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HENRY SHRAPNEL AND FAMILY

MG 24, F 113

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INTRODUCTION

The papers of Henry Shrapnel and Family remained with a branch of the Shrapnel family in Orillia, Ontario. The largest portions of these were subsequently acquired by Mr. Emerich Kaspar of Toronto and Mr. Ronald Bouckley of Oshawa, Ontario. Donated to the National Archives by Mr. Kaspar in 1988 and by Mr. Bouckley in 1991.

The HENRY SHRAPNEL AND FAMILY (MG 24, F 113) collection covers a period from the 1780s to the early years of this century. The largest part of the collection consists of the papers and drawings of Henry Shrapnel relating to the design and testing of *spherical case shot*, better known as shrapnel shells. Spherical case shot developed out of the need to find an effective long range weapon against massed troops. The effect of a solid projectile (i.e. shot) was confined to a narrow line of fire running from the gun to the target. When fired from the smaller ordnance pieces, the burst of a common shell, which consisted of a hollow casing filled with a charge of gunpowder ignited by a fuze, was not very effective. At close range, canister or case shot was used to deal with massed troops. Case shot consisted of a tin container filled with bullets. The case held its contents together up the bore to the muzzle where they immediately spread out to produce a swathe of bullets, much like a modern shotgun shell. However, the maximum range was only a little more than 300 yards. What was needed was a case shot which would open far up the trajectory instead of at the muzzle. Spherical case shot combined the effects of shell and canister ammunition. It consisted of a hollow iron casing filled with musket balls and a bursting charge which was ignited by a fuze. This bursting charge was only strong enough to break open the casing, allowing the balls to continue under their own velocity in a narrow cone. At the time of the Napoleonic Wars, spherical case shot was a form of shell unique to Britain, where it made up approximately 10% of the ammunition carried by gun crews and 50% of all howitzer ammunition.

Shrapnel's designs were also adopted by the army of the East India Company and by the Royal Navy and these are documented in the collection through drawings, letters and reports. Shrapnel's *Sea Service Shell* was an answer to the Royal Navy's problem of attacking wooden ships. Solid shot were not the most efficient projectiles for attacking wooden ships, whose timbers could absorb a great deal of punishment. Shrapnel's explosive shells, which could shatter wooden hulls as well as wreak havoc among the men below decks, gave better results. In addition, a mortar of his design replaced the standard sea-service mortar. Designed with a *parabolic chamber*, his mortar allowed a larger powder charge to be used, effectively increasing the range of this type of weapon and the ammunition it threw. Shells and ordnance designs such as these had an impact on warship design. The increased vulnerability of wooden hulls lead to efforts to sheath vessels in armour and ultimately to the construction of *ironclads*.

While Shrapnel is most famous for the development of the shell which was to bear his name, as

well as the mortars and other ordnance equipment noted above, he was also responsible for improvements to the design of muskets, rifles and pistols. A series of patent drawings and memoranda record these designs.

Also included in the collection are: a small collection of documents from his son, Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, covering his duties as a Barrack Master in Canada and elsewhere and later as an Immigrant Agent for the Canadian Government, 1846 to c.1880; and documents and papers relating to the history of the Shrapnel Family from the 1600s until the early years of this century, with letters and documents relating to the children of Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel in Canada.

* * * * *

The following biographical sketches serve the purpose of guides to the respective series.

Henry Shrapnel (1761-1842) entered the Royal Artillery in 1779 as a 2nd Lieutenant. From 1780 to 1784, he served at St. John's, Newfoundland. While there, in 1781, he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant. Immediately after his return to England in 1784, he proposed his *spherical case shot* to a committee of the Board of Ordnance. Henry Shrapnel rose to be Colonel Commandant of the Royal Artillery and Lieutenant General in the Army. Nevertheless, he died a poor, disappointed man, for he was poorly treated by the British Government.

Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel (1812-1896) was the son of Lt. Gen. Shrapnel. He held a commission as cornet in the 3rd Dragoon Guards from 1834 to 1836 and was later a captain in the militia of Great Britain. He entered the Barracks Branch of the Commissariat Department in 1853 and was posted, variously, to Cape Town, India, Bermuda and to several stations in Canada, including Quebec. He retired to Canada in 1871 and served as an immigrant agent for the Canadian government. Showing something of the inventive nature of his father, he developed and published a *Stradometrical Survey of London and its Environs* (London; 1851-2) and proposed designs for lifeboats in Canada. He was also a practised artist. He died almost penniless in Orillia, Ontario.

The Family of Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel came to Canada with their father and made their homes in Orillia, Winnipeg, Vancouver and Victoria. Most famous was the artist Edward Scrope Shrapnel (1847-1920), who provided the illustrations to Thomas Conant's *Upper Canada Sketches* (Toronto; 1898). The Shrapnel papers were handed down through the family of Mrs. Frederick Webber [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel], grand-daughter of the General.

HENRY SHRAPNEL AND FAMILY

MG 24, F 113

SERIES I: HENRY SHRAPNEL

Vol. File Subject and Date of Document

1 1 Original Inventory

Inventory of papers as they once existed.

no date [c.1835]

1 2 <u>Commissions of Henry Shrapnel</u>

Parchment Commission, under the Sign Manual of George III, to Henry Shrapnel as First Lieutenant in the Royal Regiment of Artillery. Countersigned by George Townshend, Master General of the Ordnance. Bears tax stamp on reverse.

dated 3 December 1781

entered in Ordnance Office 8 December 1781

Parchment Commission, under the Sign Manual of John, Earl of Chatham, to Henry Shrapnel as Assistant Inspector of Artillery on the Establishment of the Ordnance, vice James Miller, with the allowance of £120 per annum. Signed by Chatham, Master General of the Ordnance. Bears papered seal and two tax stamps. A third tax stamp is missing.

dated 9 March 1804

entered in Ordnance Office 10 March 1804

Parchment Commission, under the Sign Manual of George IV, to Henry Shrapnel as Colonel Commandant of the Royal Regiment of Artillery. Countersigned by the Duke of Wellington, Master General of the Ordnance. Bears tax stamp on reverse.

