



# Toronto Police Force.

---

*A Brief Account of the Force since its  
re-organization in 1859 up to the  
present date,*

TOGETHER WITH A

*Short Biographical Sketch of the present  
Board of Police Commissioners.*

---

**Prepared to accompany the Photograph of the Force  
to be sent to the Colonial Exhibition to be held in  
London, England, in May, 1886.**

---

TORONTO :

E. F. CLARKE, PRINTER,

1886.



# Toronto Police Force.



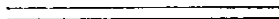
*A Brief Account of the Force since its  
re-organization in 1859 up to the  
present date,*

TOGETHER WITH A

*Short Biographical Sketch of the present  
Board of Police Commissioners.*



Prepared to accompany the Photograph of the Force  
to be sent to the Colonial Exhibition to be held in  
London, England, in May, 1886.



TORONTO :

E. F. CLARKE, PRINTER,

1886.

# Board of Police Commissioners.



JOSEPH E. McDOUGALL, Q. C.,  
Judge County Court County of York,  
Province of Ontario, Canada,  
*Chairman.*

WILLIAM H. HOWLAND, Esq.,  
Mayor of Toronto,  
*Commissioner of Police.*

LIEUT.-COL. GEO. T. DENISON,  
Governor General's Body Guard,  
Police Magistrate of Toronto,  
*Commissioner of Police.*

MAJOR FRANK C. DRAPER,  
*Chief Constable.*

WM. E. STUART, Esq.,  
*Deputy Chief Constable.*

---

## INSPECTORS :

ROBERT LEITH, late H. M. 26th Cameronians.  
WM. WARD, late H. M. Coldstream Guards.  
DAVID ARCHIBALD, late R. I. Constabulary.  
CHARLES SEYMOUR, late H. M. Royal Canadian (100) Reg.  
JOHN ALEXANDER, late R. I. Constabulary.  
JOSEPH JOHNSTON.  
ALEX. DUNCAN, late Royal Canadian (100) Regiment.

## SERGEANTS :

WILLIAM STARK,	ALEX. MONRO,
ROBERT ARMSTRONG,	JAMES STEPHEN,
ROBERT WILLIAMSON,	EDWARD CARR,
THOS. BRACKENREID,	JOHN HALL,
ROBERT GREGORY,	ROBT. SOMERVILLE.

## DETECTIVES :

INS. JOHN NEWHALL,	REBURN,
BURROWS,	BROWN,
	CUDDY.

## TORONTO POLICE FORCE.

---

Previous to 1859, the Toronto Police Force was under the control of the Municipal Council. By an Act of the Canadian Parliament passed in that year, there was constituted in every City a Board of Commissioners of Police, such Board to consist of the Mayor, Recorder or County Judge, and the Police Magistrate, and by virtue of that Act the entire management and control of the Toronto Police Force passed from the City Council into the hands of this Board.

The Mayor of the City at that time was the Hon. Adam Wilson, now Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench division of the High Court of Justice of Ontario; the late George Duggan, Esq., the Recorder, and the late George Gurnett, Esq., the Police Magistrate. Such was the composition of Toronto's first Police Commission. Capt. W. S. Prince, late of Her Majesty's 71st Regiment, was Chief Constable, having been appointed during the previous year (1858), on the retirement of the late Samuel Sherwood. The Force consisted of 3 Sergeants-Major, 6 Sergeants, and 25 Constables. During the next ten years a slight increase in numbers is noticeable.

In 1869, the end of the first decade of the Board's management, there were three Police Divisions in the City, the number of Officers had increased to nine, and the Constables to fifty. No. 1 Station was situated in the City Hall building on the Market Square; No. 2 on Yonge Street, opposite Edward Street; and No. 3 on Queen Street West, in the building now occupied as a Fire Station, near the corner of John Street.

The next decade, from 1869 to 1879, was marked by numerous and important changes in the Department.

In 1874 Capt. Prince resigned the Chief Constablenesship, and was succeeded by the present incumbent of the office, Major F. C. Draper, late of the Queen's Own Rifles.

