

he preferred military employment. On the 28th of January, 1807, his father, Colonel John Macdonell, sent a proposal, addressed to General Brock, offering to raise a regiment of Highland Fencibles in Glengarry (C. 795, p. 58.) In accordance with this proposal and in obedience to an order from Sir James Craig, Brock met Miles and the Rev. Alexander Macdonell (afterwards Bishop of Glengarry) to take into consideration the conditions submitted for raising the corps, and reported the result in a letter dated on the 17th March, 1808 (C. 795, p. 123.) In that letter he is called captain, not sheriff. The proposal led to nothing at the time, as appears by a letter from Lord Liverpool to Sir George Prevost, dated 30th March, 1812, in which it is said, referring to Sir James Craig's letters of 1808, on the subject, that it appears the zeal of the settlers had far exceeded their ability; all steps towards raising the corps were to be abandoned, but compensation was to be made to those who had been employed in services connected with the formation of the corps (C 796, p. 61.)

But although that special effort had been unsuccessful, the Glengarry Light Infantry Fencibles had been raised and the officers appointed in February, 1812, nearly two months before Lord Liverpool's letter was written, as appears by a memorandum signed "Edward Baynes, Colonel Glengarry Light Infantry," dated 3rd November, 1813, in which the names of the officers are given (C. 797, pp. 189-191).

During the time Miles was engaged in the abortive negotiations for raising a Glengarry corps he entered into correspondence with Lord Selkirk, through whom he transmitted a memorial to the Commander-in-chief for military employment. In a letter dated London, 6th December, 1809, his Lordship says that he has heard of an opening regarding which he could then enter into no explanation, "further than to express my conviction," the letter continues, "that if I can succeed in obtaining it for you, it will be more advantageous than that which you were desirous of obtaining last year," and urges him to be ready to come to London at a short notice.

On 10th of February, 1810, Lord Selkirk acknowledges receipt of a letter from Captain Macdonell, dated on the 8th of December, in which he asks for a recommendation that his son should receive an Ensign's commission. The son referred to was Mr. Donald Aeneas Macdonell, late warden of Kingston Penitentiary, who received his commission and served for a number of years. In this second letter, Lord Selkirk urges strongly that Captain Macdonell should come to London, although no definite information can yet be given him as to the nature of the employment; he went and was engaged to act as Governor of the Red River settlement, as already mentioned.

The war between the North-West Company and Lord Selkirk, the death of Semple, the imprisonment of Miles Macdonell at Fort William and his removal to Montreal by the North-West Company, and the events of that stirring period in the