dated 6 March 1827

entered in Ordnance Office 20 March 1827

Vol. File Subject and Date of Document

Parchment Commission, under the Sign Manual of William IV, to Henry Shrapnel as Colonel Commandant of the Royal Regiment of Artillery. Countersigned by James Kempt, Master General of the Ordnance.

dated 31 December 1830 entered in Ordnance Office 16 May 1832

Parchment Commission, under the Sign Manual of William IV, to Henry Shrapnel as Major-General in the Army from 12 August 1819. Counter-signed by William, Viscount Melbourne, Royal Secretary to Queen Victoria. Includes papered seal. (This commission was probably prepared immediately after the death of William IV, before Victoria had had commissions prepared.)

no date [c.1837]

1 3 <u>Correspondence and Reports Relating to the Design and Testing of Shrapnel</u> Shells

Instructions from Henry Shrapnel to the Carron Foundry. Included are dimensions and drawings for *New proposed Shells to be cast of the best Grey Iron or the toughest metal that can be procured* with the directions that Sergeants Moody and Donald and Gunner Murphy make out tables with instructions for using *this new Mode of Firing*.

26 June 1803

Letter from R.H. Crew of the Ordnance Office to Major Henry Shrapnel, with the directions that Shrapnel . . . proceed to Carron for the purpose of expediting the supply of shells of your construction which the Carron Company have received orders from the Board to cast . . . and such of them as you shall approve are to be forwarded to Dublin for the service of Ireland.

4 August 1803

[Carron Foundry] to Henry Shrapnel, outlining various activities regarding castings from a new pattern.

20 March 1804

S. Chapman, Ordnance Office, to Henry Shrapnel, proposing a time for a demonstration of spherical case shot. Includes a rough draft of Shrapnel's reply, outlining his plans for a firing demonstration of his shells on the Thames River.

13 April 1804

Subject and Date of Document

- 1 3 Undated copy of letters and reports relating to early experiments and spherical case shot. Includes dated copies of the following:
 - Lieutenant-Colonel James Boag, R.A., to Major Henry Shrapnel, regarding successful experiments at Woolwich with spherical case shot and the construction of a mortar of Shrapnel's design featuring an improved chamber.

19 August 1802

- Two reports by Major-General Vaughan Lloyd to R.H. Crew of the Ordnance Office, outlining results of experiments with spherical case shells.

7 June 1803

26 March 1804

- Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Laye, R.A., to Henry Shrapnel requesting a large proportion of spherical case shot direct from the Carron Foundry.

17 August 1803

- Lieutenant-Colonel William P. Smith, R.A., to Henry Shrapnel, concerning experiments with spherical case shot over water.

11 October 1803

- Two letters of Major John Harding, R.A., to Henry Shrapnel, regarding fuzes.

4 October 1803

9 November 1803

Undated letter (watermark date 1805), forwarding the results of experiments made at Woolwich with spherical case shot.

no date

Portion of a rough copy of a letter from Henry Shrapnel concerning the testing of his shells at the Firth of Forth.

no date

Portion of Henry Shrapnel's reply to Captain May's complaint about spherical case shot.

Subject and Date of Document

1 4 <u>Correspondence Relating to the Use of Spherical Case Shot</u>

Fragment of a letter from Major William Wilson, R.A., to Henry Shrapnel, reporting the firing of spherical case shot against the garrison of Fort Amsterdam, Surinam.

12 September 1804

Captain James F. Ogilvie, R.A., to Brig. Gen. John Macleod, R.A., reporting the taking of Buenos Ayres and the effects of spherical case shot.

2 July 1806

Extract of above letter.

Extract of a letter from Lt. Col. William Spicer, R.A., to Brig. Gen. John Macleod, R.A., on the use of spherical case shot at the Cape of Good Hope.

18 August 1806

Additional copy of above, with a note by Henry Shrapnel that he did not receive a copy of the letter until 4 July 1811.

Additional copy of above.

Brigadier General R.C. Ferguson to Lt. Col. Henry Shrapnel, on the use of spherical case shot at the Cape of Good Hope, 8 January 1806.

19 August 1806

John Sinclair to Baron Jacobi, introducing Major Henry Shrapnel who will instruct the Prussians in the use of "Shrapnel Shells" -- the most important aids we can send you.

17 October 1806

Sir John Sinclair to Henry Shrapnel, with instructions that he make himself ready to proceed to Prussia on the outbreak of war. Includes reference to a letter of introduction to Baron Jacobi.

17 October 1806

Extract from letter of Sir John Sinclair to Baron Jacobi, dated 17 October 1806, introducing Major Henry Shrapnel.

Subject and Date of Document

H. Douglas to Lt. Col. Henry Shrapnel, on promotion of spherical case shot.

10 July 1807

Copy of a letter from [Sir John Sinclair] to [George] Canning, on the subject of Shrapnel's spherical case shot, entreating him to take that most important of all modern discoveries under your particular protection. It is peculiarly calculated for the French mode of fighting in columns . . . and if you can get him [Shrapnel] sent out to Spain, with a sufficient quantity of his ammunition, the power of Bonaparte is at an end.

23 July 1808

Copy of a letter by Lieutenant Colonel William Robe, R.A., to Lt. Col. Henry Shrapnel, on the use of spherical case shot at Torres Vedras, Portugal, 17 and 21 August 1808, and of the actions taken in preparing fuzes and loading bursting powder for ready use ammunition.

25 August 1808

Lady Howe to Henry Shrapnel, enclosing a printed note regarding the use of spherical case shot in Portugal.

9 September 1808

Sir John Sinclair to Henry Shrapnel, reporting on newspaper accounts regarding the use of spherical case shot in Portugal and asking of the possibility of increased production by Carron.