Two years later a complete change was made in the boundaries of the Police Divisions. No. 1 Station was transferred from the City Hall to its present site on Court Street; No. 2 to the new building erected exclusively for Police purposes on Agnes Street, and No. 3 was moved westward to St. Andrew's Market, and a new Division (No. 4) established in the east end of the City, with a Station at the corner of Wilton Avenue and Parliament Street. These changes and additions to the Force, rendered necessary by the rapid growth of the City, increased the duties of the Chief Constable's office to such an extent that it was found advisable to appoint a deputy, and the choice of the Board fell upon Sergeant Major McPherson, the senior officer of the Force, who was appointed Deputy Chief Constable in 1876, and held the position until 1885, when he retired on pension with 29 years' service, and was succeeded by Inspector Stuart.

In July of this year (1876) the Chief Constable was despatched to Londonderry with the necessary papers for securing the return of a prisoner, arrested there on a cable message, charged with felony committed in Toronto. Having first secured the committal of his prisoner, the Chief Constable proceeded to London to carry out his further instructions and make a thorough examination into the system by which the London Metropolitan Police Force was conducted. A letter of introduction to Col. Henderson secured for him the entree into Police circles, and every facility was placed at his disposal for the accomplishment of his purpose. This done, he returned to Canada, picking up his prisoner at Derry, and arriving in Toronto in the early part of September.

The result of his examinations and enquiries into the London Police System was produced in the following year, when the present "Orders and Regulations of the Toronto Police Force" were submitted to the Board of Police Commissioners, adopted by them, and published and distributed for the information and guidance of the members of the Force.

These "Orders and Regulations" are still in force, and have required but trifling alterations since their publication, a fact that testifies to the care and study expended in their compilation.

Under these rules the title of Sergeant Major was abolished, and each Police Division placed under an Inspector with two Sergeants to assist him.

The practice of leaving the streets without Police protection from 4 to 9 a.m. was at this time discontinued, and late reliefs are now sent out, who after 4 a.m. become "fixed points" at the principal crossings and thoroughfares of the City. This decade ended in 1879 with the strength of the Force increased to 12 Officers and 114 Constables.

From that time to the present writing two sub-Divisions have been added, bringing the total up to 6, the Officers to 17, and the Constables to 145.

It may be interesting here to note that Inspector Robert Leith, of No. 3 Division, (late of Her Majesty's 53rd Regiment,) is the only member of the Force to-day who was connected with it when taken over by the Board in 1859, he having joined in 1856.

The Detective duty of the City is performed by a staff of six Detectives who have been drawn from the ranks of the Force according as they developed abilities for that particular work. They are under the immediate directions of the Chief Constable, who is responsible to the Board for their conduct and efficiency.

Several years ago, on the recommendation of the Chief Constable, a detachment of Mounted Police was organized, and the very excellent service rendered by this corps on many occasions since, especially during street disturbances, processions, &c., has clearly demonstrated the wisdom of the suggestion. The saddlery is owned by the Department. Horses are procured from a livery, and the necessary men are drawn from the Force as occasion requires. No difficulty is met in securing expert horsemen, as the ranks are never without those who have had enlarged experience in the



cavalry regiments, both of the regular and volunteer service.

The greatest possible care is exercised in the selection of the material of which the Force is composed. Candidates for admission are required to pass an examination in reading, writing and arithmetic, must be under 30 years of age, stand 5 feet 10 inches without shoes, and recommendations must be first-class in every respect. If approved by the Board, they must submit to a strict examination by the Medical Officer of the Force, when, if they come up to the standard physically, they are placed under instructions and thoroughly grounded in the rudiments of drill, the regulations of the Force, By-laws of the City, and the criminal laws of the country. After acquiring a sufficient knowledge of these and similar matters to enable them to perform intelligently the duties of a Police Constable, they are assigned to a Division, supplied with uniform and equipments, and placed on regular duty.

The Force is paid according to a graduated scale. The 3rd class, composed of all under 12 months' service, \$1.35 per day; 2nd class, all over 12 months and under 5 years, \$1.60; 1st class B, all over 5 and under 10 years, \$1.85; 1st class A, all Constables over 10 years service, \$1.90; Sergeants, \$2.55; and Inspectors, \$2.90. Detectives rank with and are paid the same salary as Sergeants.

