

## 15th CANADIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE 1917-1918

On formation command of the 15th Brigade was given to Brigadier general E.C. Ashton who remained in command from April 2nd 1917 until November 5th 1917 when command passed to Lieutenant-Colonel A.E. Ings before passing to Lieutenant-Colonel D.M. Sutherland who remained in command until the 15th Brigade was disbanded March 11th 1918. The composition of the 15th Canadian Infantry Brigade, 5th Canadian Division on formation was Headquarters, the 104th Battalion, the 119th Battalion the 185th and 199th Battalions.

104th Canadian Infantry Battalion  
119th (Algoma Overseas) Battalion  
185th (Cape Breton Highlanders) Battalion  
199th (Duchess of Connaught's Own) Battalion

### 104th Battalion, 15th Brigade. 1917 - 1918

The 104th Canadian Infantry Battalion was recruited October 24th 1915 in New Brunswick with mobilization headquarters at Sussex under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915. The 104th Battalion was raised primarily by the 67th Regiment Carleton Light Infantry the regiment had previously contributed 30 volunteers to the 12th Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914 and later raising the 40th Battalion. The 104th Battalion embarked for England July 29th 1916 under command of Lieutenant-Colonel G.W. Fowler (Cadet Committee and M.P.), with a strength of 42 officers and 1084 OR's. In January 1917 in a rather complicated shuffle within a number of various New Brunswick Battalions and the 105th PEI Battalion then in England, Lieutenant-Colonel Fowler took over Command of the newly formed 13th Reserve Battalion. Lieutenant-Colonel Ings of the 105th (PEI) Battalion took over command of the 104th Battalion, this assigned as one of the battalions slated for the proposed 15th Infantry Brigade, 5th Canadian Division. In February 1918 the 5th Division was disbanded each of its 11 remaining battalions, (the 199th having previously been absorbed into the 23rd Reserve Battalion), were ordered to send a drafts of 100 men each to units in the field, increasing the establishment of the infantry battalions to around 1100 men each. The remainder were absorbed into the Reserve Battalions. The 104th Battalion being absorbed into the 13th Reserve Battalion. The 104th Canadian Infantry Battalion being fully depleted of all ranks was disbanded effective July 27th 1918 under General Order 101 of August 15th 1918. The 13th Reserve Battalion as a component of the New Brunswick Regiment was disbanded under General Order 213 of November 15th 1920.

The regimental numbers block for the 104th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 709001 - 712000.

#### Badges by G. F. Hemsley, Montreal

The figure 'O' in the numeral '104' is oval, the Tudor crown is voided.

#### Other ranks



604-11-102 Cap

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked G. F. Hemsley, Montreal



604-12-102 Collar Brown finish. Crown not voided. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

### NCOs



604-11-104 Cap Pickled. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

604-12-104 Collar Pickled. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

### Shoulder strap numerals



604-14-106 Numeral Gilding metal. By Caron Bros not maker marked

604-14-108 Numeral Brown finish 104. Maker marked 'Birks 1916'



604-14-110 Numeral Brass with upper and lower bars. Not maker marked possibly Tiptaft

### Officers

604-11-112 Cap Silver overlay on pickled finish. (Not reported)

604-12-112 Collar Silver overlay on pickled finish. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

Currently collar size badges in sterling silver with broach pin fasteners are believed to be 'sweetheart' pins.



604-12-114 Collar Silver . Pin fastener. Marked Sterling

### OVERSEAS

## Badges by the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Co. 112 Regent St. London E.C.

The sail on the ship in the coat-of-arms of New Brunswick is fully furled. Voided Tudor crown



604-11-120 Cap Brown finish. Lug fasteners G & S London maker tab



604-12-120 Collar Brown finish. Lug fasteners Not maker marked

603-14-120 Title Gilding metal . '104' over curved 'Canada'

604-11-122 Cap Sterling silver with gold overlay.

604-12-122 Collar Sterling silver with gold overlay

## Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.

The figure 'O' in the numeral '104' is round and the Tudor Crown is not voided.

### Other ranks



604-11-124 Cap Blackened finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

### Officers



604-12-126 Collar Brown OSD finish. Non-voided crown. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

### Eaton's Stores 'Sweetheart' badges

Sweetheart or souvenir badges were very popular amongst wives and mothers with husbands and sons serving with the CEF. These were produced both in Canada and England in various materials including gold, silver and often with elaborate multi-colour enamels. T.E. Eaton's stores sold a series of cap badge size badges mostly fitted with pin fasteners but occasionally with lugs, as souvenir pieces. These are believed to have been produced by Caron Bros. Montreal.