11 September 1808

Sir John Sinclair to Henry Shrapnel, referring to Lt. Col. Robe's letter [see above, 25 August 1808] and to Sinclair's actions of informing the Viscount de Malarrosa of Spain and Sir Arthur Wellesley on the success of spherical case shot. Also includes a reference to production of shells by Carron, but nothing to the number that ought to have been commissioned.

16 October 1808

Copy of a letter by Sir John Sinclair to Viscount de Malarrosa, regarding "Shrapnel Shells".

October 1808

John Sinclair to Col. Henry Shrapnel, instructing him to explain his discoveries to Viscount de Malarrosa.

Vol. File Subject and Date of Document

John Sinclair to Henry Shrapnel, regarding the use of spherical case shot by the Spanish.

30 October 1808

Copy of a letter by Sir John Sinclair to Viscount de Malarrosa, on the use of spherical case shot at the battle of Vimiera and attempts to forward shells to Spanish.

30 October 1808

Copy of a letter from the Viscount de Malarrosa to Sir John Sinclair, translated from the French, concerning means of forwarding information about the use of spherical case shot to the Central Junta at Madrid.

6 November 1808

John Sinclair to Henry Shrapnel, outlining General R.C. Ferguson's report of the use of spherical case shot in Portugal.

9 November 1808

John Sinclair to [Henry Shrapnel], informing him to instruct Lt. James Sinclair, R.A., in the use of spherical case shot.

12 March 1809

Unknown to Sir John Sinclair, noting Sir Arthur Wellesley's desire to meet Henry Shrapnel.

1 May 1809

Major-General R.C. Ferguson reporting favourably on the merits of "Shrapnel's Shells".

7 May 1809

Copy of above.

John Wilson to Col. Henry Shrapnel, reporting on the use of spherical case shot at Kjoge [Copenhagen] in Zealand [Denmark] by Sir Arthur Wellesley in 1807, as passed on by his son Lt. John Wilson, R.A.

17 October 1809

Governor Edward Nicholls, Island of Anholdt, Denmark, to Lt. Col. Shrapnel, on the use of spherical case shot with the request that shells be forwarded to Fort Standard.

Subject and Date of Document

1 4 Additional copy of above.

Extract of an anonymous letter from Lisbon, noting that 2 brigades had been fitted out for the field with twice the usual proportion of spherical case shot.

27 April 1811

Captain Henry B. Lane, R.A., to his brother, regarding the battle of Fuentes de Onoro where *Shrapnel Shells again play'd Hell*.

8 May 1811

Extracts of three letters from E. May to Col. Henry Shrapnel, on the use of spherical case shot by Wellington at Badajoz.

23 February 1812

10 April 1812

11 April 1812

Sir Henry Torrens to Col. Henry Shrapnel, reporting on the use of "Shrapnel Shells" at Battles of Roliça and Vimiera in Portugal.

5 March 1812

Additional copy of above.

Copy of above.

1 5 Instructions on the Use of Shrapnel Shells

Manuscript report, General Shrapnel, Royal Art. Private Instructions, on the use and management of "Shrapnel Shells" with useful memorandums to be particularly observed to ensure correct practice, also in the method of filling and preparing Shells for Action. The report includes details about fuzes and the various equipment used with shrapnel shells, and tables of ranges for all weights of shrapnel shells in land and sea service. (The cover includes a reference by Arthur Shrapnel to a firing of shrapnel shells at Bermuda in 1856.)

Subject and Date of Document

1 6 Use of Shrapnel's Designs by the Royal Navy

Copy of a letter from R.H. Crew, Ordnance Office, to Lt. Gen. Sir Thomas Blomefield, Colonel Commandant Royal Artillery, noting that Lt. Col. Shrapnel's ten-inch iron mortar with parabolic chamber had replaced the Sea Service ten-inch iron mortar.

24 August 1810

Additional copy of above, with a copy of a letter from Lt. Gen. Sir Thomas Blomefield to R.H. Crew, regarding the casting of twelve-inch iron mortars by the Carron Foundry.

2 September 1810

Henry Shrapnel to Capt. R.A. Spencer, RN, regarding the use of spherical case shot by the Royal Navy and the proposal for "Sea Shell Shot".

17 June 1828

Description of Sea Shell Shot.

17 June 1828

A drawing, Section of Major General Shrapnel's Case Shot for Sea Service, proposed in 1812. (See also Volume 2, File 1)

no date [1828]

1 7 Use of Shrapnel's Designs by the East India Company

Major Cunningham to Major Henry Shrapnel, making the offer to promote the use of "Shrapnel Shells" in India.

no date [1807]

Copy of a letter from Henry Shrapnel to the Directors of the East India Company, asking that the Company's grant of six pence per shell for all spherical case shot sent to India not debar him from *further reward*.

23 February 1808

Sir John Sinclair to Henry Shrapnel, on the shipping of spherical case shot and of the blindness of the British government to such important discoveries.

11 April 1808

Subject and Date of Document

Copies of two letters of George Constable to Henry Shrapnel, regarding the use of spherical case shot in India.

30 October 1813

22 November 1813

Henry Stainton to Henry Shrapnel, outlining the demands for spherical case shot by the East India Company for that year.

13 August 1816

Copy of a letter about Henry Shrapnel's claims and annuity from the East India Company.

1828

Portion of a Report of and Observations upon fixing ammunition to Canvas Bottoms in the Years 1804 & 1805 by Lt. Col. Shrapnel, outlining the options for fixing ammunition to various bottoms.

no date

Undated report (watermark date 1827), A method of fixing Ammunition with Canvas, from which a savings is derived by the Hon. ble East India Company of £5000 a year, by Major General Henry Shrapnel. (See also Volume 1, File 6) Includes:

- R.H. Crew, Ordnance Office, to Henry Shrapnel, requesting a supply of canvas bags.

5 January 1805

- Henry Shrapnel to R.H. Crew, concerning a ready supply of fuzes and painted ammunition chests.

9 January 1809

- George Rochfort to Henry Shrapnel, requesting a "statement of ranges" to be painted on new pattern bags and boxes.

24 November 1809

- Drawing of Canvas Ammunition, showing:
- A: Canvas covered shot and bottom;
- B: Bottom;
- C: Canvas bag.