All members of the Force are liable to reduction from one rank to another and from class to class for misconduct, and length of service unsupported by good conduct and an efficient discharge of duty does not entitle a Constable to promotion from one class to another or to the position of an officer.

Besides the pay quoted above, Officers are entitled to 14 days' annual leave each, and Constables to 10 days, during which period they draw full pay. They are also clothed and equipped at the expense of the Department, and, taken altogether, are perhaps the best equipped body of men in the Dominion.

Each man, besides his uniform (a suit of which is supplied him every year), is supplied with a baton, handcuffs, whistle, revolver, fire alarm key, and a small pocket lamp which can be conveniently carried in the vest pocket. All these equipments are of the latest and most approved pattern. The revolvers, manufactured by David Bentley, Birmingham, England, were imported expressly for the Toronto Police Force, and are carried only by night duties and escorts in charge of prisoners, and serve as an excellent deterrent to the rowdy element. Arrests are frequently made in the worst parts of the City at all hours of the night by Constables single-handed, and the fact of their being seldom interfered with is sufficient proof that the worst element with which they have to contend fully appreciates the advantageous position occupied by the Constable with his revolver by his side. Each member on joining is thoroughly drilled to its use, and at the annual revolver matches, when prizes are given, every member of the Force is obliged to compete. Apart from the natural interest taken in trials of skill of this kind, the prizes are sufficiently numerous and costly to provoke the liveliest competition, and all classes look forward to those matches with the keenest possible interest. The ranges are 30 and 50 yards, and the frequency with which the "bull's-eye" is pierced, even at the long range, is proof of the extraordinary degree of proficiency attained by many members of the Force in the use of this weapon.

The Police Stations are all connected by telephone, and a duty roster kept in each, and all Constables have to take their turn of day and night duty in regular order.

The time of day duty extends over a period of two weeks, and night from two to six weeks. Eight hours duty in twenty-four is about the average for each man.

Night duties in summer time do their eight hours without intermission; while the day duties throughout the year and the night duties during severe winter weather are conducted by reliefs, and the details

arranged in such a way that the principal thoroughfares are never without Police protection during the 24 hours.

A Division is at all times in charge of the Inspector, or one of his Sergeants who relieve each other alternately; and a Sergeant is always in charge of the night duties, visiting them at intervals, and reporting to the Division Officer occasionally during the night, and to the Chief Constable by written report every morning.

Each Constable is provided with a memorandum book, in which he enters, with other items of importance, every visit paid him by the Officer, with the hour and locality of such visit precisely stated, and a corresponding entry is made in the Officer's report. In this way a regular system of check is kept up by occasionally comparing the Constables' memorandum books with the Sergeants' reports.

All members of the Force when on the sick list are subject to a deduction of one-third of their daily pay, and as against this are entitled to medical attendance free by the Medical Officer. Those on the convalescent list report at his office daily, while those confined to their quarters are visited by him as frequently as may be necessary. Members of the Force injured in the execution of their duty are invariably allowed full pay.

The Force is drilled in regular military and street skirmishing drill once a week, except during the heat of summer and the extreme cold of winter, and every year, generally in September, the annual inspection by the Board of Commissioners takes place. Advantage is usually taken of this occasion to present the prizes won at the revolver matches, and such is the interest taken in the Force that the best citizens turn out in large numbers to witness the drill and presentations and hear the addresses delivered by the members of the Board.

At the regular drill of the Force the instructions laid down in the "Field Exercise" are in some instances deviated from, notably in the formation of fours, the whole formation being completed on a single word of command. This departure has been highly commended by military critics, and favourably commented upon by

such an eminent authority as General Wolseley, to whom it was submitted by Major Draper.

The street skirmishing drill, prepared specially also for the Toronto Police Force, is peculiarly a Police drill. The expeditious movement of sections or small detachments in close or extended order from point to point with the fewest possible words of command is the object sought to be attained. A section or any portion of a company can be extended or moved to cover a given point almost instantaneously on a single word of command, and as readily reformed, without any regard to the position occupied by the front or rear ranks. All movements are executed on the double, and have been studied out with a view to a more speedy and effectual suppression of riots and street disturbances.

