

PERTH's VERBRUGGEN GUNS

and

The Legend of Crysler's Farm



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“Artillery adds dignity, to what would otherwise be an ugly brawl”²

The purported history of the cannons guarding Lanark County's Court House in Perth has, for two centuries, been an oft-recounted tall-tale of uncertain origin.

In its most familiar form, the story contends that the guns were originally manufactured in Holland or Belgium for the French army. Captured by the Duke of York³ during the Flanders Campaign⁴, they were sent with a British army to Quebec and saw action in the American Revolutionary War⁵ but were surrendered to the rebel Continental Army at Saratoga⁶. Then, nearly 40 years later, during the War of 1812, the guns were re-captured by the British at the Battle of Crysler's Farm⁷ and sent to Perth for purposes of saluting high holidays, where they were later mounted on the grounds of the Court House as memorials to Perth's military heritage.

This account of the much-travelled guns was alluded to in print at least as early as July 5, 1867 when the *Perth Courier* reported that the salute to Perth's first Dominion Day was fired by “two cannon captured from the Americans during the 1812-15 war”. The first detailed version of the story in print seems to appear in the *Ottawa Daily Citizen*, of November 5, 1877, as part of a profile of Bathurst Township resident John Manion (1804-1893). Manion was the son of soldier-settler Sergeant Thomas Manion (1779-1860)⁸ and claimed to have been an eye-witness to the battle at Crysler's Farm where his father fought in the British line with the 49th Regiment of Foot.

¹ Photo of Verbruggen 3-Pounder Brass Field Gun courtesy of Rockislandauctions.com / icollector.com

² Frederick the Great (1712-1786), King of Prussia 1740-1786.

³ Prince Frederick Augustus, Duke of York & Flanders (1763-1827), second son of George III.

⁴ Also 'Campaign of the Low Countries', fought in modern Holland and Belgium, 1792-1795.

⁵ Burgoyne's push south from Canada through the Battles of Fort Ticonderoga July 1, 1777, Bennington August 16, 1777, Freeman's Farm September 19, 1777, Hudson Highlands October 6, 1777, Bemis Heights October 7, 1777.

⁶ October 17, 1777.

⁷ November 11, 1813.

⁸ Born County Galway, Ireland. Settled on Bathurst C-3/L-18(W) in 1816.

The little 'barkers' [the Court House guns] ... were retaken from the Americans by the British at the Battle of Crysler's Farm, on the 11th of November 1813 ...

Mr. Manion himself, then only a youngster about seven year's old ... relates how the women and children belonging to the troops engaged in the fight were sent down the St. Lawrence in bateaux, and the one in which he was with his mother was struck in the bow by a round shot, which fortunately did no injury to those on board.

With a youngster's curiosity, and of course, not knowing the danger he was in, he crawled up the bank, under which the bateaux was moored close to where his father's regiment was, and from there saw the repulse of the American dragoons when they attempted to force a passage across a bridge.⁹



The Crysler's Farm legend doubtless pre-dates the *Courier* and *Daily Citizen* stories by several decades but, keeping in mind the close association John Manion maintained with those guns over more than 50 years, one can only suspect the tale's author to have been a Manion, father or son. That suspicion is strengthened by the *Perth Courier's* later, 1913, version of John Manion's account, in which it suggests he specifically mentioned the guns.

[His father] was severely wounded in the action, for which he was granted and drew a pension till his death.

... John Manion was want to relate how, being at the time, between seven and eight years of age, he climbed up to the top of the hill near by and was met by Capt. Denis¹⁰ of the 49th, who told him to "clear out for a young scamp or I will cut your head off". From this hill he saw the battle.

The battle began about 8 a.m. when the British troops were at breakfast and closed about four in the total rout of the Yankee force of over 2,000 men by a united force of regulars and militia of less than 900.

The two three-pounders Perth possesses were part of the booty taken.¹¹

The same story is related in a late 19th century account by Alex Kippen (1806-1893), a grandson of Perth soldier-settler Sergeant John Cox¹² of the 18th Light Dragoons who also fought at the Battle of Crysler's farm. The Kippen account, however, seems to be rooted in the earlier Manion history of the guns.¹³

⁹ *Ottawa Daily Citizen*, November 5, 1877.

¹⁰ James Dennis (1796-1855). Manion remembered Denis at the rank of Captain, but when commanding the Light and Grenadier Companies of the 49th Foot at Crysler's Farm Dennis was ranked a Major, having been promoted in December 1812.

¹¹ *Perth Courier*, August 29, 1913.

¹² Sergeant John Cox settled in September 1817, with a wife and two children, at Elmsley Township C-9/L-29(E). Probably the John Cox (1777-1853) buried, with his wife Elizabeth, in Craig Street Pioneer Cemetery.

¹³ See *Perth Courier*, December 23, 1981.

The cannons now displayed at the County Courthouse are 3-Pounder brass field guns, marked 'J. & P. Verbruggen, Fecerunt¹⁴' and engraved with the dates 1775 and 1776. While nearly identical, they are not. The gun cast in 1775 is a 'Pattison' model, the only known surviving gun of its kind. The other, cast in 1776, is a 'Congreve' model, one of about 10 survivors.

Gun-founders Jan and Pieter Verbruggen, father and son, were Dutch natives, but in 1775-1776 they were not in Holland or Belgium, they were manufacturing guns for the British army and navy at the Royal Brass Foundry, Woolwich, England. Furthermore, the Duke of York did not lead his First Coalition¹⁵ army against Revolutionary France in Flanders until 1792-1795, more than 15 years after the Court House guns supposedly fell into American hands when Major General John Burgoyne (1722-1792) surrendered his army at Saratoga in 1777. Clearly, any guns captured in Flanders in the mid-1790s could not have been taken by the Americans in 1777. It is also fact that at Crysler's Farm in 1813 the British captured only one gun, not two, and that the captured gun was a six-Pounder, not a three-Pounder. Finally, although the courthouse guns were, in time, reduced to service as 'saluting pieces' and then monuments, they were originally sent to Perth in 1822 to arm the Artillery Company of the 1st Regiment, Lanark Militia.

Unfounded as it may be, the Flanders-Saratoga-Crysler's pseudo-history of the Perth artillery pieces showed remarkable staying power over a century and a half from first gaining traction in the mid-1800s. Repeated by word-of-mouth countless times, among its many re-appearances in print was in the 1881 *Historical Atlas of Lanark & Renfrew Counties*¹⁶; the February 1889 edition of *Canadiana*, newsletter of the Montreal Society for Historical Studies; the *Perth Courier* in 1913, 1916 (during Perth's centennial year), 1934 and 1962; in the *Ottawa Journal* in 1937; in *Perth Remembered*¹⁷, a collection of stories assembled to mark Canada's centennial in 1967; in *Lanark Legacy*¹⁸, a county history published in 1984; the *Ottawa Citizen* in 1991; the 2012 directory, *Sheldrake: Canadian Artillery Museums and Gun Monuments*¹⁹; and no doubt in as many and more other publications over the years.

Perth's claim to trophies from the Crysler's Farm battlefield did not, however, always go unchallenged. In 1913, as Canada celebrated the centenary of the battle, there were questions raised in "some eastern papers", including the *Kingston Gazette* and the *Morrisburg Leader*. The papers sought,

... an explanation of how there are two guns here [at Perth] which were captured at Chrysler's Farm when official despatches, it is alleged, only mention the capture of one American gun.²⁰

The despatches referred to by the Morrisburg and Kingston newspapers were those of British Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Wanton Morrison (1783-1826) and American Major General James Wilkinson (1757-1825)²¹.

¹⁴ Fecerunt = 'Made by' or 'manufactured by' or 'produced by'.

¹⁵ Comprised of troops from Britain, Hanover, Hesse, Holland, Austria and Prussia.

¹⁶ H. Belden & Co., Toronto, Ontario.

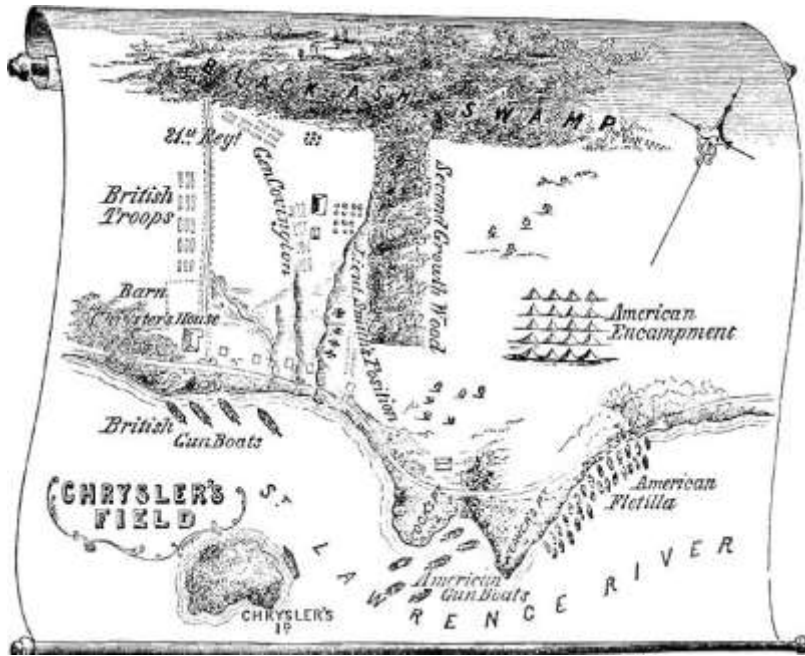
¹⁷ Edited by Judge Edward Shortt (1915-1978).

¹⁸ By Howard Morton Brown (1984).

¹⁹ By Harold A. Skaarup (2012) http://silverhawkauthor.com/sheldrake-canadian-artillery-museums-and-gun-monuments_314.html

²⁰ *Perth Courier* responding to the *Morrisburg Leader* that had quoted an item in the *Kingston Gazette* of November 12, 1813.

²¹ Wilkinson, then ranked a Captain, had been with the Continental Army at Saratoga when Burgoyne surrendered in 1777.



Battle of Crysler's Farm Map (Benson Lossing)

In his despatch, dated at Williamsburg, November 12, 1813, to Major General Francis de Rottenburg (1757-1832), then Military Commander and Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, Morrison, commanding officer of the 89th Foot, reported that “by an immediate charge of those companies [his Lights and Grenadiers] one gun was gained”.

Wilkinson, commanding officer²² of the American force defeated at Crysler's Farm, in his November 16, 1813 report from Frenchtown, New York, to the United States Secretary of War, likewise reported losing one

gun. “Near the close of the contest we lost a field piece by the fall of an officer who was serving it with the same coolness as if he had been on parade or a review”.

The News of Alexandria, Glengarry County, also asked “how the Perth regiment is to show two guns taken at the battle, when only one was actually captured. It is evidently up to the Lanark Militia Regiment to explain themselves”.²³

On another occasion the *Renfrew Mercury* opined that those promoting the Crysler's Farm connection would do well to,

*... read a detailed report of that engagement ... before attempting to a discussion of them in print or otherwise. Cannon played a part on both sides at Crysler's Farm ... but the British captured but one gun. One of the two guns in front of the Court House at Perth maybe formed part of the spoils at Crysler's Farm, but certainly both of them did not come from there.*²⁴

The gun captured at Crysler's Farm was, in fact, a six-Pounder, not a 3-Pounder. Moreover, all of the guns involved in the action at Crysler's Farm were six-Pounders, three British and six American. There were no 3-Pounder guns on the field with either army at Crysler's Farm.²⁵

²² Although he was not present at the actual fighting, having taken to his sick bed.

²³ *The News*, Alexandria, July 25, 1913.

²⁴ *Renfrew Mercury*, September 1934.

²⁵ See *Field of Glory: The Battle of Crysler's Farm, 1813*, by Donald E. Graves (1999) and *Flames Across the Border 1813-1814*, by Pierre Berton (1981).

