



For the Glory of The Maple Leaf

**COL. J. B. HARSTONE, D. S. O.,
O. B. E.**



Col. J. B. Harstone, D. S. O., O. B. E., arrived in Port Arthur Sunday morning. He left London on May 18th, crossing the Atlantic on the Aquitania, and has been spending a week in Quebec, Montreal and Ottawa. He has brought back with him a large collection of very interesting souvenirs, "relics" as he calls them, and when they are unpacked they will make the most interesting collection yet seen at the head of the lakes. A German machine gun, German helmet, firearms, priceless lace and rare china, are amongst the souvenirs which Colonel Harstone has brought back.

Amongst the most interesting of the treasures which Colonel Harstone has in his possession is a French walking cane, which has an interesting history. Colonel

Harstone obtained it in a German officer's dug-out after the battle of Arras in 1916. The head of the walking-stick is made of the single tusk of a wild boar, and has engraved upon it "A Guinoiseau, St. Quentin," evidently the name of the original French officer who owned it. It must have been taken from a Frenchman at the battle of St. Quentin in 1914, and was in the possession of a German officer until the battle of Arras two years later, when Colonel Harstone captured it.

In addition to the D. S. O. and O. B. E. ribbons, Colonel Harstone also wears the 1915 "rainbow" ribbon, and the display of ribbons on the young officer's tunic is very brilliant and speaks of nearly four years' good service.

How Towers Died

Colonel Harstone was near Lieutenant Norman E. Towers, of Port Arthur, when he was fatally wounded. He was operating, with a couple of sergeants, a trench mortar, with signal success, and had been working away for three or four hours, when the Germans sent over a 5.9 shell which landed right upon him. He was badly torn up, and, on being carried back to the dressing station, passed where Colonel Harstone was, and the latter gave him some opium and morphia, for he was in great pain. Col. Harstone thought at the time that Lieut. Towers might recover, but the wounded officer seemed to know he was fatally hurt, for he expressed the opinion that he had fought his last fight.

Colonel Harstone, who went overseas as a lieutenant, was in command of the 4th Canadian railway troops when the armistice was signed. He wears one wound stripe, though he has been wounded three or four times, and is entitled to more stripes if he cared to "put them up." Before the war he was in business in Edmonton. In a few days he leaves, accompanied by his father, for the Pacific coast.

Col. Harstone is a son of Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Harstone, 409 Dufferin street, Port Arthur.