Not only in the discharge of their duties as Policemen have the Toronto Police Force gained for themselves an excellent reputation, but on every occasion when called upon to act as a military body they have proved themselves capable and efficient to a high degree, and thoroughly disciplined. During the Roman Catholic pilgrimage processions in 1875, when the rowdy element for three Sundays in succession made desperate efforts to gain possession of the City, and when the authorities recognized the gravity of the situation by placing 1,000 military under arms, the Police, unaided, succeeded in protecting the processionists against the attacks of the mob that met them in almost overpowering numbers at every point while traversing a route covering nearly three miles in extent. The circumstances, especially during the last Sunday, were exceedingly trying; revolver shots were fired by the mob with startling frequency, while stones and other missiles fell among the Police and processionists like hail. Many were seriously injured; and although fully armed not a single man so far forgot himself as to return the fire, but throughout all behaved with remarkable coolness and with a degree of forbearance that was certainly very creditable. The conduct of the Force on that occasion called forth the highest encomiums from the City and Provincial

press; and the late Chief Justice Harrison, when passing sentence on some of the rioters, concluded a glowing tribute to the efficiency and valor of the Force with the remark that "the citizens of Toronto could afford to sleep soundly while they had such a body of men guarding their lives and properties."

The Roman Catholic citizens felt so grateful for the protection afforded them on that occasion they immediately collected a large sum of money, and offered it to the Force in recognition of their services. The Board asked for an expression of opinion from the men as to whether or not this money should be accepted, and, to their credit be it said, they unanimously replied that nothing had been done to merit special recognition. They did nothing more than their duty in protecting a portion of the citizens in the enjoyment of an undoubted right, consequently, the proffered gift was respectfully declined.

During the early part of the present year the Force was again called upon to quell riotous proceedings caused by a difficulty between the Street Railway Company and their employees. The trouble extended over the greater part of a week, and at last assumed such serious dimensions that the authorities were compelled to adopt severe measures in restoring order. The conduct of the Force on this occasion also was such as to merit the warmest approbation of the Board, as evinced by the following extract from General Orders, under date March 15th :

"The conduct of the Force during the past week under very trying circumstances has been reported to the Board of Police Commissioners, and the Chief Constable is directed to announce that two days' extra leave will be granted for this year to every Officer and Constable on the Force in recognition of this recent duty, and as a slight encouragement for the future."

Where all did so well, it would, perhaps, be invidious to particularize; but in view of the excellent service rendered on this occasion by the mounted detachment, they can safely be regarded, for all time to come, as a necessary permanent branch of the Service.

Although strictly a local body, the duties of the Force are not always confined to their own City. On several occasions recently detachments have been sent far from home on important and sometimes very dangerous missions. In February, 1883, when the City of Ottawa (the seat of the Canadian Government) was alarmed by rumors of a dynamite attack on the House of Commons, which was then in session, a strong detachment, at the request of the Dominion Government, went there and took charge of Government House (then occupied by the Marquis of Lorne and Princess Louise) and Parliament Square, until the prorogation of the House on the 22nd of May, when they returned home, after receiving the thanks of the Government for their services.

In the month of October, the following year, a large gang of illicit liquor traders took possession of the country about Michipocoten, a station on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, then under construction, on the north shore of Lake Superior, about 500 miles from Toronto. The local authorities were powerless to control them, and at the request of the Ontario Government the Toronto Force was again called upon to furnish a detachment to suppress these outlaws. The detachment selected for the performance of this difficult and dangerous task left Toronto by special train on the morning of the 18th October, and in less than two weeks broke up the gang, arrested the ringleaders, and finally succeeded in restoring order.

These are a few of the many instances in which they have been called upon to act in an emergency, and in every case their courage and discipline have been subjects of public comment, and their fearless and conscientious discharge of difficult and dangerous duties such as to bring honor to themselves as a body, and reflect the highest credit on those responsible for their discipline and efficiency; and as showing the extent to which they enjoy the confidence of the Canadian people, we have but to refer to the fact that five cities of Ontario have within the last few years each selected a Chief Constable from their ranks, viz., London, Guelph, Brockville, St. Catharines and Brantford.

