

time that he was nearing the shore, the ice had fairly separated from the land, and it was by only a hair's breadth that he escaped being carried out into the bay.

His hardships were, perhaps, increased by his absentmindedness and his consequent neglect of comforts in travelling. Coming home from the Gulf Shore one cold winter's day he remarked to his wife on entering the house that one of his feet was quite warm, while the other was almost frozen. On pulling off his boots it was found that he had put both stockings on one foot, and left the other bare. This peculiarity of absentmindedness led to much practical joking at his expense. On one occasion, his friends, finding his horse ready saddled at his office door reversed the saddle and awaited results. Out came the Doctor, and without noticing what had been done, he mounted and rode away.

On another occasion, when he was leading his horse up the street, three friends thought it a good opportunity for a practical joke. Two of them walked beside him engaging him in conversation, while the third, slipping the bridle from the horse's head, led the animal into a yard. The doctor all unconscious, walked on until he reached his patient's house, which he entered after tying the bridle reins to a gate-post. On coming out he was surprised to find that his horse had slipped the bridle and gone off.

The Rev. Mr. Trotter, the Presbyterian minister, and a very clever man, often assisted the doctor. He had studied medicine at Edinburgh, before taking up theology. Dr. Macdonald died at about 1859. He was a man of high professional attainments and sterling character. His memory will long live in the county of Antigonish. The well known W. H. Macdonald, commonly known as Doctor "Bill," is a son, and Doctor W. Huntley Macdonald, the secretary of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia, a grandson of Alexander Macdonald.

Dr. Alexander Macdonald, in addition to his large practice, filled public positions. He was Justice of the Peace, Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, Prothonotary, Surgeon to the Militia, etc., etc.

GUYSBOROUGH.

Settlements in Guysborough were made by Loyalists and disbanded soldiers, and among them were at least two medical men.