



THE LATE CAPTAIN R. V. HARVEY

In Memoriam

CAPTAIN R. V. HARVEY

Captain R. V. Harvey was born at Londonderry, Ireland, in 1872. His earlier education was received at Liverpool College. From this institution he matriculated into Magdalen College, Cambridge, where he graduated as a Master of Arts.

Coming to Vancouver in 1900, he opened the Queen's School, a private academy for boys. Under his able direction this institution grew to such dimensions that it was found advisable to transplant it to Victoria, where a more suitable environment could be found. He there co-operated with the Rev. W. W. Bolton and Mr. J. C. Barnacle in the establishment of the University School.

During the nine years that Captain Harvey spent in Vancouver, he was indefatigable in his efforts to promote the interests of Entomology in this Province. It was largely due to his efforts that the B. C. Entomological Society was inaugurated in 1902. For nine years he was Secretary of that Society, and was tireless in his endeavours to make it a success.

Captain Harvey had studied the Lepidoptera in England, where he had made an extensive collection. He naturally specialized in this order when he first collected in British Columbia, and many new records and several new species were added to our lists as the result of his work.

In 1904 he turned his attention to the study of Diptera, and during the next four years his collections in this order were extensive and valuable. In the Canadian Entomologist for January, 1908, Prof. Raymond C. Osburn, in his article on B.C. Syrphidae, says: "Especially reference must be made to the excellent work of Prof. R. V. Harvey, of Queen's School, Vancouver, to whose careful collecting twenty-two of the additions are due."

In 1906 Captain Harvey made a collecting trip over the Hope Trail to Princeton, walking one hundred and thirty miles. The results were so satisfactory that he repeated the trip in 1908. This, perhaps, marks the last serious work he attempted in connection with Entomology. Botany began to appeal to him as a new field of study; and with characteristic thoroughness he set about the investigation of our western flora. On his return from the first Hope Trail trip he started the Vancouver Naturalists' Field Club, an institution which flourished during the time he was connected with it, but which, on his removal to Victoria, became moribund for want of a guiding spirit.

But other fields of effort now claimed his attention. From the very inception of the Boy Scout movement he became one of its most enthusiastic supporters. The Cadet Corps of University School, Victoria, also found in him its able sponsor.

It is not surprising to find him associating himself in a more serious way with military affairs. With the establishment of the 88th Fusiliers, Captain Harvey took out his commission. His first taste of active service was during the mining disturbances on Vancouver Island. Then came the declaration of war, and Captain Harvey was one of the first to offer his services.

He was drafted with the 7th Battalion and after training at Valcartier and later at Salisbury Plain, was with the first Canadian forces to go to France. Here he was wounded and taken prisoner in the gallant charge of the Canadians during April, 1915, and died in a German concentration camp some few weeks later.

The news of his death brought heartfelt sorrow to all who knew him. His personality was magnetic in its power to attract and charm those who were in any way intimately associated with him. The versatility of his mind was so combined with a singleness of purpose and concentration of effort in whatever he undertook that we find him excelling in many of life's activities. During his residence in the West he made many friends, who will long mourn his loss, and yet who will feel a certain vicarious pride in the heroic nature of his death.

R. S. SHERMAN.