

The HISTORIC "BLACK WATCH"



CHARGE OF THE "BLACK WATCH" AT TICONDEROGA (Painting by Ferris)

"Black Watch at Ticonderoga," courtesy Gains Falls Insurance company; "Black Watch at Bushy Run," and sketch of Black Watch uniform, from Yale University Press' "Pageant of America."

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

ALL the military organizations which served in wars on the North American continent, few were more picturesque or had a more romantic history and none, probably, ever engaged in more desperate "forlorn hopes" than those which at least twice fell to the lot of the regiment officially designated as the Forty-second Foot, a line regiment in the armies of his majesty, the king of England, also known as the Forty-second Highlanders, but best remembered as the "Black Watch." The "Black Watch," according to C. M. Bomberger, editor of the *Jeannette* (Pa.) News-Dispatch, who has made a special study of this regiment and one of its famous battles, was organized by the king of England in 1729 with specially picked men from the Highlands of Scotland for the purpose of maintaining order in that turbulent region and in 1739 was made a line regiment, the Forty-second Foot. They were disbanded in 1748 but were enrolled again at the outbreak of the French and Indian war.

The uniform of the "Black Watch," according to a description of the grenadiers of the regiment in 1751, is described as follows: "Head-dress, a grenadier bearskin with scarlet visor; white stock; scarlet jacket and waistcoat with white lace trimmings, silver buttons and buff collar and cuffs; black leather sword belt; and cartridge-box and belt; tan leather sporran; Murray of Athol belted plaid; red and white hose and black leather shoes." This was the same uniform worn by the other companies of the "Black Watch" during their period of service in America, except the headdress was a blue bonnet, with checkered border and tuft of feathers and Black Watch tartan belted plaid. The reason for the name "Black Watch" lies in the fact that the kilts were dyed in such a manner as to include the colors of a number of Scottish clans until finally it became almost black, hence the name "Black" Watch. Incidentally they were the only regiment in which the pipers wore the Stuart tartan.

Upon its arrival in America, the "Black Watch" under the command of Maj. Duncan Campbell of Inverawe, was included in the army of 6,000 British regulars and 9,000 provincial troops which Lord Pitt, the great British prime minister, was sending under the command of Gen. James Abercromby, "a heavy man, infirm in body and mind," a veritable "wooden pole wearing a cocked hat," up the historic water route of the Hudson and Lake Champlain to strike at the heart of New France and capture Montreal.

But this magnificent force was doomed to ignominious defeat and before the campaign ended the "Black Watch" was to experience a sickening and useless slaughter which was to all but wipe it out of existence. For despite the fact that the French had available only about 3,000 men to face this imposing array, they were commanded by a military genius, Marquis de Montcalm. Although Montcalm had little hope of being able to hold Fort Ticonderoga, the key to the possession of that region, he prepared to put up the best resistance possible with his small force. Arriving near Ticonderoga, Abercromby's army pushed on to find Montcalm's troops behind breastworks on the crest of a small hill west of the main fort, awaiting their attack. Abercromby foolishly decided to use his superior forces in trying to carry these works by storm instead of flanking the French and laying siege to the fort or bringing up his artillery and reducing its defenses. He even gave orders that not a shot was to be fired but that the works were to be carried at the point of the bayonet.

Soon after noon one hot day just 170 years ago (July 6, 1758) the British troops advanced to the attack in three solid columns. The French waited until the redcoats had almost reached the abatis and then "opened fire with muskets and canister. As the heads of the column were swept away in that sheet of flame and the repeated volleys continued to deal death in the massed ranks, the British were forced to fall back into the timber, still under fire and still losing men at every step. When word was sent back to Abercromby of what had happened, his reply was a repetition of his first foolish order. So they tried it again and again were hurled back by the deadly fire. No less than six times that afternoon did these dauntless British and provincials march up that "hill of death" only to be cut down by the hell of gunfire which swept the slope.

Finally, it was decided to make one last desperate attempt upon the extreme right of the position and the "Black Watch" was selected for the assault. History records fewer examples of dauntless



THE "BLACK WATCH" AT BUSHY RUN (Painting by Jefferys)

less heroism and useless gallantry than the charge of these Scottish Highlanders at Ticonderoga. Under a scattering fire which tore holes in their ranks they steadily advanced across the clearing until they reached the abatis, which they tore aside, cut down or got over in some way. Major Campbell was shot down but his men pressed on until they reached the breastworks and under a deadly hail of bullets sprang upon them. The French gave way at that point temporarily and another Campbell with some twenty officers and men leaped down into the inclosure. But Montcalm, hurried a body of reserve troops at the breach which the Highlanders had made and those inside the breastworks were trapped. Despairing to ask for quarter, with their backs to the wall, they fought desperately until they were bayoneted where they stood. Those on the outside who were attempting to climb the breastworks were hurried back and they retreated sullenly, carrying their wounded commander with them. As they retreated the French cheered them, for they had seen an act of deathless heroism.