In 1992, Larry Turner, writing in his book *Perth: Traditions & Style in Eastern Ontario*, offered a partly corrected version of the guns' provenance. Citing in part the Chown-Manning research, Turner knocked down *"the story that the guns were captured by the British from the French in Holland"* and clarified that they had in fact been cast at the *"British Royal Brass Foundry ... to accompany General John Burgoyne and the British Army in 1777 on his raid from Canada ... during the American Revolution"*. Turner waffled however when he also wrote that at Crysler's Farm the Americans *"were using mostly six-pounders and few cannon were captured"*. Then, clinging to tradition, in the face of all evidence to the contrary, he concluded that there still remained *"some substance to the theory that the guns were lost by Burgoyne at the surrender at Saratoga in 1777 and recaptured by the British at the Battle of Crysler's Farm"*.

Forty years after the War Museum study, and three decades after the Turner book, while reluctantly acknowledging that *"there is some dispute"*, the Lanark County Tourism website clung to the fable, positing that *"... the strongest proof shows Burgoyne lost them during his surrender at the Battle of Saratoga and the British recaptured them at the Battle of Crysler's Farm in 1813"*.³⁴

By the 21st century the Town of Perth's 'Heritage Perth' website no longer mentioned Crysler's Farm. The guns are described, accurately if superficially, as ... *"A relict of the American Revolutionary War, some of the only surviving three-pounder artillery pieces produced specifically for an army led by British General John Burgoyne, which campaigned in Canada and Northern New York before surrendering to the Americans at Saratoga, New York, in October 1777"*.

The so oft-repeated Flanders-Saratoga-Crysler's account of the Court House guns is irrefutably hokum and easily debunked, but establishing their true provenance is more challenging. While perhaps less dramatic, that story is, none-the-less, of historic note and begins with Master Gun-founder Jan Verbruggen.

CASTING THE 3-POUNDER

Jan Verbruggen (1712-1781) was born at Enkhuizen in West Friesland (northwestern Holland). In 1734 he married Eva van Schaak (c1715-1741) and in 1735 their son Pieter (1735-1786) was born, followed by daughters Catherina Cornelia (1736-1798) and Maria (1739-1803). Jan Verbruggen, a multi talented man, trained as an artist, architect and clockmaker and in 1746 was appointed Master Founder at the Dutch Admiralty's bell and cannon foundry at Enkhuizen.

In 1755 Verbruggen was promoted to the position of Master Founder at the state-owned National Heavy Ordnance Foundry at The Hague. He was joined there by his son, Pieter, and in 1758 they completely rebuilt the facility. They began to apply techniques for boring cannon from solid castings that had been developed in 1717 in Switzerland by Johann Maritz (1680-1743), Master Founder at Burgdorf, and adopted in the 1730s by the French royal foundry at Douai. Previously, cannon had been cast as tubes, and machined in vertical boring machines. The Maritz method rotated solid castings in horizontal lathe-like machines, boring and machining them with cutting tools advanced by geared hand wheels. With the assistance of Johan Jacob Siegler, who had worked at the French gun foundry for 15 years, Verbruggen designed and built a combination horizontal boring mill and finishing lathe similar to the advanced design then in use at Douai.

³⁴ Website content as of 2019.

The machine installed at The Hague, however, had to work with a furnace of insufficient capacity, leading to a relatively high number of impurities in the castings. Siegler, jealous of Verbruggen's appointment as Master Founder, denounced the quality of his work to the head of the institution, Lieutenant General L. S. de Creuznach. By 1770 the mounting tensions between Verbruggen and Siegler led de Creuznach to encourage the Verbruggens to accept an offer of employment from the British Ordnance Board.

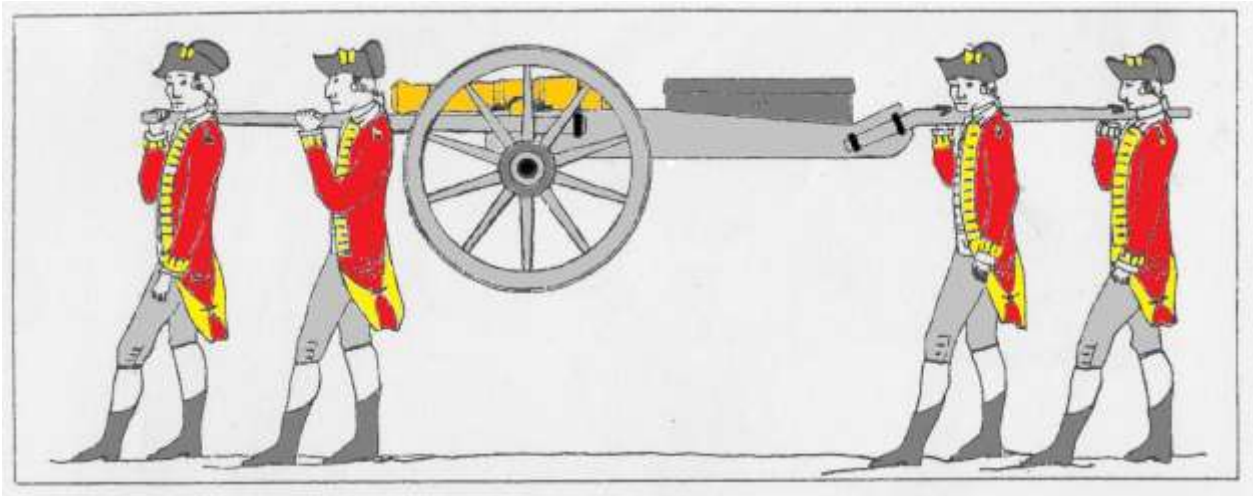


*Horizontal boring machine at the Royal Brass Foundry, Woolwich, England c1778*³⁵

When the Verbruggens arrived at the Woolwich Arsenal's Royal Brass Foundry they discovered a facility that had deteriorated to the point where Britain was incapable of producing quality ordnance in any quantity. Foundry buildings had to be repaired, altered, and built. New furnaces and machinery had to be installed. By early 1773, however, the foundry had been completely revamped and included a new horizontal boring machine, the first ever constructed in England. The Woolwich machine incorporated modifications that also made it the most advanced of its kind in the world; a considerable improvement over machines the Verbruggens had used in Holland and the one at the French Douai Gunworks.

³⁵ Drawing by Jan Verbruggen using a camera obscura c1778. Courtesy of Semeijns de Vries van Doesburgh (the Vries van Doesburgh Family Trust).

Through 1773 and 1774 the casting and finishing of quality cannons got underway. Then, in early 1775, came a series of emergency production orders. Suppression of a revolt in the American colonies called for production of a new pattern, light, brass, 3-pound gun suited to the rugged terrain and conditions of North America. On February 8, 1775, the Verbruggens received their first high priority order for six 'Pattison' model 3-Pounders. Even before these were finished another order was received from the Board of Ordnance to produce four (or possibly eight) 3-Pound guns of the 'Townshend' model. In early 1776 the Ordnance Board followed up with orders for 20 units of a third variant of the new 3-Pounder gun, the 'Congreve', specifically to equip an expedition destined for Canada under the command of General John Burgoyne.



*Transporting a Verbruggen 3-Pounder by the so-called "Irish Carry" method*³⁶

These guns were the first ever to be mass produced in the modern industrial sense. From their carriage designs, they acquired the nicknames 'Grasshopper' and 'Butterfly' because, at a weight of under 100 kilograms (220 pounds), they could be drawn by a single horse, strapped to a pack mule, or broken down and carried by men across terrain that was inaccessible for heavier weapons. They could even be mounted on small boats. Designed for use by infantry units the 3-Pounders were also known as 'Battalion Guns'. In action they could be worked by only three men, usually an artilleryman and two infantrymen, but sometimes by infantrymen alone.

Other orders for the Congreve model followed, most of which were also shipped to North America. By mid-1776, a total of 73 Congreve 3-Pounders had been cast and finished, and later in the war 11 additional such pieces were cast. Of the 94 (or 98) brass 3-Pounders ever cast, 84 were Congreves, six were Pattisons, and four (or eight) were Townshends. In all, about three quarters of all 3-Pounders produced between 1775-1782 were shipped to British forces operating in the American Thirteen Colonies and Canada.

³⁶ *The Irish method of carrying Light 3 Ponders by Men*, Book of Drawings -1783 deposited at Woolwich by Willian Congreve, (RAHT 213/6) and indexed in RAHT 213/19 (Royal Artillery Historical Trust). Reproduced by Caruana as Figure-11 Page-10 and by Strach Page-47. The drawing is meant to represent eight men carrying the gun, not just the visible four.

General John Burgoyne's Guns

General John Burgoyne first arrived in North America in the spring of 1776 leading an army that lifted the American siege of Quebec City and chased Colonel Benedict Arnold (1741-1801) and his 1,100-man Continental Army back into New York. That autumn Burgoyne returned to England where he was given command of a British force charged with gaining control of the Lake Champlain and Hudson River valley. He returned to Quebec in the spring of 1777 and in June marched south at the head of a 7,000-man army.

Seventeen of the first 20 3-Pounders cast are documented as having been assigned to Burgoyne's Army of 1777³⁷. In July, having captured Fort Ticonderoga, nine were left to arm the fort as the British army advanced further south. Two 3-Pounder guns were lost to the Americans at Bennington³⁸ in August and then four more were lost when Burgoyne surrendered his entire army at Saratoga on October 17th. With Burgoyne defeated, Fort Ticonderoga had to be abandoned but all usable ordnance, including the nine 3-Pounders left there earlier in the year, were safely evacuated to Quebec.

As Burgoyne led the main body of his army down Lake Champlain and into the Hudson Valley, two more 3-Pounders were with a smaller detached force operating on his right flank in the Mohawk Valley under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Barry Leger (1733-1793). That force laid siege of Fort Stanwix³⁹ in August 1777 but an American relief column soon forced them to abandon the effort. In making his retreat, however, Leger got his artillery safely away and the two 3-Pounders were carried back to Quebec.⁴⁰

From October 1777, the Americans were in possession of six Verbruggen brass 3-Pounders taken from Burgoyne; four captured at Saratoga and two taken at Bennington. Most of those would have been Congreve models but at least one was a Townshend model; a gun now in the collection of the Smithsonian Museum of American History at Washington, DC, USA. During the course of the war, Verbruggen brass 3-Pounders also equipped British armies operating elsewhere in the American north-east, in Virginia and in the Carolinas and at least 14 of those were also captured by the Americans⁴¹. Most of the guns captured were doubtless still in use 35 years later when war with Britain broke out again, but none were with the American army at Crysler's Farm in 1813.



*General John Burgoyne (1722-1792) –
Portrait by Joshua Reynolds*

³⁷ *British Smooth-Bore Artillery: A Technological Study to Support Identification, Acquisition, Restoration, Reproduction & Interpretation of Artillery at National Historic Parks in Canada*, by David McConnell (1988).

³⁸ In their book *A Guide to the Battles of the American Revolution*, Theodore P. Savas and J. David Dameron (2006) say that at Bennington the Americans captured a total of "four small brass cannon", but do not identify the specific type of each one.

³⁹ At Rome, New York.

⁴⁰ In *Perth: Tradition & Style in Eastern Ontario*, Larry Turner writes that Leger had three 3-Pounders at Fort Stanwix and lost one, but other sources disagree.

⁴¹ *A History of the Three-Pound Verbruggen Gun and Its Use in North America 1775-1783*, by Stephen G. Strach (1986) - two at the Battle of Cowpens in January 1781 and 12 at Yorktown in October 1781. There were probably others.

The 3-Pounder guns that escaped the debacle of Burgoyne's 1777 campaign remained in Canada thereafter. It is very likely that the 1776 Congreve now displayed at the Lanark County Court House did in fact play a role in the 1777 invasion of New York. That the 1775 Pattison was also with Burgoyne or St. Leger is equally possible. However, in that the models are so similar, and surviving records (battle reports) refer to the guns generically as '3-Pounders', it is difficult to impossible to sort Congreves from Pattisons from Townshends.

The Guns of 1812

After the 1783 Treaty of Paris ended the conflict in North America, the Verbruggen 3-Pounder brass guns still in the British arsenal were distributed for service in the Canadas and the West Indies. The War of 1812 brought those in the Canadas back into active service.