Subject and Date of Document

1 8 Miscellaneous Reports and Ordnance Dimensions

Pocket aide memoire kept by Captain Henry Shrapnel outlining: *The Disposition for an Artillery the Day of Battle; The Instructions for the Artillery Guard*; and *The Duty of an Artillery in Ye Field*. Also includes Subsistence Accounts in Gibraltar, 1788, with exchange rates. Pencilled personal notes by Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, c.1860, are also contained in the notebook.

1797

Letter and sketch by Henry Stainton concerning two proposals: 1st, to insert and fix a wrought iron cylinder bored inside to 2 In^{s.} and turned outside to fit the bore of the 6 P^{r.}, which *could readily be applied to Brass Arms rendered unserviceable*; and, 2ndly, the placing of trunnions in the centre of the piece as being the construction on which there would be the smallest tendency to vertical motion on the discharge.

2 October 1815

Letter of Colonel Henry Shrapnel to Sir Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, forwarding a copy of the report *Some Observations and Propositions for the Improvement of Artillery*. The report includes references to: a form of grape shot proposed by Shrapnel; a new model of a gun for sea service; Shrapnel's tangent slides with ranges rather than degrees marked on them; a new method of charging spherical case shot; and the results of experiments for forming *Tables of Practice* with the findings related to a 68-pounder shot.

9 June 1820

Portions of a manuscript guide outlining: the exercise to carry a gyn which includes a drawing of a rigged gun gyn; the exercise of the sling cart; the manner of marching different pieces of ordnance; a simple method for giving mortars proper direction by night; the ingredients and proportions for making star shells; packages of small arm ammunition; a table of the dimensions of wooden formers and gauges; gun cartridges; the method of mealing powder; setting up a gun gyn; proofing of gun powder; cutting of paper for cartridges; a table of small arm ammunition weights; and several other small unidentified fragments.

no date

Report (watermark date 1833) showing the progress from 27 October to 8 November 1788 cutting a *Rising Gallery 4 Feet by 6* at Gibraltar.

Subject and Date of Document

Undated copy (watermark date 1823) of a *Report of Iron Ordnance in Naval Service* and *Howitzers In and Out of Service*.

no date

List recording the diameter of English, French and Dutch guns and shells.

no date

List recording the length or weight of iron and brass ordnance for land and sea service, with the number of prepared shells and shot for each piece.

no date

2 1 Ordnance and Shell Drawings

A plan entitled *Sketch of a Platform proposed by Colonel Shrapnel, to answer as a Non-Recoil*, showing elevation and plan views of a howitzer mounted on a sloped platform. Recoil was checked by means of the incline and the weight of the howitzer.

1810

Engraved plan entitled *Description of a 24 Pounder Carronade on a Carriage with an Inclined Plane, agreeable to a plan suggested by Captain Schank ...*, showing elevation and plan views of a sliding carriage mounted on trucks or a spindle.

no date

A plan showing: an 18-pounder solid round shot; a section of an 18-pounder spherical case shot empty; and an 18-pounder spherical case shot filled.

no date

A drawing showing a section view of a spherical case shot filled.

no date

A plan showing section views of empty 24-pounder, 12-pounder and 6-pounder spheriodical case shot.

no date

A drawing showing: a section of a sea service shell filled (See also Volume 1, File 6); and two section views of the barrel of "Rifle or Bullet Guns".

Subject and Date of Document

2 <u>Tangent Slides and Other Equipment for Firing Shrapnel Shells</u>

Portion of a letter from General A[nthony] Farrington, R.A., to the Earl of Mulgrave, Master General of the Ordnance, reporting the considerations of a committee of officers concerning the submission by Colonel Shrapnel of "Tables and Tangent Scales", the results of his recent experiments for the purpose of rendering the use of Spherical Case Shot more perfect.

November 1813

A chart for firing spherical case shot from a brass light 6-pounder, with: front and rear views of a tangent scale; an explanation of the use of the tangent slide; and a range table compiled from practice in 1813.

no date

A plan entitled *Implements for Shrapnel's Shells*, showing: two fuze augers; a funnel for taking the "Bursting Powder" out of a shell; a sponge for taking water from the bottom of shells; and two fuzes lettered according to Shrapnel's new system. Overleaf are two views, down the barrel from the muzzle to the cascable, of a tangent slide drawn up for a 500-yard range and an 800-yard range.

no date

A plan entitled, *Spherical Case Shot Implements and Fuzes*, showing: a new fuze auger; a funnel for taking powder out of shells; a sponge for absorbing water from the bottom of shells; and two fuzes lettered according to Shrapnel's new system.

no date

A drawing showing two tangent slides and a coin for battery guns entitled *Proposed method of marking the Tangent Slides and Coins for firing Shrapnel Shells*.

no date

A plan showing two drawings entitled, A Scale for the Elevation of Brass Ordnance, Exhibiting the Fuzes and Ranges, and The same kind of Scale for Iron Guns and Howitzers.

no date

A plan entitled, Plan of the proposed Scale of Box for Brass Field Service Ordnance, recommended to be attached to each Brigade of Artillery. N.B. The other side may be marked for Iron Ordnance.

Subject and Date of Document

2 3 <u>Calculations to Determine the Correct Firing of Shrapnel Shells</u>

A printed plate entitled *Shrapnel's Shells*, showing the results of several firings of spherical case shot at Woolwich with an explanation of the shell's use.

no date

Portion of a plan showing an artillery range [Mount's Bay, Cornwall?] with the positions of observers marked.

no date

A drawing entitled, A Case in which the Balls will appear to lose part of their Velocity for want of a longer Fuze, although the Elevation is correct for the distance. The drawing shows a case where the shell bursts too far from the target.

no date

A drawing entitled, A case in which the Shot will appear to lose their Penetration in consequence of grazing for want of more elevation and longer Fuze. N.B. The Sketch in Red shows the proper Fuze & Elevation.

no date

A drawing entitled, A Case in which the Balls will lose their Penetration owing to their Grazing short of the object, in consequence of not having the Elevation and Fuze to Explode the Shell as represented by the Sketch in Red.

no date

Four pages of drawings showing the burst effects of spherical case shot over a range from 450 yards to 2800 yards. (Note: The first page carries an explanation and equation to determine the velocities of the descent of shells in order to properly cut fuzes.)

no date

Three parts of a 4 part drawing *Plan of the Fire of Shrapnel Shells from a Light* 12 *P[ounder...]*. The plan shows the burst effects of spherical case shot over a range from 450 yards to 2600 yards.

no date

Portion of a drawing showing the angles of elevation for several weights of shot and the distance travelled in 7 seconds, proving the impossibility of using a common tangent scale for all ordnance.