604-11-132 'Sweetheart' badge. Pickled finish. White metal centre. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

### Counterfeit cap badges

The cap badges pictured below are counterfeits these offered for sale on the United Kingdom eBay site. Note the lack of sharpness and blurred detail, 'off metals' and extra metal around the design this not found on the original die struck example.



604-11-134 Cap Pressure cast brass.

604-11-136 Cap Pressure cast silver.

### 119th (Algoma Overseas) Battalion, 15th Brigade

The 119th (Algoma Overseas) Battalion was recruited in the Algoma district and Manitowlin Island region of Northern Ontario with mobilization headquarters at Sault Ste. Marie under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915. The battalion was raised by the 51st Regiment (Soo Rifles) this regiment previously having contributed 126 volunteers to the 2nd Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914, later raising the 227th Battalion. The 119th Battalion embarked for England August 9th 1916 with a strength of 32 officers and 935 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel T.P.T. Rowland (51st Soo Rifles). The 119th Battalion was assigned as one of the battalions for to the proposed 15th Infantry Brigade, 5th Canadian Division. In February 1918 the 5th Division was disbanded each of the 11 remaining battalions, the 199th having previously been absorbed into the 23rd Reserve Battalion), were ordered to send a drafts of 100 men each to the units in the field and the remainder was absorbed into the 8th Reserve Battalion (2nd Central Ontario Regiment) the reserve pool for the 54th, 58th, 102nd and 116th Battalions serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 119th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded effective November 29th 1918 under General Order 135 of December 16th 1918. The regimental numbers block for the 119th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 754001

- 757000.

### Badges by Inglis



619-11-102 Cap

Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



619-12-102 Collar

Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

### Shoulder strap numerals

619-14-104 Numeral

Gilding metal. Not maker marked



619-14-106 Numeral

Brown finish 119. Maker marked 'Birks 1915'

### Officers



619-11-108 Cap

Silver overlay on pickled finish. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

619-12-108 Collar

Silver overlay on pickled finish. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

### Badges by Patterson





619-11-110 Cap

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked Patterson Soo



619-12-110 Collar

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked Patterson Soo

### NCOs

619-12-111 Collar

Brown finish. Pin fastener. Maker marked Patterson Soo

619-14-111 Numeral

Small size. Brown finish. Upper and lower 'bars'. Not maker marked

### OVERSEAS

**Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd. Large letters the 'CANADA' framed.**

### Other ranks



619-11-112 Cap

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

- 619-12-112 Collar Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked  
 619-14-112 Numeral Brown finish. Upper and lower 'bars'. Not maker marked

### Officers

- 619-11-114 Cap Cap badge not confirmed at press time



- 619-12-114 Collar Gilt. Flat back. Tiptaft lugs. Not maker marked

## 185th (Nova Scotia Highlanders) Battalion, 15th Brigade

The 185th (Cape Breton Highlanders) Battalion, Nova Scotia Highland Brigade was recruited in Cape Breton with mobilization headquarters at Broughton under General Order 69 of July 15th 1916 .The 185th Battalion was partially raised by the 94th Victoria Regiment (Argyll Highlanders) the regiment had previously contributed volunteers to the 17th Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914 and later helped raise the 85th Battalion. The 185th Battalion embarked for England under command of Lieutenant-Colonel F.P.Day (28th New Brunswick Dragoons) October 13th 1916, with a strength of 36 officers and 976 other ranks where it was assigned to the 15th Infantry Brigade, 5th Canadian Division then in formation in England. In February 1918 the 5th Division was disbanded each of the 11 remaining battalions, (the 199th having previously been absorbed into the 23rd Reserve Battalion), were ordered to send a drafts of 100 men each to the units in the field and the remainder were absorbed into the Reserve Battalions. The 185th Battalion was absorbed by the 17th Reserve Battalion this the reinforcing battalion for the Nova Scotia Regiment supplying reinforcements to the 25th and 85th Battalions serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. The 185th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded November 29th 1918 under General order 135 of December 16th 1918.

The regimental numbers block for the 185th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 877001 - 880000.

### Brass band

Only officers and pipers wore highland garb, other ranks wore regular infantry uniform with a Balmoral cap this with a brown turkey feather hackle with blue feather centre behind the badge. The 185th Battalion had a band with 36 bandsmen and a pipe band of seven pipers and seven drummers.