There were two Verbruggen 3-Pounder brass guns, manned by gunners of the Royal Artillery, at the capture of Fort Detroit⁴²; two were with Swayze's Provincial Artillery at the Battle of Queenston Heights⁴³ and the fall of York⁴⁴; two were used by the 41st Foot at Queenston Heights and the Battle of Stoney Creek⁴⁵; there were two with the Essex Militia at the Battle of Frenchtown⁴⁶; at least one, or possibly two, with the Glengarry Light Infantry at the raid on Ogdensburg⁴⁷; two, manned by Royal Artillerymen, at the attack on Sackets Harbor⁴⁸; and two at the Battle of Chateauguay⁴⁹. Other 3-Pounders armed gunboats and bateaux plying the St. Lawrence, Niagara and Richelieu Rivers.

That a dozen or more individual Verbruggen 3-Pounders saw action during the War of 1812 is possible, but more likely some of the same guns served in multiple battles. None appear to have been lost to the Americans over the course of the war, but British troops recovered at least two Verbruggen 3-Pounders lost during the Revolutionary War; one at Fort Detroit⁵⁰ and one at Fort Michilimackinac⁵¹. It is conceivable, even likely, that the guns now displayed at the Lanark County Court House were among those 3-Pounders used by the British and Canadian forces in the 1812-1814 war. One could even be the gun recaptured at Michilimackinac⁵². Proving any of those possibilities is, however, impossible. All that is certain is that the Perth guns were not at Crysler's Farm on either side.

⁴² August 15-16, 1812.

⁴³ October 13, 1812.

⁴⁴ April 27, 1813.

⁴⁵ June 6, 1813.

⁴⁶ January 18, 1813, aka Battle of the River Raisin.

⁴⁷ February 22, 1813.

⁴⁸ May 28, 1813.

⁴⁹ October 26, 1813.

⁵⁰ Report dated April 1, 1813, from Lieutenant Felix Troughton RA to his commanding officer Major General Glasgow RA, states the Detroit brass 3-Pounder gun was "cast by P. Burggen 1776" (i.e. J. & P. Verbruggen) and engraved "surrendered by the capitulation at York Town". See *Historical Collections, Michigan State Historical Society Vol XXV 1895* re Canadian Archives, Colonial Office Records, Vol-24.

⁵¹ 'Return of Ordnance Taken of Fort Michilimackinac', July 18, 1812, published in the *Royal Military Chronicle*, reprinting the *London Gazette* for September 29, 1812.

⁵² Neither of the Perth guns is engraved as the gun recaptured at Detroit was.

Following the War of 1812 most surviving 3-Pounders did duty in forts or garrisons along the American frontier until 1820 when George Ramsay, Lord Dalhousie (1770-1838), Governor General of British North America, wrote to Sir Peregrine Maitland (1777-1854), Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, ordering that “200 stand of arms and two light field pieces [i.e. 3-Pounders] be placed at Perth and Richmond ... to applaud and encourage” the militia and “induce them to form volunteer companies”.⁵³ Dalhousie also thought that the guns would be useful for the “particular purpose of assembling the inhabitants in celebration of His Majesty’s birthday and other such festivals”. In 1821 the Governor General further instructed that “arms and guns” should also be sent to “the center of Glengarry settlement, where Bishop McDonnell resides ... the whole to be three pounders, two at each station with proportionate quantity of blank ammunition to be given annually”.⁵⁴

The, by then, antiquated 50-year-old 3-Pounders arrived at Perth from Kingston in 1822,⁵⁵ but it was not until the following year that amendments to the Militia Act officially authorized the Lieutenant Governor “to form Militia Artillery Companies, in such County or Counties as to him may appear most convenient and fit for the good of his Majesty’s service”. Even then, another year passed before the Adjutant General officially authorized the Perth company on December 24, 1825, and the company did not hold his first official muster until January 26, 1826.⁵⁶

Command of the new Volunteer Artillery Company was given to soldier-settler Captain John Monk Mason (1797-1861)⁵⁷, former Ensign of the 11th Regiment of Foot. Mason was supported by First Lieutenant William Harvey⁵⁸, a former Sergeant of the Royal Artillery and by Second Lieutenant James Tizard Quail⁵⁹, also a former Sergeant of the Royal Artillery.⁶⁰ The company had a total strength of no less than 80 men drawn from the Town of Perth and the 1st and 2nd Concessions of Drummond Township.⁶¹

Naming The Guns

The confusion and debate surrounding Perth’s 3-Pounder guns extends beyond their provenance to exactly which of the three Verbruggen models manufactured in 1775 and 1776 they represent. In 1913 the *Perth Courier* observed, “One is the exact counterpart of the other” but, while they do indeed appear to the casual observer to be a matched set, they are not.

⁵³ Dalhousie to Maitland letter of September 22, 1820.

⁵⁴ Dalhousie to Maitland letter of November 1, 1821. In 1821 Reverend Alexander MacDonell, Bishop of Rhosina, Vicar Apostolic and former chaplain of the Glengarry Light Infantry, lived at the Village of St. Raphael’s, Charlottenburgh Township, Glengarry County. MacDonell would become the Bishop of Kingston in 1826.

⁵⁵ The guns were delivered along with 57 muskets and 41 bayonets to further arm the local militia.

⁵⁶ Formation of an Artillery Company was first proposed, to the Adjutant General of Militia, in February 1822, by Julius LeLièvre (1799-1838), who also applied, unsuccessfully, to be appointed to command the company. Julius was the elder brother of Henry LeLièvre (1802-1882) of ‘Last Fatal Duel’ fame.

⁵⁷ Born at Montreal, died at Dublin, Ireland. Ticketed for Bathurst C-10/L-23(A) and Burgess C-8/L-8(NE).

⁵⁸ Ticketed for Drummond C-4/L-11(SW).

⁵⁹ Ticketed for Drummond C-1/L-21(SW).

⁶⁰ In 1827 First Lieutenant Harvey was replaced by 2nd Lieutenant Quail, and David Hogg, another former Sergeant of the Royal Artillery, was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant.

⁶¹ *Men of Upper Canada: Militia Nominal Rolls, 1828-1829*, edited by Bruce S. Elliott, Dan Walker & Fawne Stratford-Devai (1995).



1775 Verbruggen Brass 3-Pounder 'Pattison' Gun
North Platform⁶²



1776 Verbruggen Brass 3-Pounder 'Congreve' Gun
South Platform⁶³

The Verbruggen 3-Pounder guns at the County Court House are rare survivors of their types and, obscure as they may seem, are actually quite well known to military historians in Canada, Britain, Holland and the United States. They are discussed and described in some detail in a 1986 study by Stephen G. Strach⁶⁴, in a 2008 paper by Charles Cresap⁶⁵ (correcting some of Strach's findings), and in a 2015 insurance appraisal by Ross M. A. Wilson & Associates Inc.⁶⁶. They are also listed in Harold A. Skaarup's directory of Canadian gun museums and monuments⁶⁷, and in a directory of Verbruggen produced ordnance compiled by Dutch historians Dr. Jan Thade van Doesburgh and Nico Brinck⁶⁸.

For purposes of identifying the specific models represented at Perth, the most helpful contribution to the debate is that of Rick Hatton, of the 'Society of Friends of the Royal Artillery Collections'⁶⁹. Much of the work mentioned above draws heavily upon secondary sources, is undermined by contradictions and compounded errors, and all (except Cresap) mis-identify at least one of the Perth guns. Hatton, however, has carefully re-evaluated the primary documentary sources at the British National Archive and the Royal Artillery Collections⁷⁰. From his work, and verifiable evidence produced by the other studies, we can draw some reasonably accurate conclusions.

⁶² Photo courtesy of Harold A. Skaarup (2017).

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ *A History of the Three-Pound Verbruggen Gun and Its Use in North America 1775-1783*, by Stephen G. Strach (1986). Strach incorrectly identifies the 1775 Pattison model gun at Perth as a Townshend model.

⁶⁵ Cresap, also a gun-founder, cast a replica of the Verbruggen Townshend model 3-Pounder from a pattern produced by William Meuse (1938-2012), Museum Curator, Springfield Armory NHS, from a surviving Townshend gun in the collection of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, USA. Cresap correctly concludes the 1775 gun at Perth as a Pattison.

⁶⁶ Ross M. A. Wilson & Associates Inc., Consultants in Naval & Military History <http://www.rmawappraisals.com/>. The appraisal correctly identifies the 1775 gun as a Pattison model but mis-identifies the 1776 Congreve gun as a Townshend.

⁶⁷ *Sheldrake: Canadian Artillery Museums and Gun Monuments* by Harold Skaarup (2012) http://silverhawkauthor.com/sheldrake-canadian-artillery-museums-and-gun-monuments_314.html.

⁶⁸ See Semeijns de Vries van Doesburgh Stichting, <https://janverbruggen.com/known-surviving-pieces/>. The directory states that a 1775 "Pattison" and a 1776 "Townshend, i.e. Congreve" are displayed at the Lanark County Court House, Perth. While that statement conflates the Townshend and Congreve models, it clearly identifies the 1775 Perth gun as a Pattison and, as only the Congreve model was manufactured in 1776, tends to agree that Perth's 1776 gun is a Congreve.

⁶⁹ <http://www.royalartillerymuseum.com/>

⁷⁰ Minute Book of the Board of Ordnance – Surveyor General's copy- WO47/75 to 100 - National Archive Kew; London; Artillery Letters and Letter Books 1773-1777 – WO55/1537 National Archive Kew, London; Royal Artillery Collections – as formerly displayed at the Firepower Museum, Woolwich.

The gun cast in 1776 is, without doubt, a Congreve 3-Pounder because only the Congreve model was cast from January 1776 through to the end of the Revolutionary War in 1782. It measures 40 inches (101.60 centimeters) overall, from muzzle to cascable.

The gun cast in 1775 also measures 40 inches (101.60 centimeters) overall, from muzzle to cascable, but it cannot be another Congreve as no Congreve model guns were manufactured in 1775. In that first year of light brass 3-Pounder production the Verbruggens manufactured Pattison and Townshend models.

Some confusion and contradiction in the record is rooted in the exact length of the Townshend model 3-Pounder but, as is proven by a surviving example and a scaled drawing⁷¹ in the Smithsonian National Museum of American History collection, Townshend models measured 37 inches (93.98 centimeters) from muzzle to cascable.

As important, the elevation screw design of the Townshend gun is very different from that used on both the Pattison and Congreve models. The elevation screw of the Townshend attaches to the gun with a bolt through an eye cast under the gun's cascable, whereas the throat of the cascable on the Pattison and Congreve models simply rests in an oar-lock-like device topping the elevation screw.



Townshend Elevation Screw⁷²



Pattison and Congreve Elevation Screw⁷³

Both guns at the Lanark County Courthouse measure 40 inches (101.60 centimeters) overall, from muzzle to cascable, and neither attach to the elevation screw with an eye under the cascable. The gun cast in 1775, therefore, can only be a Pattison model Verbruggen 3-Pounder, just as the gun cast in 1776 can only be a Verbruggen Congreve model. There are also other significant and obvious differences between the Pattison or Congreve models and the Townshend model in the chase, muzzle, astragal, fillets, ogee and reinforcing rings.

⁷¹ S.I. No. 73-1166. Published in Strach's *A History of the 3-Pound Verbruggen Gun*, Pg-223, but mislabeled as a Pattison model.

⁷² Photo courtesy of Charles Cresap. The gun pictured is a re-production Townshend cast by Cresap from a pattern created by William Meuse (1938-2012), Museum Curator, Springfield Armory NHS, from the Townshend gun in the collection of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, USA. Also see photo Page-16 below.

⁷³ Photo by Ron W. Shaw.