Subject and Date of Document

Oversize

A plan showing the effects of air resistance to shell velocity for several weight of shells with an explanation overleaf.

no date

2 4 Musket, Rifle and Pistol Designs by Henry Shrapnel

Undated manuscript report (watermark date 1834) entitled, *Description of the new proposed Musket by Major Gen.*¹ *Shrapnel*, signed by Lt. General Shrapnel. The musket is half-stocked, the barrel being made to rest on an iron rib. The butt of the stock is hollowed out to give the soldier a firmer grasp and to allow the weapon to be extended in a bayonet charge. The bayonet is fixed to the iron rib with a spring latch. The ramrod is hollow brass. The musket features a rear sight, moveable by means of an endless screw. It also has two or more vents or touch holes and a hooded hammer to guide the flintlock spark. The bore of the barrel is constricted to have a powder chamber.

no date [1837-1842]

Two plans (numbered 4 and 5, figures 1, 2, 7, and 8) of the "new proposed musket" showing: a profile of the musket; a scrap elevation of the rear moveable sight and hooded hammer; a section-view of the modified powder chamber; and a scrap view of the brass ramrod, bayonet lock and iron rib. Drawn by Frederick Easther.

no date [1837-1842]

Three plans (numbered 2, 3 and 4) showing two profiles of percussion lock longarms with moveable butts, and the individual parts of the mechanism for moving the butt. Drawn by Frederick Easther.

no date

A plan (numbered figure 8) showing a modified flintlock.

no date

A plan (numbered 9) showing the operation of a pill lock with a rotating pill bottle. Drawn by Frederick Easther.

no date

A plan (numbered 10) showing the operation of a pill lock with a sliding pill bottle. Drawn by Frederick Easther.

Subject and Date of Document

A plan showing: two views of a pill lock with a sliding pill box; one view of a modified flintlock; and a view of a portion of the stock.

no date

A plan showing two views of a modification to a wooden stock.

no date

Two drawings of Henry Shrapnel's rear sight set into the wooden stock of a longarm.

no date

Two plans showing six profiles of a percussion lock longarm with various "props" (forearm pieces).

no date

Plan (numbered 6, figure 11) of a flintlock pistol with a hooded hammer and sabre guard. Drawn by Frederick Easther.

no date

A drawing of a hollowed-stock flintlock longarm with a moveable butt.

no date

Plan (numbered 7, figure 7) of a grooved breech-loading barrel showing: a section view of a constricted powder chamber with two vent holes and a grooved (not rifled) bore to reduce windage; and three views of a ball in a 3-grooved bore, a 4-grooved bore, and an un-grooved bore.

Vol. File Subject and Date of Document

2 5 Range Tables

A chart entitled, A Representation of the Progress made in the formation of Tables, from Actual Experiments on the Sea Beach, for the Instruction of the Artillery in Firing Spherical Case Shot from the Undermentioned Brass and Iron Ordnance. Listed in the chart are:

Brass Ordnance

12-pounder gun, medium of 18 cwt.
9-pounder gun, medium of 13½ cwt.
12-pounder gun, light of 12 cwt.
6-pounder gun, heavy of 12 cwt.
6-pounder gun, light of 6 cwt.
3-pounder gun, heavy of 6 cwt.
3-pounder gun, light of 3 cwt.
8-inch howitzer of 14½ cwt.*
5½-inch howitzer of 10 cwt.
5½-inch howitzer of 4 3/4 cwt.
4 2/5 - inch howitzer of 2½ cwt.

* - no entries

Iron Ordnance

68-pounder carronade 42-pounder carronade 32-pounder gun of 9½ ft.* 32-pounder carronade 24-pounder gun of 9½ ft.* 24-pounder gun of 6½ ft.* 24-pounder carronade 18-pounder gun of 9 ft.* 18-pounder gun of 8 ft.* 18-pounder gun of 6 ft.* 18-pounder carronade* 12-pounder gun of 9 ft.* 12-pounder gun of 7½ ft.* 12-pounder gun of 6 ft.* 12-pounder carronade 9-pounder gun of 8½ ft.* 9-pounder gun of 7 ft.* 6-pounder gun of 8½ ft.* 6-pounder gun of 6 ft.*

24-pounder howitzer of 15 cwt. 24-pounder howitzer of 13 cwt.

no date

A chart for a Light 12-pounder gun.

no date

A 3-page chart for a 42-pounder carronade of 22 cwt.

no date

A 3-page chart for a 68-pounder carronade of 35 cwt.

HENRY SHRAPNEL AND FAMILY

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SERIES II: HENRY NEEDHAM SCROPE SHRAPNEL

Vol. File Subject and Date of Document

3 1 Commissions of Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel

Parchment Commission, under the Sign Manual of Edward Berkeley, Baron Portman, to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel as Captain in the Second Somerset Regiment of Militia. Signed with the wax seal of Portman. Bears four tax stamps.

18 June 1846

Parchment Commission, under the Sign Manual of John, Marquis of Winchester to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, late 3rd Dragoon Guards, as Captain in the Hampshire Yeomanry Cavalry.

6 June 1853

3 2 <u>Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel's Appointment and Correspondence as</u> Barrack Master

Appointment of Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel as Barrack Master at King William's Town, Cape of Good Hope, outlining conditions of service.