Top row left to right. Bandsman Alex Brown, Frank MacKinnon, James Critchley, John Hitchens, Robert

Weilding, Herbert Roycoft, William MacLavery, Albert Beresford, Thomas Saunderson, Walter Cosman Elmer Bulford, James Bowers,  
 Second row standing left to right. Samuel Hayman, Fred Ferryhough, John Harricks, Malcolm O'Hanley, Ben Hitchens, James F. MacDonald, Thomas Denney, John Nicholson, Elmer Bulmer, Burns MacDonald, James Bowers, and Corporal Harry Hitchens .  
 Third row sitting left to right. Joseph Dunn, James A. Ross, Mark Conway, Harry Braddock, Sergeant Bandmaster William Williams, Colonel F.P. Day, Captain F.P. Munro, McK Weir, Corporal Joseph Davis  
 Bottom row sitting left to right. Joseph Mullings, William P. Laurence, John McOuigan, John T. Green, Gerald Liscombe, Daniel Guthrie, Lance Corporal A.J. MacLean

### Badges by George Hemsley.

Voided between the small shield bearing the arms of Nova Scotia and the motto ribbon.

#### Other ranks



685-11-102 Balmoral Pickled finished. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.



685-12-102 Collar Pickled finished. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.





685-11-103 Balmoral Copper. This possibly field worn with original pickled finish removed

### NCOs

685-12-104 Collar Pickled finished scroll pattern. Pin fastener. Not maker marked.

### Shoulder strap numerals



685-14-106 Numeral Gilding metal. Maker marked and dated

685-14-108 Numeral Brown finish. Maker marked 'Birks 1916' (Not reported)

### Officers Forage cap

It is now believed that the maple leaf collar badges were also worn on the officers forage cap.



685-11-110 Cap/collar Pickled finish maple leaf pattern. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.



685-12-112 Cap/collar Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

### Officers

Two piece badges white metal overlay on pickled finish.

685-11-114 Glengarry Two piece badge. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.



685-12-114 Collar Two piece badge scroll pattern. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

Three piece badges white metal overlay on brass thistle on copper finish this pattern with maple leaf pattern collars badges.

685-11-116 Glengarry Three piece badge. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

685-12-116 Collar Three piece badge maple leaf pattern. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.



685-12-117 Cap/Collar Silver overlay on bronze finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

### **Pipers**

685-11-118 Glengarry Silver plate. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

685-12-116 Collar Silver. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

### **OVERSEAS**

#### **Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son.**

The small shield bearing the arms of Nova Scotia on the Balmoral badges is not voided. The badges were originally all issued with an applied dark pickled finish which wore off in use. Officers issues by Tiptaft are reported for the 185th Battalion but are not confirmed.

#### **Other ranks**

685-11-120 Balmoral Blackened/pickled finished. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

685-12-120 Collar Blackened/pickled finished. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

#### **Eaton's Stores 'Sweetheart' badges**

Sweetheart or souvenir badges were very popular amongst wives and mothers with husbands and sons serving with the CEF. These were produced both in Canada and England in various materials including gold, silver and often with elaborate multi-colour enamels. T.E. Eaton's stores sold a series of cap badge size badges mostly fitted with pin fasteners but occasionally with lugs, as souvenir pieces. These are believed to have been produced by Caron Bros. Montreal.

685-11-130 'Sweetheart' badge. Pickled finish. Lugs or pin fasteners. Not maker marked

685-11-132 'Sweetheart' badge. Pickled finish. White metal centre. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

#### **Counterfeit cap badges**

The cap badges pictured below are counterfeits these offered for sale on the United Kingdom eBay site. Note the lack of sharpness and blurred detail, 'off metals' and extra metal around the design this not found on the original die struck example.



685-11-128 Balmoral Pressure cast brass.



685-11-130 Balmoral Pressure cast silver.

### **199th (Duchess of Connaught's Own) Battalion, 15th Brigade**

The 199th (Duchess of Connaught's Own) Battalion was recruited by the 55th Irish Canadian Rangers at Montreal under General Order 69 of July 15th 1916. The battalion was nicknamed 'The C.P.R.'s Battalion', the battalion being promoted by Lord Shaughnessy, President of the C.P.R., whose son was the adjutant of the battalion.) The 55th Irish Canadian Rangers was one of a number of Militia Regiments raised after the start of WWI to attest volunteers. Others regiments raised to organize CEF battalions were the 58th (Westmount) Rifles also located at Montreal, 70th Regiment at Hull Quebec, the 108th Regiment raised at Berlin, Ontario, this later renamed Kitchener, and the 109th and 110th Irish Regiment both from Toronto. The 199th Battalion embarked for England December 20th 1916 with of 26 officers and 834 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel H.J. Trihey (55th Irish Canadian Rangers), where in February 1917 the battalion was assigned to the 15th Infantry Brigade, 5th Canadian Division then in formation in England. Effective May 17th 1917 the 199th Battalion was removed from the establishment of the 5th Division and absorbed into the 23rd Reserve Battalion. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 199th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded effective September 15th 1917 under General Order 82 of June 1st 1918. The regimental numbers block for the 199th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 919001 - 922000.

