."

Of the Provincial troops, the Glengary
 Regiment of Infantry took perhaps the most
 active pert. At the age of 15, Jonathan Phil-
 lips enlisted in this corps, then being raised
 throughout Canada. The urgent necessity
 for recruits inducing the authorities to accept
 youths even of that tender age. The story
 will best be to?d, as nearly as may be, in the
 veteran's own words. " I was born in Duchess
 County, State of New York, in the year 1796;
 my father came from Devonshire, England,
 and my mother from Edinburgh, Scotland.—
 In 1809 my parents removed to Canada and
 settled in Fredericksburgh, County of Lennox
 & Addington. In January, 1812, I was work-
 ing for Mr. — Chapman, in Fredericksburgh,

getting out square pine, oak, and staves ;
 whilst thus employed, Capt. Judkins, former-
 ly of the 104th Regiment of the Line, asked me
 to enlist, and I joined the Glengarys, and in a
 few days after was sent to Kingston with
 about twenty other recruits from Fredericks-
 burgh, Richmond, and Ernestown. We re-
 mained in Kingston till navigation opened,
 when the recruits assembled at that place,
 about 200 in all, descended the St. Lawrence
 in batteaux to Three Rivers, where we re-
 ceived uniforms, arms and accoutrements, and
 commenced to learn our drill. The corps now
 numbered about 800.

Towards autumn we were ordered to Que-
 bec, in charge of about 1000 prisoners from
 General Hull's army, captured in the West.
 We remained at Quebec a month or six weeks.
 In October, 1812, we were ordered to the
 West, (the season is recalled from the recol-
 lection that as they marched from Quebec the
 farmers were busy cutting wheat on the hill-
 sides, and the snow was falling at the time.)
 The march was by the North shore road to
 Montreal. Here we remained all winter, ex-

petting the Americans to attack that city.—

the month of March, before the sleighing was gone, the regiment was ordered to Kingston, taking with them several pieces of cannon, which were drawn by oxen. The men marched. The cattle that drew the cannon and baggage, were slaughtered at Kingston for provisions. We remained a month at Kingston, and then passed up the Bay of Quinte to the Carrying Place in batteaux. The baggage and batteaux were transported across the isthmus into Lake Ontario, and we re-embarked for York. On our arrival at York we were forwarded with all despatch to Burlington Bay. We first met the Yankees at Stoney Creek, and then pushed on towards Fort George. We halted **at** the village of St. Davids, **and** encamped at the cross-roads.— The Yankees held Fort George : when they discovered we were so near them they retreated upon Black Creek. We followed them up, and had a battle with them at Lundy's Lane, on 25th July, 1813. In this affair I was in the advance guard, or reconnoitering party. The enemy retreated upon Fort Erie, and we

pursued them and had several skirmishes with them, They blow up the Fort and evacuated Canada. In the fall of the year we marched back to York ; there we embarked in batteaux and came to the Carrying-Place—thence we crossed into the Bay of Quints and thence by batteaux to Kingston. From Kingston we marched to Adolphustown Court House, and were billeted upon the farmers in that vicinity during the ensuing winter. There were from eight to ten men in each house. Whilst here we assembled every day at the Court House, at 10 A.M., for drill, —we were at least 800 strong

:On the 28rd March, 1814, all the three ears' men were paraded at the Court House, paid off, and discharged. Each man so discharged: drew 100 acres of land in Upper **anads, littiaing utensils, and a year's pro-**

Our uniform was of bottle green coloured cloth, with three rows of white metal bell-buttons on the coat. The buttons bore as arms the rose, shamrock and thistle, and the words " Canadian Light Infantry Fencible Oik In, the summer we wore bucket-shaped hats, witia peaks and a green cockade. In winter we wore fur caps, with a long green cloth hanging from the top over the left shoulder, and at the end of this green cloth a green tassel. **J.P.**

visions. The provisions were destributed every three months at Robert Charles Wilkins' store, at the Carrying-place."

From the time of his discharge till his decease, Phillips resided in the County of Hastings, pursuing the usual occupation of the first settlers of this County. For many years he followed "lumbering" in winter and farming in the summer seafons, but being trustworthy, intelligent, and of a kindly disposition, his services were frequently sought after for various purposes. Several years ago the farm which he drew for his military service, and which for many years afforded him a home and a support, he sold for the sum of \$1,900, thus enjoying in his old age the well earned reward of the loyalty and courage of hie youth. He died at his home, in the 2nd Con Rawdon, on the 15th February, 1868, and was interred in the Wesleyan Methodist burying ,ground, at the chapel in the 5th Con. Sidney