13 July 1853

Memorial of Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel to Lord Panmure, regarding his dismissal as Barrack Master at Quebec because of his failure "to guard the public interest". Incomplete.

no date [c.1860]

Memorandum entitled *Heads of Memorandum*, recounting Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel's service as Barrack Master at Quebec and subsequent transfer to Bermuda.

no date [c.1860]

Subject and Date of Document

The Memorial of Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, Barrack Master of Dundalk District [Ireland], outlining his service at four different stations in three years and requesting he be allowed moving expenses for his family.

27 February 1860

Memorandum, Major General Thomas Foster to Captain Shrapnel, Barrack Master at Dundalk, concerning the appointment of Major [Charles Osborne] Creagh as Barrack Master and the deferral of leave.

11 September 1860

J.A.M. Haly to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, Barrack Master at Quebec, asking what provisions he intends to make during his leave of absence as Barrack Master at Quebec.

12 February 1866

Mess Certificate for Major Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel and family aboard the *S.S. Moravian* from Liverpool to Montreal.

20 April to 3 May 1871

Pensions Commutation Board to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, regarding the payment of his pension and enclosing a completed power of attorney form.

1 March 1872

Sailing signals from Port Said to Suez and from Suez to Port Said.

no date

Unknown cypher.

no date

3 Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel's Role as an Immigrant Agent

Copy of a letter from James Henson, Secretary, British Columbia Overland Transit Company, to H.L. Heine, instructing him to make arrangements for a party of emigrants. Reference is made to Captain Shrapnel as Barrack Master at Quebec.

24 May 1862

Estimate entitled, Memorandum of Cost of Construction of Preliminary Transit Route to the Pacific from Lake Superior.

no date [1862]

Subject and Date of Document

3 A letter from the Secretary to Governor General to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, acknowledging a letter concerning employment with the government of Canada.

23 November 1870

A letter from [?] to [Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel], concerning the supply of provisions.

8 April 1871

Copy of an incomplete letter to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, concerning Shrapnel's role as an immigrant agent for the Canadian government.

29 October 1872 (sic?)

H.A. Allan, Montreal Ocean Steamship Company, to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, concerning passage from Quebec to Liverpool and return.

28 August 1873

John Lowe, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, to [Shrapnel] concerning his role as an immigrant agent. [Original of 29 October 1872 letter?]

28 October 1874

John Lowe, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, forwarding an advance for services as an immigrant agent. Includes a copy of Shrapnel's acknowledgement with a summary of his expenditures.

2 December 1874

John Lowe, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, regarding additional expenses incurred by Shrapnel in bringing out immigrants.

8 May 1875

Copy of a letter from John Lowe, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, regarding a commission of \$2.00 for each skilled artisan or labourer brought out.

23 July 1875

3 4 <u>Miscellaneous Correspondence</u>

[?] to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, concerning his *Stradometrical Survey of London and its Environs*.

Vol. File Subject and Date of Document

4 A.O. Liddell to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, concerning his *Stradometrical Survey of London and its Environs*.

7 March 1870

Letter from William Smith, Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries to Major H.R.(sic)S. Shrapnel, referring to improvements Shrapnel had made in the construction of lifeboats.

30 September 1874

Memorial to Her Majesty Queen Victoria from Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, requesting a favour in consideration of his father's services.

no date [c.1879]

Fragment of a letter from Major-General F.A. Campbell, Director of Artillery, to the Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office, noting the return of Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel's memorial.

no date [c.1879]

Copy of a letter from Sir M.E. Hicks Beach, Colonial Office, to the Marquis of Lorne, Governor General of Canada, with a copy of the War Office's reply of 31 December 1879 regarding Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel's request for relief.

6 January 1880

A letter from the firm of Blewett & Fowler to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, concerning a legal matter.

3 August 1882

A letter from Percy Robert Joisiffe to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, concerning events in the Cape Colony.

4 April 1883

A letter from Arthur Scrope Shrapnel to his uncle Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, concerning lands in England.

4 March 1890

A letter from Fleetwood K. Shrapnel to his uncle Henry Needham Scope Shrapnel, asking for a letter of recommendation to Sir Joseph Hickson, General Manager of the Grand Trunk Railway.

30 July 1890

HENRY SHRAPNEL AND FAMILY

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SERIES III: SHRAPNEL FAMILY

Vol. File Subject

3 <u>Genealogical References and Notes</u>

Letter of L. Darbey to [Henry] Needham [Scrope] Shrapnel, including a record of marriage from Charles Prosser of Sarah Ann Prosser and Mitchell Joseph at St. Margarete Church, Westminster, 23 May 1816.

4 November 1837

The firm of Messrs. Cox to Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, forwarding a statement of account regarding the estate of his mother Mrs. Esther Shrapnel [wife of Lt. Gen Shrapnel].

23 September 1857

Enclosure to above letter:

- Account with the Executors of the late Mrs. Esther Shrapnel with Messrs. Cox.

23 September 1857

Copy of the Certificate of Register of Birth, Francis Scrope Shrapnel, son of Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel and Louisa Sarah [Joisiffe] Shrapnel.

23 February 1858

Last will and Testament of Esther Scrope Shrapnel [daughter of Henry Shrapnel]. Included is a separate list of pictures and portraits many of which were by Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel or his son Edward Scrope Shrapnel.

7 March 1887

Vol. File Subject and Date of Document

Memorandum of Wishes of Esther Scrope Shrapnel [daughter of Henry Shrapnel], concerning the conduct of her funeral and the division of small personal items and funds to family and staff.

18 March 1887

The firm of Stanton & Bassett to Mrs. [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel] Webber, forwarding a statement of account regarding the estate of her aunt Miss Esther Scrope Shrapnel [daughter of Lt. Gen. Shrapnel].

7 January 1888

Enclosure to above letter:

- Account of Mrs. Webber with Messrs Stanton & Bassett.

no date

Engraving of General Sir Michael Anthony Shrapnel Biddulph, Usher of the Black Rod, and also Colonel Commandant of the Royal Artillery from *The Illustrated London News*.