Considerable attention has been paid, especially during late years, to the physical development of the men, and every facility afforded them, consistent with a proper discharge of their duties, of participating in all kinds of athletic exercises so essential to the health of those the nature of whose duties is somewhat sedentary.

With a view to the fuller development of a taste for healthy recreation of this kind, an athletic association was formed in 1883, exclusively for members of the Force, and is now in affiliation with and working under the rules of the Amateur Athletic Association of Canada. An athletic tournament is held every year, and valuable prizes given to the successful competitors in the different events, and such are the benefits accruing to the members from a prudent indulgence in those health-giving exercises that they can now boast of having in their ranks some of the best athletes in the country. This annual tournament has become an established institution and is anxiously looked forward to, not only by the members themselves but also by the citizens, who patronize the meeting in large numbers and evince the liveliest interest in the competitions. The tug-of-war team representing the association has had a wonderfully successful career, having defeated every team pitted against them since their organization in 1883, including teams representing the Hamilton and London Police Forces, the Royal Grenadiers, Queen's Own Rifles, 5th Royal Scots of Montreal, Toronto Fire Brigade; Irish Catholic Benevolent Union, "C" Company Infantry School, and the celebrated United States team representing the Buffalo Police Force.

The first, if not the only Police Library ever established in America was organized by the Toronto Police Force, in 1878, and before the organization of the City Public Library, three years ago, was considered one of the finest in the City.

The most important scheme ever undertaken by the Force, one that has met with a degree of success far in advance of anything anticipated by its most sanguine promoters, was the establishment of the Toronto Police

**Benefit Fund.** This Fund was established under the Beneficial Societies Act in 1881, and its objects are clearly set forth in the Constitution, the 2nd clause of which reads as follows: "The object of this Fund shall be to grant gratuities and pensions for long service in the Force, and to assist members who may be disabled in the actual execution of their duty, or incapacitated from duty by long sickness, and to make provision for old age, and for families in case of death. This Fund shall be under the management and control of a committee of the Force, subject to the approval of the Board of Police Commissioners, which shall be called the Benefit Fund Committee.

A gift of \$3,000 from the Police Commissioners, supplemented by a grant of \$5,000 from the City Council, formed the nucleus of the fund. To this has been added from time to time the accruing interest, together with the sick stoppages and fines and two per cent of all salaries. The remarkable manner in which this fund has increased is shown by the financial statement published by the Treasurer at the close of 1885, which shows a balance to the credit of the fund of \$28,091.69. This fund is managed by a Committee elected annually by the Force from their own numbers, and (as stated in the Constitution) the acts of this Committee are subject to revision by the Commissioners.

The families of members who may be overtaken by accident, sickness or death, are thus placed beyond penury and want, while ample provision is made for those whom old age may render unfit for further service.

The religious and temperance elements are by no means unrepresented in the ranks; not a few occupy important official positions in connection with City churches, and many are enthusiastic Sabbath School workers. A Police Bible Class has been in existence for many years, and the weekly meetings are attended by large and constantly increasing numbers; while the Force contains perhaps a larger percentage of total abstainers than any similar organization in the country.

Taken altogether, the Toronto Police Force is a very creditable institution. Its members individually are



intelligent, sober and trustworthy as a body; highly efficient and progressive, and courageous to a fault; and after making due allowance for the frailties of humanity and the terrible temptations to which men in their position are constantly exposed, are a body of men of which the citizens of Toronto are justly proud, and which will bear favorable comparison with any other similar organization in the world.

A somewhat remarkable circumstance in connection with its present management, and one to which the Canadian members of the Force frequently refer with a considerable degree of pardonable pride, is the fact that not only the three members of the Board, but also the Chief Constable and Medical Officer, are all native born Canadians; in fact, all these gentlemen were born in Toronto except Mr. Howland, whose native place is Lambton Mills, on the River Humber, only seven miles distant.