Out of a thousand soldiers of the "Black Watch" who hurled themselves against the French defenses, only 353 came out un wounded. The total British loss in that slaughter pen was 1,900 regulars and 350 provincials killed and wounded. Montcalm's loss was only 400. Abercromby ordered a retreat to headquarters on the Hudson. The grand expedition which had set out from Lake George so proudly two days before had failed miserably.

One of the most interesting incidents connected with the part played by the "Black Watch" at Ticonderoga is the "Legend of Inverawe," one of the most famous "ghost stories" in all history. Here is that story as told in Parkman's "Montcalm and Wolfe":

The ancient castle of Inverawe stands by the banks of the Awe in the midst of the wild and picturesque scenery of the western Highlands. Late one evening, before the middle of the last century, a young Duncan Campbell set out in a hall, there was a loud knocking on the gate and opening it, he saw a stranger, with torn clothing and kilt besmeared with blood, who in a breathless voice begged for an asylum. He went on to say that he had killed a man in a fray, and that the pursuers were at his heels. Campbell promised to shelter him. "Swear on your death!" said the stranger. "I swear," said Campbell. He then led the stranger to a secret recess in the depths of the castle. Scarcely was he hidden when again there was a loud knocking at the gate and two armed men appeared. "Your cousin, Donald, has been murdered, and we are looking for the murderer!" Campbell, remembering his oath, professed to have no knowledge of the fugitive, and the men went on to their way. The lad was given a meal, lay down to rest in a large dark room where at length he fell asleep. Waking suddenly in bewilderment and terror, he saw the ghost of the murdered Donald standing by his bedside, and heard a hollow voice pronounce the words "Inverawe! Inverawe! blood has been shed. Shield not the murderer!" In the morning Campbell went to the hiding place of the fugitive, and told him that he could have him no longer. "You have sworn on your death!" he replied; and the laird of Inverawe, greatly perplexed and troubled, made a compromise between conflicting duties, promised not to betray his guest, lent him to the neighboring mountain (Ben Cruachan) and hid him in a cave.

In the next night, as he lay tossing in feverish slumber, the same stern voice awoke him, the voice of the murdered Donald, at his side, and again he heard the same appalling words: "Inverawe! Inverawe! blood has been shed. Shield not the murderer!" At break of day he hastened, in strange agitation, to the cave; but it was empty, the stranger had gone. At night as he strove in vain to sleep, the vision appeared once more, ghostly and full of aspect than before. "Farewell, till we meet at TICONDEROGA!" it said. "Farewell, till we meet at TICONDEROGA!"

The strange name dwelt in Campbell's memory. He had joined the Black Watch, or Forty-second regiment, then employed in keeping order in the turbulent Highlands. In time he became its major; and in a year or two after the war broke out, he went with it to America. Here to his sorrow, he learned that he was ordered to attack, or Ticonderoga. His name was well known among his brother officers. They combined among themselves to disarm his fears; and when they reached the fatal spot they told him on the eve of the battle: "This is not Ticonderoga; we are not there yet; this is Fort George." But in the morning he came to them with haggard looks, "I have seen

him! You have deceived me! He came to my tent last night! This is Ticonderoga! I shall die to-day!" and his prediction was fulfilled.

When the news of the heroism of the "Black Watch" reached England the king, as a reward for their deed, renamed the regiment the Royal Highlanders. After the end of the disastrous Abercromby expedition the remnants of the shattered "Black Watch" regiment were stationed in Albany until the summer of 1763, when they were ordered to Pennsylvania to take part in the expedition which Col. Henry Bouquet was to lead to the relief of Fort Pitt, which was then besieged by Pontiac's Indians.

Bouquet set out from Carlisle, Pa., at the end of June, 1763, with a force of a little more than 500 men, composed of a detachment of his own regiment, the Sixtieth Regiment of Royal Americans, a detachment of the Seventy-seventh regiment, Montgomery's Highlanders and the Forty-second regiment of Royal Highlanders, the "Black Watch," and a detachment of rangers.