Two different patterns of badges were produced for the 199th Battalion both by Hemsley. The first pattern badges were authorized June 28th 1916 and a second pattern authorized November 17th 1916 this produced after H.R.H. The Duchess of Connaught became the Honour Colonel-in Chief of both the 55th Irish Canadian Rangers and the 199th Battalion. An entry in the War Diary of the 199th Battalion April 5th 1917 reads in part "Notification received this day that it has been published in the London Gazette, that His Majesty the King, has been pleased to approve the appointment (as of December 1916) of H.R.H. Duchess of Connaught as Honour Colonel-in-Chief of this Regiment." (The Duchess of Connaught had died March 1917.)

**Badges by Hemsley** Motto ribbon 'Irish Canadian Rangers'



699-11-102 Cap Pickled finished. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.



699-12-102 Collar Pickled finished. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

### NCOs

699-12-104 Collar Pickled finished. Pin fastener. Not maker marked.

### Shoulder numerals and title

699-14-106 Numeral Gilding metal. Maker marked 'Caron Bros 1916'

699-14-108 Numeral Brown finish. Figures with serifs. Maker unidentified



699-14-110 Title Natural gilding metal. Numeral with serifs maker unidentified.

### Officers



699-11-112 Cap Sterling silver. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.



699-12-112 Collar Sterling silver. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

699-11-114 Cap Pickled finish with silver overlay. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

699-12-114 Collar Pickled finish with silver overlay. Lugs or pin fastener. Not maker marked

### 55th Irish Rangers Reinforcing Draft

The 55th Irish Canadian Rangers reinforcing draft was authorized under General Order 63 of June 15th 1917. Being allotted the regimental numbers block 2,135301 - 2,136300. This draft was disbanded under General Order 149 of September 15th 1920.

Proto-type or sample cap badge by G.F. Hemsley. Style of type 1 badge with 'Quis Separabit' motto

699-11-116 Cap Pickled finish. (Picture not available at press time)

### 2nd pattern by Hemsley

With motto ribbon 'Quis Separabit' (Who will separate us?)

### Other ranks





699-11-118 Cap Brass. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

699-12-118 Collar Brass finished. Solid. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

### NCOs



699-12-120 Collar Pickled finished. Pin fastener. Not maker marked.

### Officers



699-11-122 Cap Silver. Pin fastener. Marked Sterling



699-11-122 Cap Detail of marking



699-12-122 Collar (No overlay) silver plate. Pin fasteners. Not maker marked



699-12-124 Collar Silver plate with silver overlay. Lug fastener. Not maker marked

699-11-126 Cap Brown OSD. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



699-12-126 Collar Brown OSD. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



699-14-126 Title Pickled finished. Solid. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

**Cap badge with 'Quis Separabit' motto ribbon removed**



The above contemporary press photograph clearly shows the cap badge in wear with the 'QUIS SEPARABIT' (Who will separate us?) motto ribbon removed. Presumably a protest after the battalion was broken up for reinforcements in 1918.

**Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.**

Only collar badges known numeral and motto ribbons framed



699-12-128 Collar Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked Tiptaft

Sweetheart pin ?



699-17-130 Collar size Gilt. Pin back maker marked T.P. Tansey

### Recruiting Posters



JUMP INTO YOUR PLACE  
IN THE



**SPORTSMAN'S COMPANY**



OF THE  
**IRISH CANADIAN  
RANGERS**  
OVERSEAS  
BATTALION

Headquarters -  
91 STANLEY ST.  
MONTREAL.

Under  
Lt. Col. H. J. TRIBEY.

*Fight  
for her*



COME WITH THE  
**IRISH CANADIAN RANGERS**  
OVERSEAS BATTALION  
MONTREAL

Lt. Col. H. J. TRIBEY - O.C.




WITH THE  
**IRISH CANADIAN RANGERS**  
199<sup>TH</sup> OVERSEAS BATTALION

91 STANLEY STREET @ MONTREAL  
Lt. Col. H. J. TRIBEY, O.C.