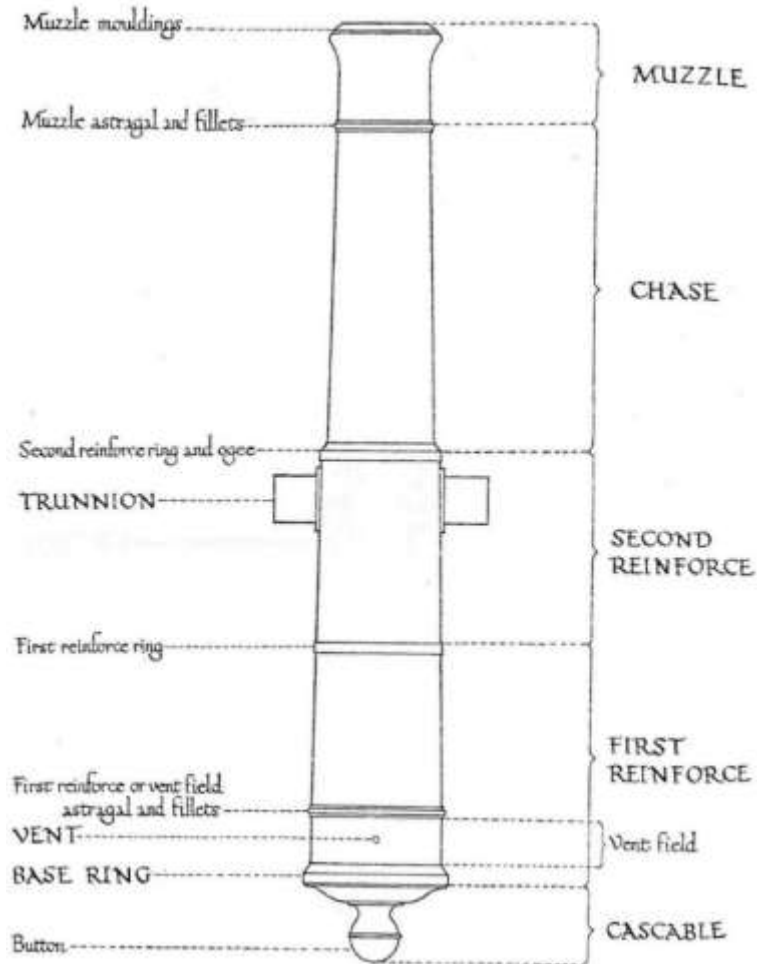
Pattison Model

The Pattison, cast in 1775, is 40 inches (101.60 centimeters) in length, with a smooth bore of three inches (76.20 mm), and weighs 188 Lbs (85.23 kilograms).⁷⁴

It is of a design originally submitted in 1773 by Lieutenant Colonel James Pattison, R.A. (1723-1805) who was, at the time, Lieutenant Governor of Cadets at the Royal Military Academy Woolwich. Pattison went on to command the Royal Artillery in America during the Revolutionary War, served as Military Commandant of New York, and was later Colonel Commandant of the Royal Artillery, ranked a Major General.

Only six such guns were ever cast at the Woolwich Royal Brass Foundry, between February 8, 1775 and August 1, 1775. All six were sent to North America for use in the war of 1775-1783.

The Pattison model gun at Perth, currently located on the north platform beside the Court House drive, is the only one of its type surviving today.



Nomenclature of a Cannon Barrel

⁷⁴ Marked 1-2-20, i.e. 1 hundredweight + 2 quarters +20 pounds (112 lbs + 56 lbs. + 20 lbs. = 188 lbs.)

Congreve Model

The Congreve, cast in 1776, is also 40 inches (101.60 centimeters) in length, with a smooth bore of three inches (76.20 mm), but weighs 213 Lbs (92.10 kilograms)⁷⁵.

The gun is of a design originally submitted by Captain William Congreve, R.A. (1742-1815) in late 1775 or early 1776 when Congreve was on the staff of the Royal Military Academy Woolwich as an instructor in Military Machines. He was appointed Superintendent of Military Machines in 1778 and served in America during the Revolutionary War in that capacity. He was later appointed Controller of Woolwich Arsenal and achieved the rank of Lieutenant General.

The Perth Congreve gun is one of 84 cast at the British Royal Foundry at Woolwich between January 24, 1776 and January 26, 1782. This particular gun appears to be number six of the first 20 Congreve 3-Pounders ordered by the Board of Ordnance for General Burgoyne in Canada.⁷⁶

Located on the south platform beside the Court House drive, this gun is one of about 10 Congreve models known to still exist.⁷⁷

Townshend Model

The Townshend model of the 3-pound gun, cast in 1775, an example of which is not among the Verbruggen guns at Perth, is 37 inches (93.98 centimeters)⁷⁸ in length, muzzle to cascable, with a smooth bore of three inches (76.20 mm), and a weight of 207 pounds (93.89 kilograms).⁷⁹

The Townshend is a design originally submitted to the Verbruggens in 1775 by Major General George Townshend (1724-1807), 1st Marquess Townshend, Master General of the Ordnance, although the design was actually developed in 1772 by Ralph Ward (d.1788), Surveyor General of the Ordnance in Ireland⁸⁰.

Only four (or possibly eight) Townshend model guns were cast, between February 21 and August 1, 1775, and all were sent to North America for use in the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783).

⁷⁵ Marked 1-3-17, i.e. 1 hundredweight + 3 quarters +17 pounds (112 lbs. + 84 lbs + 17 lbs = 213 lbs.)

⁷⁶ *A History of the Three-Pound Verbruggen Gun and Its Use in North America 1775-1783*, by Stephen G. Strach (1986).

⁷⁷ The surviving Congreve model 3-Pounders are on display at the Bennington Museum, Bennington, Vermont; Kentucky State Military History Museum, Frankfort, Kentucky; Colonial National Historical Park, Yorktown, Virginia; New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site, Vails Gate, New York; Fort Ticonderoga Museum, Ticonderoga, New York; Vermont State House, Montpelier, Vermont; Valley Forge National Historical Park, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania; Saratoga National Historical Park, Stillwater, New York; McCord Stewart Museum (formerly the Montreal Military and Maritime Museum), Montreal Quebec; and the Lanark County Court House, Perth, Ontario.

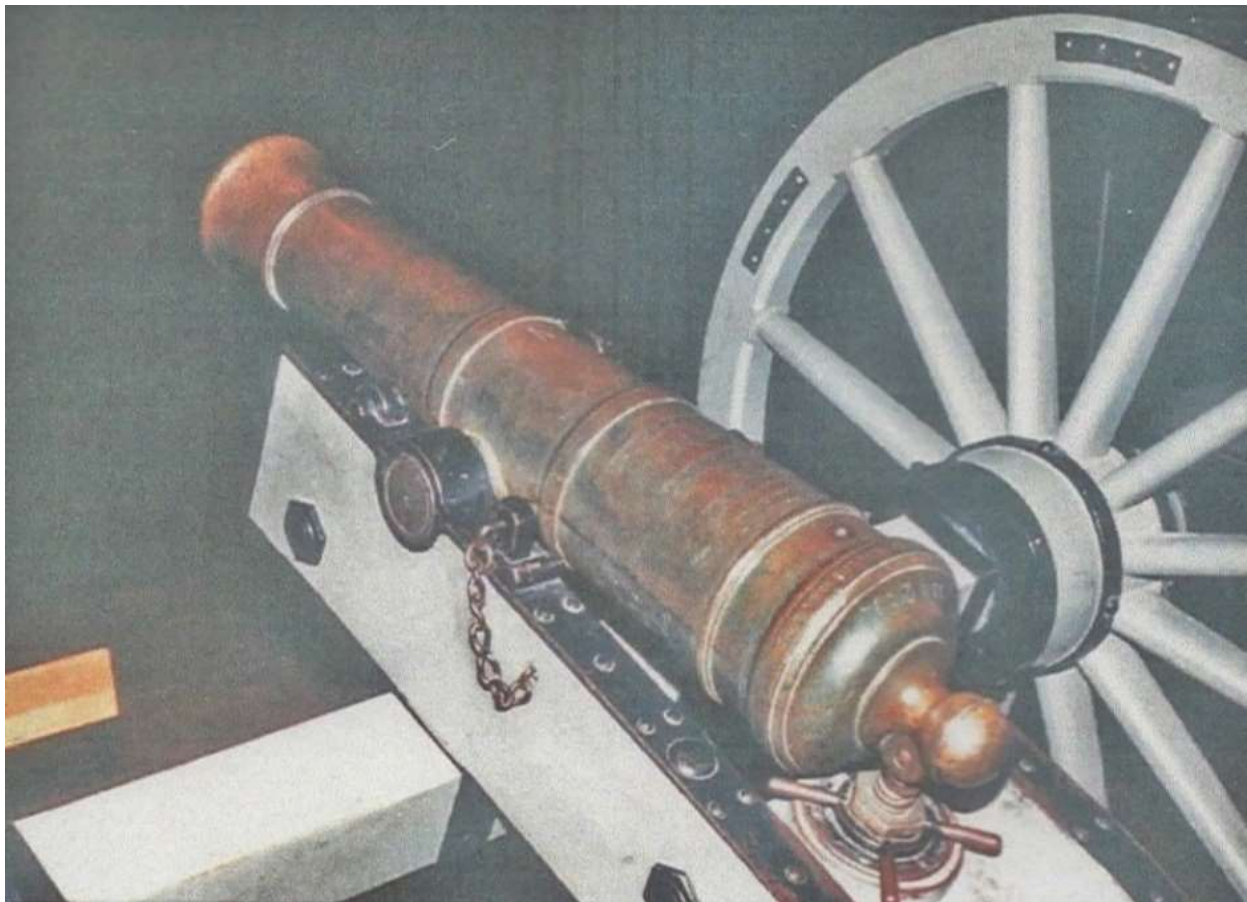
⁷⁸ As per the scaled drawing (S.I. No. 73-1166) of the Townshend gun in the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.

⁷⁹ Smithsonian example marked 1-3-11, i.e. 1 hundredweight + ¾ hundredweight + 11 pounds (112 lbs. + 84 lbs. + 11 lbs. = 207 lbs.)

⁸⁰ Ward had previously held the post of 'second architect in the Tower of London'.

Three examples of the Townshend model survive; one in the Smithsonian collection at Washington, DC, USA⁸¹, one at West Point Military Academy⁸², West Point, New York, USA, and one at the Fort Pitt Museum, John Heinz History Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA.

Each of the Verbruggen 3-Pounder patterns (Pattison, Townshend, and Congreve) had its own unique pattern carriages, but all three carriage designs could be hitched to a limber and any light 3-Pounder pulled by a limber was dubbed a 'Butterfly'. The Congreve gun model was unique, however, because its carriage design included shafts that could hitch directly to the carriage. When hitched to its shafts, rather than a limber, it was called a 'Grasshopper'.⁸³ The gun carriages now on display at Perth are, however, of a later design.



The Verbruggen Townshend model 3-Pounder gun in the Smithsonian Museum of American History collection. This gun measures 37 inches from muzzle to cascable and the elevation screw attaches through an eye cast under the cascable.⁸⁴

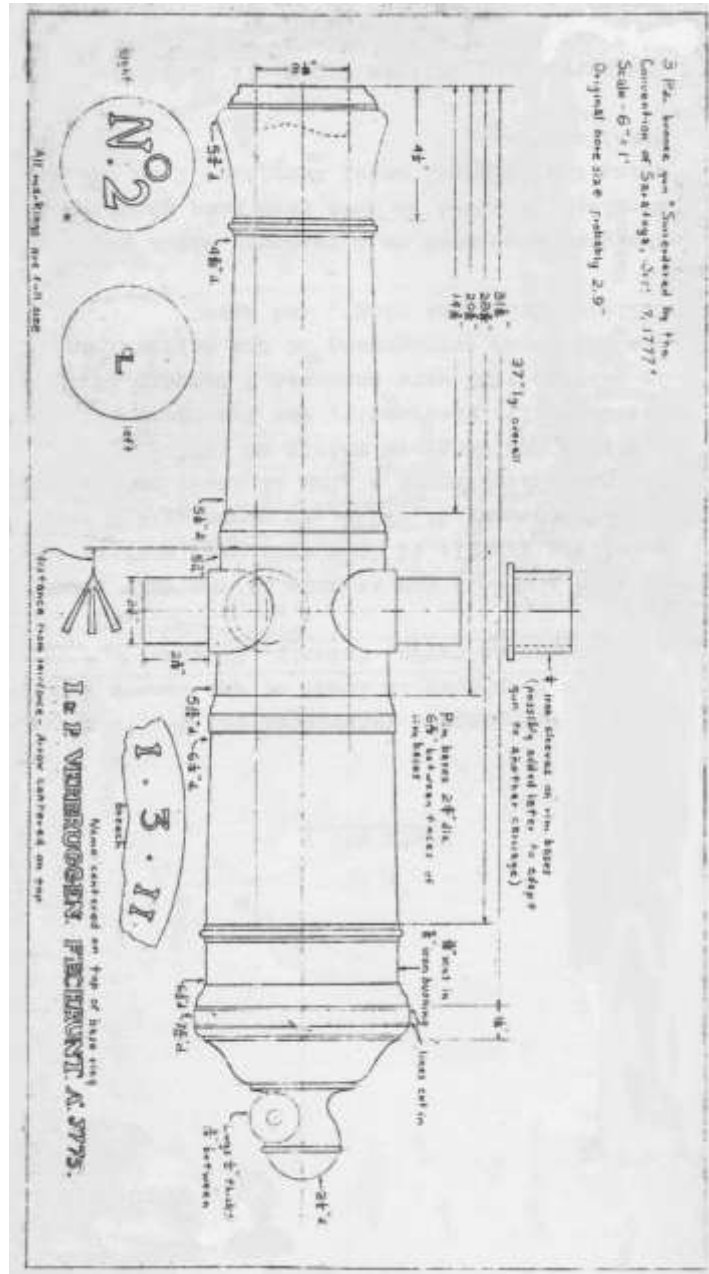
⁸¹ Engraved as having been captured from Burgoyne at Saratoga in 1777.