By August 5 Bouquet was nearing his goal. About noon of that day, after a forced march of 17 miles through the hot forests, Bouquet had reached a place called Edge Hill, 26 miles from Fort Pitt, when his advance guard was attacked by the Indians. The two light infantry companies of the "Black Watch" went to their support and scattered the Indians. But immediately the savages came swarming back and within a short time Bouquet's little army was surrounded and fighting for their lives behind a hastily constructed fence on top of the hill.

When daylight came the Indians resumed their attack more fiercely than ever. Bouquet saw that it was only a matter of time until the fire of the enemy would cut down his force until the few that were left could not withstand the charge that was sure to come. Deciding to wager everything on one stroke, he executed one of the most daring maneuvers in history. The two companies of Highlanders withdrew suddenly from the line, retreated across the hill and entered a little ravine which ran along one side of the hill. Seeing this movement, the Indians believed that a general retreat was about to begin and came whooping out into the open.

This was just what Bouquet wanted. As the mass of savages struck the weakened line that had extended across the hill when the Highlanders left and forced it back, the "Black Watch" came charging out of the ravine on the flank of the enemy and as the killed soldiers bore down upon them with their bayonets the Indians knew that they had been trapped. But it was too late then, for Bouquet again broke his line, threw two companies of light infantry out of the circle on the other flank and the savages were caught between the two forces. Within a few minutes Bouquet was in full possession of the field, but at a terrible cost. A total of 115 officers and men, nearly a quarter of his army, was killed or wounded. The heaviest loss was that of the "Black Watch" which had 25 killed and 27 wounded.

But they had helped save Pennsylvania. Bouquet pushed on to the relief of Fort Pitt and soon afterwards Pontiac's conspiracy collapsed. Later the "Black Watch" went on Bouquet's expedition into the Ohio country which put the finishing blow to Indian hostility and a detachment of this same regiment went down the Ohio to Fort Chartres in the Illinois country to receive the surrender of that post from the French who had not yet given it up in accordance with the terms of the truce which ended the French and Indian war.

The regiment passed the following winter in Pennsylvania and was then ordered home. Reduced to almost a skeleton of its original strength, the "Black Watch" embarked at Philadelphia for Ireland in July, 1767. During the seven years of the "Black Watch's" service in America and the West Indies it had lost a total of 563 officers and men killed and wounded, but it had written on its banners the names of Ticonderoga and Edge Hill or Bushy Run, and those names stood for two of the most gallant deeds in all American history.

In a Quandary
Absent-Minded Naturalist—Now, let me think—have I been so foolish as to bring these clubs instead of my collecting equipment, or have I been idiotic enough to come here instead of going to the golf links?

Look to the Light
Lift thyself up, look around, and see something higher and brighter than earth, earthworms and earthly darkness.—Jean Paul Richter.

The orang-outang builds its family nest in a tree.

THE KITCHEN CABINET

(© 1928 Western Newspaper Union.)

You can never tell what your thoughts will do.
In bringing you hate or love,
For thoughts are things and their wings
Are swifter than carrier dove.
They follow the law of the universe.
Each kind creates its kind.
And they speed o'er the track and bring you back
Whatever sent from the mind.
—Ella W. Wilcox

APPETIZING FOODS.

The following is a dish which will serve for soup as well as a main dish of meat:

Scoupe Aux Choux.

—When boiling a smoked tongue or piece of ham, add one small cabbage, two carrots, a turnip and a parsnip, or a sweet potato, all pared and cut into quarters, one-half cupful of dried peas soaked over night, and a small bunch of sweet herbs. Cover with plenty of water and cook until the meat is tender. It will be best to cook the meat an hour before adding the vegetables. Season if needed with pepper; it will probably be salt enough. Serve the soup and the meat sliced.

Another fine main dish is prepared with tongue: After it is well cooked, as usual, skin it and lay on a baking pan with a few shredded carrots and a few stalks of celery; add stock and cook in a slow oven until the vegetables are tender.

Concordia Croquettes.—Peel and chop one-half pound of mushrooms, stew five minutes in two tablespoonfuls of butter and one-half teaspoonful of salt, add a spoonful or two of cream, if too dry. To the drained mushrooms add two hard cooked eggs coarsely chopped and one cupful of thick, white sauce, using four tablespoonfuls each of butter and flour to a cupful of thin cream or milk. Spread on a plate to cool, shape and roll in beaten eggs and crumbs and place in a frying basket. Drain on paper and keep hot in a dripping pan in the oven until served.