21 December 1895

Genealogical charts of the Scrope, Needham and Shrapnel families from about 1650 to 1818.

no date

Family Register from the bible of Louisa Sarah Shrapnel, wife of Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, recording births, christenings, deaths and burials of the Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel Family from 1812 to 1877.

no date

Copies of the entries from birth, baptism and death registers, recording the birth and christening of Esther Alma Scrope Shrapnel, 10 November 1854 and 21 January 1855 respectively, the birth and christening of Lucy Edith Scrope Shrapnel, 25 November 1862 and 20 December 1864 respectively, and the death of Henry Needham Scrope Schrapnel, 1 June 1896.

no date

Manuscript copy of the biographical entry for Henry Shrapnel, written by Colonel H.R. Vetch, R.E., for the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

no date

Photograph of Shrapnel Family burial plot at Orillia, Ontario.

Subject and Date of Document

3 6 Medical Concerns and Interests of Henry Shrapnel

Miscellaneous medical concerns, prescriptions and remedies prescribed for Henry Shrapnel. Includes:

- A note and prescription from Dr. Smyth.

18 April 1829

- A prescription for Maj. Gen. Henry Shrapnel.

24 March 1833

- A copy of a prescription for Maj. Gen. Henry Shrapnel.

5 May 1834

- A note and prescription from R. Wade to Maj. Gen. Henry Shrapnel.
29 January 1834

- A note and prescription from R. Wade to Maj. Gen. Henry Shrapnel. 3 February 1834

- A copy of a prescription for Maj. Gen. Henry Shrapnel.

5 May 1834

- An undated prescription from a French book.

no date

- An undated note prescribing diet, drink and ointments.

no date

3 7 <u>Trust Fund for Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel</u>

Two letters from Francis Scrope Shrapnel to his sister Bay [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], concerning the financial arrangements of the family and a desire to visit Canada.

2 March 1890

12 March 1890

A letter from Francis Scrope Shrapnel to his father Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, concerning financial arrangements of the family and a desire to visit Canada.

2 March 1890

Vol. File Subject and Date of Document A letter from Francis Scrope Shrapnel to his father, concerning a financial arrangement. 19 October 1890

A letter from Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel to his son Francis Scrope Shrapnel, concurring with the proposed financial arrangement.

20 November 1890

A letter from Francis Scrope Shrapnel to his sister Helena [Scrope Shrapnel] Barter.

20 December 1890

Enclosures to above letter:

- A copy of a letter from the firm of Russell, Son & Scott to Francis Scrope Shrapnel.

19 December 1890

- A letter-press copy of a letter from Francis Scrope Shrapnel to his brothers Walter, Edward and Alfred Shrapnel, concerning the assignment of Power of Attorney.

20 December 1890

- A letter-press copy of a letter from Francis Scrope Shrapnel to his sister Esther [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], concerning the Power of Attorney and the necessity of providing proof of marriage.

20 December 1890

A letter from Francis Scrope Shrapnel to his sister Esther [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], concerning the Power of Attorney and the necessity of providing proof of marriage.

20 December 1890

Enclosure to above letter:

- A copy of the letter from the firm of Russell, Son & Scott to Francis Scrope Shrapnel.

19 December 1890

Subject and Date of Document

A letter from Francis Scrope Shrapnel to his father, concerning the Power of Attorney.

20 December 1890

Enclosure to above letter:

- A copy of the letter from the firm of Russell, Son & Scott to Francis Scrope Shrapnel.

19 December 1890

A letter-press copy of a letter from Francis Scrope Shrapnel to his father and sister Etty [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], concerning the assignment of Power of Attorney.

24 December 1890

A letter from W. Reiner to the Reverend Richard Greene, forwarding copies of a marriage registration.

6 January 1891

Edward Scrope Shrapnel to his sister Mrs. William Barter [Helena Scrope Shrapnel], forwarding papers related to the Power of Attorney.

7 January 1891

A letter from Helena [Scrope Shrapnel] Barter to her sister Baie [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], concerning the assignment of Power of Attorney.

8 January [1891]

Mortgage Agreement signed by Edward Scrope Shrapnel and Francis Scrope Shrapnel, setting up a fund of \$1500.00 to be invested for the benefit of their father Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel.

8 October 1891

A letter from Edward Scrope Shrapnel to his sister Bay [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], concerning the trust fund for their father, Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, the family home in Orillia and his new house at Oak Bay, B.C. A post script of the next day's date includes references to their sister, Helena [Scrope Shrapnel] Barter.

Vol. File Subject and Date of Document A letter from Francis Scrope Shrapnel to his sister Bay [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], noting the receipt of monies from the trust fund and passing on family news from the west coast. Several private remarks about Edward Scrope Shrapnel's habits are included. 18 December 1892 A letter from A.E.S.W. [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber] to the firm of Russell, Son & Scott, noting receipt of monies from the trust fund. 15 April 189?

A letter from [Alfred P. Scrope Shrapnel] to Bay [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], concerning the trust fund and the ownership of the Shrapnel home in Orillia.

no date

3 <u>Documents Concerning the Shrapnel Home in Orillia, Ontario</u>

Sheriff's Office statements for the house at 25 N. Borland Street, Orillia.

4 September 1871 8 February 1890

Treasurer's Office and Tax Collector's statements for the house at 25 N. Borland Street, Orillia.

4 September 1871 1 October 1872 1 April 1880 14 February 1890

Insurance policy for house at 25 N. Borland Street, Orillia, with a completed *Form of Transfer and Consent* from Edward Scrope Shrapnel to Alma E.S. Webber, 24 February 1890.

29 March 1886

Insurance premium statement for the house at 25 N. Borland Street, Orillia.

1889

Receipt, noting the payment of interest on Edward Scrope Shrapnel's mortgage.

29 July 1890

Subject and Date of Document

Two copies of an *Agreement for Sale of Land* from Edward Scrope Shrapnel to W.M. Moore, described as ½ acre of land on lot 25 north side of Borland Street, Orillia, Ontario.