⁸² Embedded in a wall as part of a memorial. Also engraved as captured from Burgoyne at Saratoga in 1777.

⁸³ As nick-names, however, the terms 'Grasshopper' and 'Butterfly' were forbidden to be used in any official returns to the Commanding Officer of Artillery.

⁸⁴ Photo from *A History of the Three-Pound Verbruggen Gun and Its Use in North America 1775-1783*, by Stephen G. Strach (1986), Page-219, although Strach misidentifies this gun as a Pattison model. Also see photo Page-13 above.

Although the Verbruggen 3-Pounders are always referred to as 'brass' guns, they are, in fact, made of bronze, an alloy of 90% copper and 10% tin. In the 1770s the manufacture of artillery from bronze represented the cutting edge of technology. These guns cost about six times more than guns cast of iron. They were heavier than iron guns, but stronger, allowing for very much thinner construction. Bronze guns were also safer; in the case of a gun exploding or bursting they would split rather than shatter like iron. When a barrel wore out bronze was also more easily recycled.



Schematic of the Townshend Model Verbruggen 3-Pounder, in the Smithsonian Museum of American History (above). Note that the drawing indicates '37" lg. overall' and shows the eye cast under the cascable⁸⁵.

⁸⁵ Smithsonian (S.I. No. 73-1166). Reproduced from *A History of the 3-Pound Verbruggen Gun and Its Use in North America 1775-1783*, by Stephen G. Strach (1986), Page-223, where it is mislabelled as a Pattison rather than a Townshend model.

All three models of the Verbruggen brass 3-Pounder gun, Pattison, Congreve and Townshend, "... fired either round shot or a case round of 36 shot, with a charge of six or eight ounces of powder, and had a recoil of five feet at three degrees of elevation".⁸⁶ The 3-Pounder classification relates to the weight of round-shot (cannon ball) they were designed to fire and the guns could throw that ball 400-800 yards (365-730 meters) depending upon elevation.



Lanark County Court House, Perth, Ontario, Canada ⁸⁷

Captain Graham's Guns

In 1831 Captain Henry Graham (1794-1846) was appointed commander of the Perth Artillery Company when Captain John Monk Mason was recalled from the half-pay list to an appointment with the 24th Regiment of Foot in Lower Canada⁸⁸. Graham was another soldier-settler, a half-pay Lieutenant from the 103rd Regiment of Foot, who took up 600 acres of land grants in Drummond and Bathurst Townships in 1818, established Perth's first whiskey still in the same year and by 1830 was operating a general store among other business interests. Originally commissioned a Captain in the 1st Lanark Militia in 1821, Graham took great pride in his command of the Artillery Company. He drilled them hard and regularly and, at a time when few militiamen were provided uniforms, "*The Perth Artillery company wore blue uniforms with red facings, furnished by their Captain Graham, at his own expense*"⁸⁹.

⁸⁶ *Grasshoppers & Butterflies: The Light 3-Pounders of Pattison & Townshend*, by Adrian B. Caruana (1980).

⁸⁷ Photo by Sean Marshall.

⁸⁸ Mason later served with the Royal Canadian Rifles.

⁸⁹ *Upper Canada Herald* (Kingston), February 6, 1838.

The Artillery Company and their Verbruggen 3-Pounder guns regularly played their part at the annual militia muster marking the King's birthday. The June 1835 militia training at Perth,

... was attended by upwards of 900 persons. After having gone through their exercises (which they did remarkably well) the artillery-men, with two pieces of cannon, assembled on Drummond Street bridge and fired 21 rounds in honor of the day. The remainder of the day was spent on horse racing and other amusements.⁹⁰

In the early years, except when rolled out for training drills and the annual muster, Perth's 3-Pounders were stored in Captain Graham's back-yard shed. Those arrangements, however, were apparently somewhat lacking in security. In the autumn of 1835, the *Bathurst Courier* reported that,

On Wednesday night last, a number of our citizens was disturbed from their nightly slumbers by the report of a cannon – proceeding from Drummond Street Bridge. Some thought it was an earthquake – others thought the Governor had arrived⁹¹, and the artillery was firing the usual salute on such occasions – but neither of the above circumstances were realized.

It appears that the yard of H. Graham Esq. was entered by some person unknown and one of the cannons belonging to the Perth Artillery was taken therefrom and brought to the above-named bridge and fired the before mentioned report. It was very injudicious and improper to enter into such a rash and unprincipled act and deserves our severest censure.

The cannon remained on the bridge the whole of yesterday (the latter part of the day being rainy). We fear it will not be in trim when the Governor arrives”.

Two years later, in the summer of 1837, when Queen Victoria (1819-1901) ascended the throne of Great Britain and its Empire, the Artillery Company guns again performed the saluting function Governor General Dalhousie had envisioned.

On Saturday last Queen Alexandrina Victoria was proclaimed here by the Deputy Sheriff, in the absence of the Sheriff. The order in which the procession moved was as follows – the Deputy Sheriff on horseback, the Clergy, Members of the Medical Profession, Members of the Bar, Officers of Militia, Clerk of the Peace, and the Magistrates, with the Perth Volunteer Artillery in the rear, in uniform.

When Her Majesty had been proclaimed in four different parts of the Town, the Artillery fired a Royal salute of 23 guns from the island to conclude the ceremony. After this, another three cheers were given for the young Queen by those assembled, and then they dispersed.⁹²

The new Queen had been on her throne for less than six months when discontent in her colony of Lower Canada boiled over into rebellion. In late November 1837 the *Courier* reported;

⁹⁰ *Bathurst Courier and Ottawa General Advertiser*, June 5, 1835.

⁹¹ Upper Canada Lieutenant Governor Sir John Colborne (1778-1863) visited Perth three months later, in January 1836.

⁹² *Bathurst Courier*, August 18, 1837.

We understand that the Perth Artillery Company under command of Captain H. Graham have 'to a man' volunteered to go to Lower Canada if their services should be required to assist in curbing the revolutionary proceedings of the Papineau faction there, which has recently become so alarming ...

The company is well drilled by their 1st Lieutenant David Hogg [1793-1882]⁹³ who is an old regular at the shrapnel shells and spherical cased shot. The ordnance is three pounders, with good horses and drivers, trained for Brigade exercises.⁹⁴

"Its services having been duly accepted of the Commander of the Forces", Captain Graham's Artillery Company hauled its guns out of Perth on December 7, 1837, bound for Brockville and a steamboat to Montreal.

The gallant young fellows were escorted a few miles out of town by the very numerous portion of the inhabitants who repeatedly cheered them on their way ... Our sincere desire, and that of everyone, we presume, is that they may stem the tide of strife and confusion with honor to themselves and credit to the place from whence they came, and safely return crowned with laurels, when their Sovereign no longer requires their services.⁹⁵

The Perth gunners did return safely, but almost immediately and without opportunity to win laurels. The rebellion of Louis-Joseph Papineau (1786-1891) in Lower Canada, having been taken up by William Lyon Mackenzie (1795-1861) in Upper Canada, upon reaching Brockville, they learned that orders had been changed; *"the service of the Corps being likely to be required in this Province"*.⁹⁶ Arriving back in Perth on December 11th they received a reception,

... suitable for those that had the will, if not the opportunity, of distinguishing themselves. Some of them actually shed tears when they heard that they were to return. This company since it returned has drilled four hours each day.

A month later, however, the Perth gunners took to the road again, headed west rather than east.

One hundred volunteers from the 1st & 2nd Regiments of Lanark Militia, together with Captain Graham's Company of Artillery from the First Regiment, in all about 150 men, have marched from Perth at 9 o'clock this morning for Toronto. Their route is from hence to Brockville and to report themselves to the officer commanding on their arrival at Kingston.⁹⁷

They marched out of Perth on January 15th, reaching Kingston, via a steamer from Brockville, four days later.⁹⁸ The men called to active duty were paid one shilling per day and issued shoes, trousers, an overcoat, mitts and a cap.

⁹³ Formerly a Royal Artillery Sergeant and an 1818 soldier-settler granted Drummond Township, C-2/L-22(NE). A man of many occupations and appointments, in 1837 he was also the Perth 'Town Crier', 'Crier of the Court of King's Bench', a Constable, and a Bailiff. He later served as a Barrack Master at Cornwall.

⁹⁴ *Bathurst Courier*, November 24, 1837. "Trained for Brigade exercises" indicates the Artillery Company had trained to function in concert with the 1st Regiment's infantry companies ... i.e. as 'Battalion guns'.

⁹⁵ *Bathurst Courier*, December 19, 1837.

⁹⁶ *Bathurst Courier*, December 15, 1837.

⁹⁷ Report of Lieutenant Colonel Alexander McMillan (1782-1850), January 15, 1838.

⁹⁸ Freeze-up came late in 1838, but the regiment had to disembark at Kingston over planks laid across thin shifting ice.

As the Artillery Company mustered for active service in late 1837 Lieutenant Colonel Alexander McMillan (1773-1850), then commanding the 1st Lanark Regiment, requested of the Adjutant General for Militia that,

His Excellency⁹⁹ may be pleased to direct that two 6-Pounders be issued to the Artillery Company attached to the regiment in place of the two light guns now in possession, the company being already well drilled and clothed in neat Artillery uniform.

In reply, the Lieutenant Governor's secretary, John Joseph (1801-1851), advised McMillan that "... *should occasion require it he will be happy to avail himself of the request [but] at present, no such necessity exists ...*", thus leaving the Perth Company to continue manning its Verbruggen 3-Pounders.

When the Artillery Company, comprised of their Captain, two Lieutenants, two Sergeants and 40 gunners, reached Kingston they found themselves assigned to duty at Fort Henry, replacing gunners of the Royal Artillery who had been called to service in Lower Canada.¹⁰⁰ Fort Henry was seen as of particular importance because, in addition to its arsenal, the Military Chest and the specie holdings of a number of Upper Canada banks were sent there for safe keeping.

The Perth Volunteer Artillery Company was not the usual rag-tag, ill-disciplined, half-trained, hard-drinking band of back-country weekend warriors so common to the Upper Canada Militia of the day. Its officers and men made an immediate impression on Brevet Major Sir Richard H. Bonnycastle (1791-1847) of the Royal Engineers, their Commanding Officer at Fort Henry.

... the Perth Artillery, commanded by Captain Graham, 50 strong, marched into Fort Henry in full artillery uniform, and took the duty of that arm. I cannot too highly praise the zeal of this officer, who clothed his corps himself, and by the assistance of Lieutenant Hogg, soon brought it to such a state, that it could serve the garrison guns, maneuver the field pieces, and act as infantry; a more excellent, steady, or respectable company of young men, all farmer's sons, and many of them wealthy, I never saw. They submitted to the common fare and accommodation of soldiers in bombproof barracks, as if they had been enlisted for that life and no other ...¹⁰¹

In a day when the local Militia was generally (and often justifiably) held in low regard if not outright contempt by class-conscious professional officers of the regular British army, this was high praise indeed.