Savory Rice Croquettes.—To two cupfuls of boiled rice add one pint of croquette sauce made as above, in which one-half cupful of crumbled cheese has been melted; or add one pint of tomato sauce made according to the same proportions as the sauce. Cool, shape and fry as usual. Serve with any cold meat, such as lamb, chicken or turkey.

Cream of Spinach Soup.—Cook two quarts of spinach thirty minutes in three cupfuls of boiling water; drain, chop and rub through a sieve; add four cupfuls of chicken stock, heat to the boiling point; bind with one-fourth cupful of butter and one-fourth cupful of flour cooked together; add two cupfuls of milk. Season with salt and pepper and serve hot with croutons.

Chicken Gumbo.—Cook one onion finely chopped with four tablespoonfuls of butter for five minutes, stirring constantly. Add to one quart of chicken stock to which one-half a can of okra has been added, two teaspoonsfuls of salt, one-fourth teaspoonful of pepper and one-half a green pepper finely chopped. Bring to the boiling point and simmer forty minutes.

Cherry Time.
Let us marshal our cherry recipes while the cherries are with us, so that we may serve them in a variety of ways.

Fifteen Minute Cherry Pudding.—Take one cupful of flour, add one teaspoonful of baking powder, a pinch of salt and milk to make a drop batter. Butter custard cups and drop in a spoonful of the batter, then a good tablespoonful of canned cherries and the juice; cover with another spoonful of the batter, leaving room for the pudding to swell, set in a pan of boiling water and cover. Cook fifteen minutes. Turn out and serve with cream and sugar. This will make four good sized puddings or six small ones.

Poor Man's Cherry Pudding.—Slightly thicken one pint of cherries with a tablespoonful of flour mixed with some of the juice, bring to boiling point and cover with the following: One cupful of flour, two tablespoonfuls of butter, one-half teaspoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of sugar and one-half cupful of milk. Cover with this mixture and bake. Serve with cream.

Cherry Fritters.—Take one cupful of flour, two teaspoonsfuls of baking powder, one-fourth teaspoonful of salt, one-half cupful of milk, one beaten egg, two tablespoonfuls of butter and one-half cupful of cherries. Mix the batter and fold in the cherries. Drop by spoonfuls into hot fat and cook until brown. Serve with a sauce made from the cherry juice.

Cherry Conserve.—Take two quarts of cherries, one pound of blanched almonds, eight cupfuls of sugar; just enough water to melt and make a sirup, three oranges peeled. Make a sirup of the sugar and water and add the fruit; cook until thick. Add the nuts just a few minutes before taking off the fire. Pour into glasses and seal with paraffin when cold.

Silk and Sausage Skins
Chemists have discovered they can make a multitude of things from wood and animal besides furniture and clothes. Using the same basic compound, but giving it different treatments, they make artificial silk, sausages skins and celluloid.

Indignation Complex
Too much of our "righteous indignation" gets mixed with hysteria and hooked up with selfish ambitions.—Lafayette Journal and Courier.

CANNING STRING BEANS AND TOMATOES



Canning String Beans at Home in the Steam Pressure Canner.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

For all the garden vegetables, string beans and tomatoes are the favorites when it comes to canning a supply for winter use. They cannot be done in the same way. Because of their acidity, tomatoes may be canned by the water-bath method; but, for string beans or tomatoes in an uncovered vessel.

String beans should be processed at a temperature higher than 212 degrees Fahrenheit, and this is only possible under steam pressure. Either glass or tin containers should be used. Like other nonacid vegetables, string beans should be processed boiling hot. That is, they are cooked for a few minutes, and then, while still boiling, packed into the jars, sealed, and processed the required length of time. This is sometimes called the "hot-pack" method.

String beans should always be packed boiling hot. That is, they are

washed thoroughly, and cut into pieces of the size desired for serving. Add enough boiling water to cover and boil for five minutes in an uncovered vessel. Pack in containers boiling hot, cover with the water in which they were boiled, and add one teaspoonful of salt to each quart.

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Label all jars and cans with the name of the product and, the date when canned, and any other information you wish. Keep them at room temperature for at least a week. If any show signs of spoilage, discard them and wash others of the same lot to be certain they are keeping.

Store in a cool, dry, dark place.

These directions for canning string beans as well as most other common vegetables and fruits are given in Farmers' Bulletin 1471-F. "Canning Fruits and Vegetables at Home."

Pick the beans over carefully, string,

wash thoroughly, and cut into pieces of the size desired for serving. Add enough boiling water to cover and boil for five minutes in an uncovered vessel.

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