A brief biography of these gentlemen at this stage may not be devoid of interest:

JOSEPH E. McDougall, Q.C., Senior Judge of the County Court of the County of York, the present chairman of the Board, is a lawyer by profession, having been called to the Bar in 1870, and appointed Judge of the County Court of the County of York in 1883. He takes a deep interest in everything pertaining to the well being of the members of the Force, and it is no disparagement to his predecessors to say that not one of them ever exhibited such a degree of anxiety to gain a full and thorough knowledge of the working of the Department. He is the eldest son of the Hon. William McDougall, C.B., one of Canada's most progressive statesmen, and was born in 1846.

COL. GEORGE T. DENISON, who was appointed Police Magistrate of Toronto in 1877, is a member of one of the best-known military families in Canada. He is commander of the Governor-General's Body Guard, and commanded that corps in person during the North-West Rebellion in 1885. He is the author of several military works of superior merit, and gained a world-

wide reputation in 1877, when he secured the prize offered by the Czar of Russia for the best work on cavalry. This was an extraordinary achievement, in view of the fact that he had to compete against some of the most experienced officers of the world. Like Judge McDougall, he takes a very deep interest in the Force, and is, in every respect, a model Commissioner.

WILLIAM H. HOWLAND, Esq., was elected Mayor of Toronto this year for the first time, and although never in public life before, such is his popularity that he defeated one of the wealthiest citizens, and an old public servant, by the largest majority ever received by a candidate for any public position in the City. He is famed throughout the Dominion for his benevolent disposition. Every religious and philanthropic enterprise finds in him an earnest and enthusiastic supporter. He is a member of one of the largest grain and commission firms in Canada, and is the eldest son of Sir W. P. Howland, C. B., one of the first Lieutenant-Governors of Ontario.

MAJOR FRANK C. DRAPER, Chief Constable, is the youngest son of the late the Hon. William Henry Draper, C. B., President of the Court of Appeal of Ontario. He is a lawyer by profession, having received his legal training in the office of the Hon. John Crawford, late Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, and was for many years an officer in the Queen's Own Rifles. He retired, retaining his rank, when appointed to the command of the Police Force in 1874. His management of the Force, in which he takes the greatest possible pride, has been singularly successful, a strict disciplinarian, ever on the lookout for improvements, and at all times ready to adopt any suggestion or consider fully any idea that gives promise of comfort to his men or increased efficiency to the Department. Major Draper has had the advantage of examining into the workings of almost every Police Department of any note on this continent, his researches extending from New York and Buffalo, through St. Louis, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, New Orleans, Nassau, W.I., Havana, and San

Francisco, and, besides this, his visit to England in 1876 gave him the opportunity of obtaining an insight into the workings of the London Metropolitan Police. The many schemes that have been inaugurated from time to time, having for their object the mental, moral or physical improvement of those under his command, owe much of their success to his kindly aid and encouragement. He is an unerring revolver shot, an expert cricketer and an enthusiastic admirer of all manly sport.

WILLIAM E. STUART, Esq., who was appointed Deputy Chief Constable on the retirement of Mr. McPherson, in 1885, was born in Ireland, in 1832, and entered the Irish Constabulary, and after serving 3 years and ten months resigned in 1854, for the purpose of joining the Irish Militia to go to the Crimea. The war ending, however, the corps was disbanded. He came to Canada and entered the Toronto Police Force, in 1861, and by close application to his work and an earnest, conscientious discharge of his duties has gradually risen from rank to rank until he now finds himself second in command of one of the finest Police Forces on the American continent. He, too, is fond of all athletic sports, and has done much to encourage their promotion among the members of the Force to which he belongs.

DR. E. W. SPRAGGE, the Medical Officer of the Force, is a son of the late Chief Justice of Ontario, a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. His duties in connection with the Force are very laborious, involving generally a daily tour of the whole City. He is at all times exceedingly anxious about the health of the Department and fully alive to the responsibilities of his office, the duties of which he discharges with a degree of fidelity and zeal that does him infinite credit. He is an enthusiastic cricketer, and during his college days had few equals as a hurdle jumper. He was appointed to his present position on the retirement of the late Dr. Buchanan in 1871.