At Fort Henry, the Perth artillerymen manned guns that dwarfed their own little 3-Pounders. The gun platforms of the fort were armed with 27 24-Pounder and nine 32-Pounder cannon. Although there were no encounters with Mackenzie's rebels, the company did sustain one casualty.

⁹⁹ Upper Canada Lieutenant Governor Sir Francis Bond Head (1793-1875).

¹⁰⁰ The only regular troops left in Upper Canada, mostly at Toronto, were three officers and 23 other ranks of the Royal Artillery. The infantry companies of the 1st and 2nd Lanark Regiments went on to Toronto but were shortly sent to man posts along the St. Lawrence between Kingston and Brockville.

¹⁰¹ *Canada As It Was, Is, And May Be*, by Lieutenant Colonel Sir Richard Bonnycastle, Royal Engineers (1852).

*Gunner J. Smith of the Perth Volunteer Artillery Company was unfortunately killed on Friday afternoon while practicing at the guns on Fort Henry. He was ramming down the charge, it took fire, and blew him into the ditch. He died in about six hours after. The deceased bore an excellent character, and on Sunday his funeral was attended by all the military not on duty.*¹⁰²



A 24-Pounder cannon on the ramparts of Fort Henry, Kingston ¹⁰³

The Perth Volunteer Artillery Company served at Kingston from mid-January until the end of May, 1838, the first Canadian (vs British) troops to ever garrison the newly constructed fort. Its call-up to active duty was commemorated in the second verse of a poem composed by its Lieutenant, David Hogg, and “*sung, extempore, by him at a public dinner at Kingston ...*”

*The banner of Albion was then proudly waving
O're her sons who all rallied in gallant array,
Fort Henry's proof-ramparts her dogs¹⁰⁴ displaying,
Well mann'd with stout hearts from Perth-upon-Tay.*¹⁰⁵

While his Artillery Company was serving at Kingston, Captain Graham discovered that another Upper Canada artillery company had been styled the ‘1st Royal Provincial Artillery’ (in Militia General Orders of April 27, 1838). Taking great exception, Graham immediately wrote to the Adjutant General, asking that it be brought to the attention of the Lieutenant Governor, that;

¹⁰² *Upper Canada Herald* (Kingston), May 8, 1838.

¹⁰³ A Blomefield 24-pounder 50-cwt smoothbore muzzle-loading gun mounted on a wood traversing carriage. Photo from Detroit Publishing Company.

¹⁰⁴ Army slang for field guns, but in this case applying to the Fort's guns.

¹⁰⁵ *Canada As It Was, Is, And May Be*, by Lieutenant Colonel Sir Richard Bonnycastle, Royal Engineers (1852).

*The Perth Artillery Company were embodied by order of His Grace the Duke of Richmond [sic], who directed that two brass 3-Pounders be furnished them. This order was carried into effect by his Excellency Sr. Peregrine Maitland in 1820 [sic]. It follows therefore as a matter of course, that the Perth Artillery Company is the oldest in the Province, as the existence of the 1st Royal Provincial Artillery is of very recent date. I think I but right to lay before you the preceding statement so that the Perth Artillery may be placed in that station to which, by right, they are entitled, both by seniority and service.*¹⁰⁶

Graham had some of the dates and names of his company's history a bit wrong, but he was correct in claiming its precedence as the first artillery company in the province "by seniority and service".

On March 7, 1840 Captain Henry Graham transferred from the 1st to the 3rd Regiment, Lanark Militia, relinquishing command of the Artillery Company.

The gunners continued to drill as a company of the 1st Lanark Militia until the United Provinces of Canada Militia Act of 1855 disbanded existing units in the course of re-organizing all militia affairs in the colony. In Lanark County, local volunteer rifle (infantry) companies were formed at Almonte, Smiths Falls and Perth, and then in 1862 those companies were amalgamated into the 42nd Brockville Battalion.

When the Fenian Raids of 1866-1871 threatened the Canadian peace, Lanark County responded by calling up its 42nd Battalion Rifle Companies. The Brockville river front and railway communications were defended by companies from Perth, Carleton Place, Almonte, Brockville and Gananoque, but the roster of those who received the 1866-1870 General Service Medal confirms that the Perth Artillery Company was not present.

At the time of the 1855 Militia Act Lanark County's militia ceased to have an official Artillery Company and the guns took up their mostly ceremonial post on the lawn of the Lanark County Court House¹⁰⁷. In 1897 the 42nd Brockville Battalion became the 42nd Lanark and Renfrew (Infantry) Regiment and, in something of a return to its roots, in 2011 the regiment was re-designated the 42nd Field Artillery Regiment (Lanark and Renfrew Scottish) of the Canadian Army Reserve.¹⁰⁸

Captain Manion's Guns

By the mid-19th century Perth's Verbruggen guns had been relegated to performing ceremonial duties and none of these were more significant, perhaps, than those marking Canada's first Dominion Day on July 1, 1867. The *Perth Courier* began its account of that celebration with reference to the tale linking the guns to Chrysler's Farm.

¹⁰⁶ Quoted from *Henry Graham's Guns*, author unknown (possibly Richard Bernard), Perth Matheson House Museum collection.

¹⁰⁷ Today's Lanark County Court House was built in 1841, replacing the original Court House, built at the same location in 1821, that had burned.

¹⁰⁸ Headquartered at Pembroke, Ontario.

At the early hour of five o'clock on Monday morning, the successive discharges of two cannon captured from the Americans during the 1812-15 war, proclaimed to the suddenly aroused denizens of our good old town that the Natal Day of the 'New Nationality' had arrived, and was to be celebrated in a manner worthy of the union of four such important Provinces as the two Canadas, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

... the Mayor mounted the rostrum, which in this instance chanced to be a cannon, and with a voice of awful majesty, announced the order of the proceedings. His worship then read the Queen's proclamation, which impressive ceremony having been duly concluded, loud cheers were given for "Our Gracious Sovereign" and "The New Dominion" and Alex Morris, Esq.¹⁰⁹, MPP for South Lanark, ascended the eminence just vacated by the mayor, and proceeded to deliver an address.

The more intellectual part of the proceedings over, the Volunteers and Cannoniers fired a Royal Salute.¹¹⁰

The salutes of July 1867, and all those performed from about 1855 onward, were executed under the command of Glen Tay farmer and militiaman John Manion¹¹¹, the most likely author of the Crysler's Farm legend. He had enlisted with the Perth Artillery Company in 1836 under Captain Henry Graham and, when it was disbanded in the mid-1850s, he became the unofficial 'keeper of the guns', assisted on ceremonial occasions by volunteers drawn from active and former members of the 42nd Regiment.

John Manion ... took a peculiar and personal interest in the guns and assisted in firing the first salute from them [in 1836] in honor of Sir John Colborne [1778-1863]¹¹². Every King's and Queen's birthday up to 1888, as well as on many an anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, have those little cannon belched forth flame in honor of British power and glory.¹¹³

In 1887, at the age of 83, Manion was still commanding the gunners when they fired a salute welcoming Henry Charles Keith Petty-Fitzmaurice, 5th Marquess of Lansdowne (1845-1927), Governor General of Canada to Perth.

From time to time, Manion and his men would also turn out to fire charges over the river or a nearby lake at the behest of a grieving family who believed, or at least held desperate hope, that the shock-wave might raise a drowned body for proper burial.¹¹⁴

¹⁰⁹ Alexander Morris (1826-1889).

¹¹⁰ *Perth Courier*, July 5, 1867. As the tone of this news item may suggest the *Perth Courier* was not a supporter of the Confederation scheme.

¹¹¹ John Manion, born 1804 at Balinasloe, County Mayo, Ireland, to Sergeant Thomas Manion (1779-1860) and Mary Muldoon (1774-1870), married Catherine Hogan (1822-1905) in 1846, father of Mary Ellen (1847-1849), Mary Ellen Annie (1850-1911), William Frederick (1852-1940), John T. (b.1852), Margaret Teresa (1854-1932), Thomas James (1856-1927), Sarah Ann (b.1859), Richard J. (b.1861), Catherine Teresa (1864-1932), and John Edward (1865-1919). Died at Perth 1893.

¹¹² Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada 1828-1836 and Commander-in-Chief of Forces in the Canadas 1836-1839.

¹¹³ *Perth Courier*, December 22, 1916.

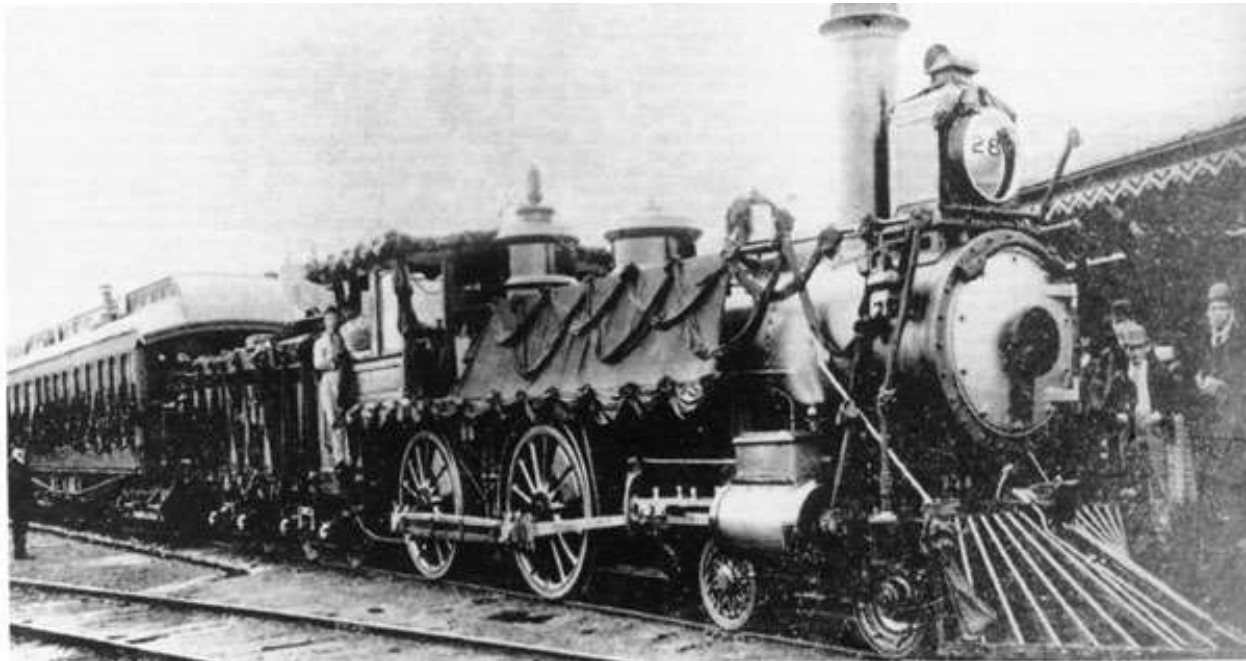
¹¹⁴ It was a common and persistent 19th century superstition in Britain, Canada and the USA that the concussion of artillery fire would break the gall bladder and somehow cause the body to float. See *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain (1884).

*On Saturday afternoon the bodies of the three men drowned in the Rideau were found ... Mr. John Manion had taken the two cannon from the Court House lawn in Perth to the lake and fired several charges in the supposed vicinity of the accident, but the concussion failed to bring the bodies to the surface and the cannon were brought back. However, searchers on the other side at last came upon them, very close together, and near the southern shore, nearly opposite Stonehouse Point, at Beveridges Bay.*¹¹⁵

On June 10, 1891 Manion and his volunteer gunners were called out to fire another solemn salute, this one over the funeral train of Canada's first Prime Minister, Sir John A. Macdonald (1815-1891), when it made a brief stop at Perth en route from Ottawa to Kingston.

*Some time before the funeral train passed Perth, the stores were closed, and when it reached the station here a slight halt was made, when the Perth Citizens Band played 'The Dead March in Saul' and a few shots from one of the town field pieces fired off by Mr. John Manion.*¹¹⁶

At its July meeting Perth Town Council approved payment of Manion's expense claim in the amount of \$1.85 for "cannon firing, Sir John Macdonald's funeral".¹¹⁷



*Sir John A. Macdonald's funeral train, June 10, 1891*¹¹⁸

¹¹⁵ *Perth Courier*, June 5, 1891.