1 April 1891

Portions of two letters from [Helena Scrope Shrapnel Barter] to her sister Baie [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], concerning Edward Scrope Shrapnel and the Shrapnel home in Orillia.

2 March?

29 April ?

Rough notes, abstracting actions against the Shrapnel home in Orillia, 1871 to 1897.

no date

Statement of amounts paid by Mrs. [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel] Webber for Edward Scrope Shrapnel on his house, 1890 to 1893.

no date

Notes from Alfred P. Scrope Shrapnel to his sister [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], concerning the transfer of ownership of the Shrapnel home in Orillia.

no date

3 <u>Webber and Barter Family Correspondence</u>

A letter from William Avons to Fred [Webber], concerning the climate of North Saansh (sic), B.C.

20 April 1884

A letter from E.S. [Esther Scrope] Shrapnel to her niece Ettie [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber] passing on family news.

18 January 1887

A letter from Alfred P. Scrope Shrapnel to his sister Bay [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], concerning financial matters.

21 December 1887

A letter from Harold W. Lamb to Captain F[rederick] W. Webber, concerning farming and a planned move to British Columbia.

21 December 1888

| 28 | | HENRY SHRAPNEL AND FAMILY MG 24, F 113 |
|------|------------------|---|
| Vol. | File | Subject and Date of Document |
| 3 9 | | A letter from F. Langford to the Webber children, Fred, Bertie and Dollie, passing on Christmas greetings and telling of traditions and events in England. It also notes that their grandfather, Henry Needham Scrope Shrapnel, had won an art exhibition at Orillia. |
| | | 2 December 1889 |
| | | A letter from J. Herbert Mason, Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Company, to Fred Webber, concerning payments. |
| | | 15 February 188? |
| | | A letter from W[illiam] Barter to Fred [Webber], concerning family news. 12 January 1892 |
| | | A letter from J. Rustin to Mrs. H.W. Webber (sic) [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber], forwarding a postal order from her brother Alfred P. Scrope Shrapnel. 20 January 1892 |
| | | A poem written by Alfred P. Scrope Shrapnel upon the drowning of two friends while duck hunting near Oak Bay, B.C. |
| | 22 November 1896 | |
| | | A letter from M. Gaviller to Mrs. [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel] Webber, concerning family news. |
| | | 29 March 1897 |
| | | Two letters from Alma E[ster] S[crope Shrapnel] Webber to her son Fred Webber, passing on family news. |
| | | 22 July 1897 |
| | | 26 October [1897] |
| | | A letter from George C. to Fred [Webber], concerning family news. 31 October 1897 |
| | | A letter from J.S. Camsell to Mrs. [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel] Webber, |

A letter from J.S. Camsell to Mrs. [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel] Webber, concerning family news.

18 May 1901

A letter from W. Davidson to B[ertram] A.S. Webber, noting the payment of customs charges.

13 September 1902

Subject and Date of Document

Seven letters from Bert Webber to his mother, Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber, with news from Pittsburg. An undated newspaper clipping notes he had secured a position in the Treasury Department of the Crucible Steel Company. His father, Frederick W. Webber, had taken over his son's customs business.

July - October 1903

Fred Webber to his mother, Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel Webber, reporting on a hunting trip to the Severn River.

7 November 1903

G.D. Clark to Mrs. [Helena Scrope Shrapnel] Barter, concerning the death of her son on active service.

21 July 1917

A portion of a letter from [Helena Scrope Shrapnel Barter] to her sister Baie [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel] concerning a loan of \$50.00 which was used to help finance a move of the family.

no date

A letter from Helena [Scrope Shrapnel] Barter to her sister Baie [Alma Esther Scrope Shrapnel] Webber, noting the receipt of \$50.

8 March?

A letter from Alma [Esther Scrope Shrapnel] Webber to her daughter May, concerning family news at Orillia.

27 August?

3 10 Miscellaneous Bills and Receipts

Miscellaneous bills and receipts, generally related to household goods and repairs.

no date 1887 1894 1896

1900-05

HENRY SHRAPNEL AND FAMILY

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APPENDICES

I - List of Items transferred to Visual and Sound Archives Division

A wax seal impression of a crown and feathers with the initials E.S.S. [Edward Scrope Shrapnel], in a case.

A wax seal impression of the Shrapnel Family crest showing the bursting shell and fuze with the motto *Ultima Ratio Regum*, in a case. A modified printed version of the crest with the addition of a crown and feathers and the initials *A.N.S.S.* [Albert Needham Scrope Shrapnel] is also found in the case.

A metal template for the inking of a family coat of arms with the motto *Ne Cede Malis*. It shows two shrapnel shells in the upper left field.

A metal template for inking the design of the shrapnel shell and fuze with the motto *Ratio Ultima Regum*.

A metal template for inking the design of a crown and feathers.

Two metal templates for inking Lieut. Gen. Shrapnel. Royal Artillery.

A metal template for the inking of the initials **H.S.** [Henry Shrapnel]

A metal template for inking Mrs. General Shrapnel.

A metal template for the inking of the initials E.S. [Esther Shrapnel, Mrs. Henry Shrapnel]

A metal template for the inking of numbers, 0 - 9.

A copper plate for inking *Mrs. Shrapnel*.

A copper plate for inking Bertram A.S. Webber. Customs Broker. Orillia, Ontario.

A copper plate for inking Mr. Thomas Haywood.

A copper plate for inking Mrs. Thomas Haywood. Fourth Tuesday.

II - List of Items transferred to Canadian War Museum

Triangular wood rear tangent sight invented by Lt. Col. Henry Shrapnel, 1813. This is the wooden prototype of the model of the tangent slide invented by Henry Shrapnel with the ranges marked upon it instead of degrees.

Square brass tangent sight for a light 6-pounder gun, manufactured by T. Barber. A working model of the tangent slide proposed by Henry Shrapnel in 1813.

Note: The Canadian War Museum also holds the frock coat of Major General Henry Shrapnel.