¹¹⁶ *Perth Courier*, June 12, 1891.

¹¹⁷ *Perth Courier*, July 17, 1891.

¹¹⁸ Colin Churcher's Railway page https://churcher.crcml.org/Articles/Article2001_3.html.

Nearly eight decades earlier, as a seven-year-old 'barrack brat' Manion had watched his father, a Sergeant of the 49th Foot, march into the fight at Crysler's Farm. Although it was the Light Company of the 89th Foot that overran and captured the American 6-Pounder that day, Manion may have been led to believe, or imagined, his father had helped capture the Perth 3-Pounders on that same field. Old soldiers have been known to tell tall tales, or to be honored by proud sons with taller tales. Such fictions, repeated often enough over a century and more, tend to become unquestioned fact. When he died on June 25, 1893, at the age of 89 years, John Manion's obituary recalled that,

He learned the drill of a battery soldier in his younger days, and always took charge of the two small brass cannons in the Perth court-house yard when firing salutes on the Queen's birthday, Dominion Day or other occasions of the kind ...

When the earth finally closed up the grave of the old man, the volunteer [Rifle] company fired three volleys over the remains, and the two brass cannon he had so often captained on gala occasions, blazed forth their grim farewell to the veteran ... dust to dust.¹¹⁹

The cortege carrying Manion's body from his Glen Tay farm to St. John's Cemetery at Perth "numbered about 170 vehicles, headed by the two brass-bands, two fire companies in parade dress and the Perth Volunteer Company, and was increased on arrival in town by a large number of its citizens ...". In addition to his passion for the 3-Pounders, John Manion was a Justice of the Peace, a Lanark and Leeds Forest Ranger, County of Lanark Inspector of Pedlars' Licenses and a partner in the Canadian Bark Works enterprise.¹²⁰

The Verbruggen guns, having outlived another generation of gunners, carried on serving up their thundering salutes. Curiously there is no mention in the local press of the guns participating in events marking Queen Victoria's golden jubilee in 1887, but when the 60th anniversary of her reign was celebrated in June 1897, the guns were rolled out again.

The two bands in full uniform, gathered in front of the town hall, accompanied by the volunteers and these were reinforced by the fire companies, also in uniform. The volunteers drew after them two field cannon and these were used on reaching the [fair] grounds to fire a salute to Her Majesty and the occasion.

During the proceedings on the grounds, a horse attached to a buggy was startled by the cannon's report and broke loose among the crowd and before it could be secured, knocked down a young lady, Miss Susie Gallagher¹²¹ of North Burgess, who, however, was not hurt badly.¹²²

¹¹⁹ *Perth Courier*, June 9, 1893.

¹²⁰ A short-lived (1868-1871) factory on Christie Lake extracting tannin from hemlock bark.

¹²¹ Probably Susan Gallagher (c1872-1960), daughter of Andrew Gallagher (c1825-1911) and Susan Jacklin (1839-1919), who later married Edward Wilson.

¹²² *Perth Courier*, June 25, 1897.

Thirteen years later, in the summer of 1910, a far more serious incident ended the long tradition of saluting 'high days and holidays' with volleys from the Verbruggen guns. Commanded that day by Sergeant George Terrance Kerr¹²³ (1877-1937) of the 42nd Lanark and Renfrew Regiment's Perth Company, the guns were positioned to fire a salute over the Tay River Basin in honor of the visiting 37th Peterborough Rangers Battalion.

In the height of the informal festivities ... the two cannons [were] in charge of Sergeant Kerr and some Peterborough soldiers ... to fire off salutes as two boats glided down the river with the soldiers aboard. One of the guns had been discharged once and was being loaded again with a bag of powder. Sergeant Kerr had rammed the powder home and still had hold of the ramrod. The powder ignited and the ramrod was hurled up the hill to the English church¹²⁴.

The ignition was like a flash. Sergeant Kerr's hands were severely cut and burned. His left eye and face were burned with the discharging powder and his breast was badly burned. The injury to his eye is the worst, and it is feared he has lost sight of it. Dr. Hanna was called and gave him attention. George suffered intense pain, as nothing burns so fiercely as powder, and on Wednesday morning was taken to the Royal Victoria in Montreal ...

Sergeant Kerr is one of the town's enthusiastic military men. In instructing the boys in the firing of guns, he warned them against an accident such as befell him. George's instructions to the boys were to swab out the gun with water before reloading, so that all sparks would be put out, and the new bag of powder could be rammed safely home. In the hurry of the moment on Monday, he took a chance – a mighty big and dangerous chance – with the results above noted.¹²⁵

Sergeant Kerr survived his injuries and his eyesight was saved, but his "health was impaired"¹²⁶ for the remainder of his life. Since that Tay Basin salute for the Peterborough Rangers, of Monday, September 5, 1910, Perth's Verbruggen 3-Pounders have stood mute.¹²⁷

Colonel Balderson's Guns

On August 15, 1913 the *Perth Courier* proudly announced that Lieutenant Colonel James Morris Balderson K.C. (1862-1943), then commanding the 42nd Lanark and Renfrew Regiment, had been,

... asked by the Militia Department to take part in the Chrysler Farm centenary celebrations at Morrisburg on August 27th, and will accordingly take the two guns Perth owns with four companies of the 42nd.¹²⁸

¹²³ Born at Winnipeg, the son of John Andrew Kerr and Mary Margaret Wallace, he married Sarah Nagle (1881-1957) in 1913 at Perth. His father was Perth Town Clerk 1894-1934. George Kerr served three years in the U.S. Navy and fought in the Boer War with Lord Strathcona's Horse before his misfortune with the 3-Pounder at Perth. He died at Perth in 1937.

¹²⁴ The ramrod landed nearly a quarter of a mile away, at St. James Anglican Church, a few meters from where the guns stand in 2019.

¹²⁵ *Perth Courier*, September 10, 1910.

¹²⁶ *Perth Courier*, January 22, 1937.

¹²⁷ *Perth Courier*, November 1, 1962. The *Courier* incorrectly reports the date as July 1st.

¹²⁸ *Perth Courier*, August 15, 1913.

In its very next edition, however, the *Courier* reversed that report with a single line note buried in a local news column;

Col. Balderson has decided not to go to Crysler's Farm on the 27th. The regiment and the old guns will not take any part in the celebration".¹²⁹

The change of plan probably had something to do with those awkward questions raised in the "eastern papers"

about the true provenance of the Perth guns; or it may have resulted from a fit of pique on Balderson's part over a crushing defeat he had suffered that same week in an attempt to secure the Conservative Party nomination for an upcoming Federal election.



Perth's Verbruggen 3-Pounder guns c1925 (Perth Museum Collection)

Then, the following week, it was revealed there had been another change in plan and the guns were at Crysler's Farm after all. With the 27-28 August centenary events already underway the *Courier* reminded its readers that "The Perth cannons, which were taken to the Crysler's Farm celebration on Wednesday, have quite an interesting history", going on to repeat the tale that the guns were,

*Flemish pieces from about 1750¹³⁰ ... captured by the French ... captured by the Duke of York in Flanders ... used by Burgoyne in America ... lost at Saratoga ... afterwards retaken by the British and Canadians at Crysler's Farm.*¹³¹

At the two-day commemoration on the banks of the St. Lawrence River¹³² near Morrisburg, Lanark County's Verbruggen guns were inspected by a crowd of more than 5,000, including Prime Minister Robert Borden (1854-1937) and Ontario Premier Sir James Pliny Whitney (1843-1914). Of those thousands only a few nit-picking eastern Ontario newspaper editors raised unwelcomed questions about Perth's claim that the guns had been on that same field 100 years earlier.

¹²⁹ *Perth Courier*, August 22, 1913.

¹³⁰ It is curious that the *Courier* would describe the guns as having been manufactured "about 1750", when the 1775 and 1776 manufacture dates are clearly marked on the barrels.

¹³¹ *Perth Courier*, August 29, 1913.

¹³² A site now lost under the river waters as the result of construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway Project in 1954-1959.

The Queen's Guns

A retired 100-kilogram brass cannon requires little to no maintenance, beyond treatment with 'Renaissance (microcrystalline) Wax', but the carriage it rides upon is another matter.

The gun carriages that served Burgoyne's army in the Champlain Valley had surely been replaced at least once before the Verbruggens saw action in the War of 1812, and it is generally believed they were replaced again, or subject to major overhaul, before they were transferred to the County Militia in 1822. Although another replacement or refurbishment in the 19th century seems likely, the next documented repair was the donation of new wheels in 1912 by Perth's Hicks Carriage Factory¹³³, perhaps in anticipation of the trip to the Crysler's Farm centenary celebration. In 1924 there was another carriage re-build in the carpentry and foundry shops of James Brothers Ltd. at Perth.



*One of the Court House guns as it appeared in the 1970s
(Courtesy of the Perth Museum Collection)*

As carriage repair was again contemplated in late 1979, a dispute broke out between the Town of Perth and the County of Lanark over ownership and possession of the guns. It was prompted by the Chown-Manning study that, having dismissed the Crysler's Farm tale, went on to recommend that the guns would be better conserved if turned over to the Canadian War Museum. By the narrow margin of 22-19 County Council defeated a motion to surrender them to Ottawa in exchange for replicas but, while agreeing the guns should stay at the Court House, Perth Reeve Norm Turner, demanded to know by what authority the County could "*make a decision for the Town of Perth*". The Town argued that the guns had been given to Perth in 1822 and were the property of the Town, not of the County.

The Chown-Manning study having also pointed out that the carriages were dry rotted to the point of near collapse, in early 1980 the guns were removed from their usual post and locked away in a basement vault at the Courthouse. The following year, the County signed a \$5,000 contract with blacksmith Samuel Kelford (1910-2000) of Tay Valley Township to restore the carriages and their fittings. Within a few months he had done so, but the guns did not reappear on public view.

By the spring of 1982, more than two years after the guns had been removed from public display, the *Perth Courier* was expressing local concern and displeasure with the situation;

Why aren't Perth's cannons on display in front of the Courthouse building or elsewhere in the community? The historic cannons which are part of the heritage of this community have not been seen by the public for about two years. Meanwhile restoration work has been completed, but still no big guns in sight.

¹³³ Founded by Thomas Hicks (1835-1905), then operated by his son William Henry Hicks (1874-1939).

*The cannons have stood proudly in Perth for years and have come to symbolize the military past of this unique community. The County paid for the restoration, but that does not give the County any claim to the cannons. The citizens of Perth have proven they care about their past and will undoubtedly do their utmost to preserve and care for the cannons – can we have them back? Please!*¹³⁴

Six months later, when the guns had still not reappeared, Judge John Ross Matheson re-entered the debate. Stressing that he would “*regard it as a shocking development, an irreparable loss to the County of Lanark should the artillery pieces be no longer seen in their historic guard position on the green*”, he also reminded the warring parties that,

*These two historic field pieces are still listed as ordnance and belong to the Crown ... neither piece has been alienated from the Crown by gift, presentation or sale ... they belong to the Queen.*¹³⁵

Consultation with Her Majesty’s Government of Ontario, successor to the Crown’s government of Upper Canada that had sent the guns to Perth 160 years earlier, was followed by months of negotiation between County and Town mediated by Perth Deputy-Reeve George Ashley (1911-1994). Ultimately a settlement was reached in December 1982 under the terms of which the Town of Perth and the County of Lanark agreed to joint custody. Confirming by-laws having been passed by both councils, the guns reappeared in front of the County Court House at 43 Drummond Street later that year.

In 2015, in preparation for events marking the 2016 bi-centenary of the Perth Military Settlement, the gun carriages were once again completely replaced, this time by historical restoration specialists Sentwood Mercer Ltd.¹³⁶ of Tay Valley Township. Both guns were, at that time, remounted on double trail carriages, replacing the previous single trail design. In order that the guns could remain on exterior display, the new carriages were constructed of white oak finished with Swedish Allback linseed oil paint to best withstand the elements. The \$20,000 cost was split 50-50 between the Town and the County.

Unlike 1836, when a prowler rolled one of the guns out Henry Graham’s shed and sent Perthites diving under their beds with an unauthorized salute, and the occasional Hallowe’en night roll-about over the years since, today, extensive precautions ensure that Perth’s much-loved and valuable artifacts are protected from both pranksters and thieves. The carriage trunnion clamps are locked with a weld that could only be ground away by industrial grade power tools. The carriage wheels are fastened to the ground with hardened stainless-steel U-bolts that pass through the paving brick and are embedded in a poured concrete pad beneath. At night the guns are brightly illuminated by floodlights mounted on the front of the court house. Miscreants even attempting to meddle with them would, in full view of the Court House, surrounding homes and a busy street, need to apply their own noisy power source and high decibel grinding tools, leading to certain and immediate discovery and detention.

¹³⁴ *Perth Courier*, March 31, 1982.

¹³⁵ *Perth Courier*, September 29, 1982.

¹³⁶ See <http://www.sentwoodmercer.com/>

History's Guns

Perth's Verbruggen guns are no less historically important for not being a trophy of Crysler's Farm. As the Chown-Manning report of 1979 concluded;

To the world, their importance lies in their connection to the development of artillery in general and to the Royal Artillery in particular - To North America their importance lies in their participation in those events that led to the formation of the two nations which occupy that continent – In Canada there are many artifacts which can be said are 'of the type' which were issued to the embryo militia of the early 19th century: there are almost none which can be said with certainty were issued to a specific unit at a specific date – The 1775 gun is identified as the Pattison pattern gun, no other example of this gun is known to exist. - It is seldom that any artifact can be considered important for so many reasons, to so many countries, over such a period of time.¹³⁷

Of equal historic note is that the guns equipped the first artillery unit ever authorized in Upper Canada (Ontario), the Perth Volunteer Artillery Company of 1st Lanark Regiment of Militia.

With a record unblemished by ever falling into enemy hands, the Verbruggen 3-Pounder brass light field guns stand on the forecourt of the Lanark County Court House, nearly two-and-one-half centuries after they were cast at the Royal Brass Works, Woolwich; a fitting memorial to the founders of the Perth Military Settlement who, like the guns themselves, served in the American Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the Upper Canada Militia.

The Kaiser's Guns

A century after the Verbruggen 3-Pounders arrived at Perth, they were joined by two additional field guns; these being proven battlefield trophies.

In June 1920 the War Trophies Commission sent two captured German guns to Perth, a 77 mm field gun and a 105 mm howitzer, to serve as memorials to the blood and treasure sacrificed by Lanark County in the trenches of the Great War. The guns had been taken by the 3rd Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force in the closing days of the war at the Second Battle of Arras¹³⁸ on the Arras-Cambrai Road, northwest of Raillencourt.

¹³⁷ Summary of report by John D. Chown and Ralph V. Manning, Canadian War Museum, *Perth Courier*, November 21, 1979.

¹³⁸ August 26 – September 3, 1918.



The German guns pictured in front of the Great War Memorial Hospital shortly after it opened in 1925¹³⁹

For two decades those German guns stood as silent reminders in front of Perth's Great War Memorial Hospital but, when war broke out again, they were sacrificed in 1942 to the Local Salvage Committee (LSC) Program; scrapped and melted down to support the war effort.

Perth's 3-Pounders escaped the clutches of the World War Two salvage committee but other Verbruggen guns once in Canada have disappeared and the scrap metal drives of 1914-1918 or 1940-1945 are probably to blame.¹⁴⁰ The fate of the other "light field pieces" (i.e. brass 3-Pounders and very likely Verbruggens) sent to Richmond, Carleton County, and St. Raphael's, Glengarry County, at the same time Perth received its guns (1822), is unknown. There was a total of 15 smooth bore 3-Pounders reported in the 1878 *Return Showing the Number of Guns in Possession of the Militia*¹⁴¹ but only one was in Ontario, at Toronto, and none can be identified as a Verbruggen. As the Perth guns were not listed, there may have been others as well.

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¹³⁹ Courtesy of Perth Matheson House Museum.

¹⁴⁰ Although it is less likely, as the 3-Pounders were of British origin, the Richmond and Glengarry guns may have been included in an exchange of war trophies with the U.S. that was organized in 1912-13 to 'mark the celebrations of the century of peace'.

¹⁴¹ Thomas Wily, Director of Stores and Keeper of Militia Property, Sessional Papers No.5 A.1879.

Appendix-1: Artillery Company Muster Roll 1829

Upper Canada Sedentary Militia General order #86, dated November 7, 1828, required that,

Commanding officers of the Militia Corps will forward to the Adjutant General without delay a nominal list of men between the ages of nineteen and thirty-nine inclusive enrolled in their respective Regiments. These returns will be made out with great attention as arms and accoutrements will probably be supplied by H. Majesty's government for the number of men of the above description.

In compliance Lieutenant Colonel Alexander McMillan, commanding officer of the 1st Regiment Lanark Militia, in early 1829 submitted the following nominal roll for the Artillery Company of the Regiment.

Artillery Company

Town of Perth, 1st & 2nd Concessions Drummond Township

Captain John A. Mason,
First Lieutenant William Harvey,
Second Lieutenant James Tizard Quail,

Other Ranks: William Adams, Nicholas Anderson, William Bell, John Bell, William Blair, Thomas Blaney, Nicholas Burrows, James Chambers, Ewen Cameron, Malcom Cameron, Henry Cullen, William Clarke, Thomas Clarke, John Church, Edward Daugherty, John Deacon, Henry Deacon, Thomas Denisson, James Drysdale, John Doran, William Dobson, Christopher Dobson, George Ellis, Alexander Fraser, Thomas Ford, James Fechney, James Flintoff, Joseph Furney, George Graham, John Hunter, Patrick Hunt, John Hand, Thomas Hoolan, Charles Imeson, Joseph Imeson, Rover Imeson, Thomas Johnson, William Johnson, James Joint, James Jackson, Henry James, Benjamin James, Thomas James, Kenneth Matheson, John Muns, Louis Moffatt, Robert Mosgrove, Thomas Mansfield, John McCall, Daniel McCall, James McCall, Alexander McKay, Bernard McKay, Angus McMillan, Duncan McTavish, Alexander McTavish, Peter McPherson, Duncan McPherson, Archibald McNee, Finlay McLarren, William Mills, William O'Hera, William Poole, Joseph Provost, Robert Quail, Alpheus Rodgers, James Richmond, William Rutherford, Michael Ryan, John Robson, Joseph Sharp, William Stedman, Robert Stewart, William Sterns, Temp Thompson, William Thompson, Edward Thomas John Westley, Richard Walker, Daniel Young.¹⁴²

The Artillery Company was one of 10 companies making up the Regiment and was entered as (i.e. in place of) the 1st Company in McMillan's Nominal Roll submission to the Adjutant General.

¹⁴² *Men of Upper Canada: Militia Nominal Rolls, 1828-1829*, edited by Bruce S. Elliott, Dan Walker & Fawne Stratford-Devai (1995).

Appendix-2: Sister Guns

Although there were other 3-Pounder guns in Canada in the early 19th century, the brass guns sent to Richmond, Carleton County, and St. Raphael's, Glengarry County, in 1822 were almost certainly Verbruggen models of 1775 and 1776; sister guns to those at Perth.

Curiously, the Richmond cannons acquired a back-story very similar to that of the Perth guns. As the tale was told at Richmond, their guns had *“been captured from the French by the British during the Napoleonic War, captured from the British by the Americans and then recaptured by the British in the War of 1812”*,¹⁴³ and finally *“presented to Richmond by His Majesty King George III”*¹⁴⁴ shortly after its settlement;¹⁴⁵ Like the yarn of Perth's guns being captured in Flanders, that the Richmond guns were taken from Napoleon is impossible for a number of reasons, but suffice to say that Napoleon's French armies did not use 3-Pounder brass guns, their smallest artillery piece was a 4-Pounder gun.

The 1828-1829 Upper Canada Militia Nominal Roll includes a single Carleton County Regiment, but no indication that it then included a dedicated Artillery Company. By 1837, however, there was *“... an Artillery Company led by Edward Malloch and Sergeant Henry McElroy ... at the time of William Lyon McKenzie's rebellion ... organized for service if required at the front (American border). The Company was drilled in the winter on the ice behind the old windmill.”*¹⁴⁶ Then *“in 1842 these guns were lent to Bytown at the celebration there for the opening of the first Union Bridge”*¹⁴⁷ between Ottawa and Hull and were never returned”.¹⁴⁸

What became of the Richmond guns after 1842 is unknown. *“Over the next decades Richmond tried unsuccessfully to reclaim its firepower. Even a century after the disappearance of the guns, Richmond residents, who had long memories, were lamenting their loss.”*¹⁴⁹

The guns sent to St. Raphael's also disappeared. The 1828-1829 Upper Canada Militia Nominal Roll shows three active Glengarry regiments, but none of them included a designated artillery company. The Glengarry Militia 3-Pounders seem to have served as Battalion guns.

Elements of the 1st (Charlottenburg) and 2nd (Lancaster) Glengarry Regiments were mobilized in response to the Mackenzie-Papineau Rebellion and spent much of the winter of 1837-1838 in Lower Canada¹⁵⁰. One of the 3-Pounder guns seems to make an appearance in this account of ceremonies at Montreal marking the end of the 1st Regiment's service in Lower Canada.

¹⁴³ Richmond 200 – Factoid #58, <http://www.richmondheritage.ca/index.php/richmond-200-factoids-56-60/#more-1733>

¹⁴⁴ King George III actually died in 1820, two years before the guns arrived at Richmond. He was succeeded by George IV.

¹⁴⁵ *A History of Richmond*, by William McElroy (1923), given as an address on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of St. John's Anglican Church in Richmond, Ontario.

¹⁴⁶ Richmond 200 – Factoid #58, <http://www.richmondheritage.ca/index.php/richmond-200-factoids-56-60/#more-1733>

¹⁴⁷ Chaudière Bridge opened in 1843.

¹⁴⁸ *A History of Richmond*, by William McElroy (1923), given as an address on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of St. John's Anglican Church in Richmond, Ontario.

¹⁴⁹ Richmond 200 – Factoid #58, <http://www.richmondheritage.ca/index.php/richmond-200-factoids-56-60/#more-1733>

¹⁵⁰ The 1st (Charlottenburg) at St. Philippe, February and March 1838, and the 2nd (Lancaster) at Napierville, February to May 1838.

At the inspection of the Charlottenburg Regiment by Sr. John Colborne¹⁵¹ [1778-1863] and his staff, one of the men, Lewis Grant [1800-1873], who stood 6 feet 7 inches, carried a brass 3-Pound field piece on his shoulder when the Regiment marched past.¹⁵²

A few years later, on June 18, 1843 when the Highland Society of Canada dedicated a memorial to Bishop Alexander Macdonell (1760-1840)¹⁵³, as the procession from Williamstown approached St. Raphael's Church "... an artillery detachment from the 2nd Regiment Glengarry Militia, commenced firing minute guns, which they continued until it had arrived at the church ... the Society returned to Williamstown under the salute of 10 guns ..."¹⁵⁴. These salutes were surely fired by the 3-Pounders provided to the local militia in 1822, but their fate after 1843 is unknown.

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¹⁵¹ Sr. John Colborne (1778-1863), Commander of British forces in the Canadas, 1837-1839, former Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, 1828-1836.

¹⁵² *Sketches Illustrating the Early Settlement and History of Glengarry in Canada*, by J. A. Macdonell (1893). Another account claims that Grant saluted with the piece, when passing the saluting point.

¹⁵³ Bishop Macdonell died on January 14, 1840 at Dumfries during a visit to Scotland. He was initially buried in the crypt of St. Margaret's Convent Chapel, Edinburgh, but two decades later his remains were brought back to Canada and interred in St. Mary's Cathedral at Kingston, Ontario, in 1861. Macdonell was the first Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Kingston 1826-1840.

¹⁵⁴ *A Sketch of the Life of the Honorable and Right Reverend Alexander Macdonell ...*, by J. A. Macdonell (1890).

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