

dured by the stout-hearted settlers who were the pioneers of civilization in the Canadian wilds. To travel in winter one hundred miles to Montreal to do their trading was no uncommon thing for Glengarry men. To ask for goods on credit, to be paid for "on the next snow"—no security given but the security of their own word—was no uncommon thing either. There is no record of that Glengarry man who was not worth his word in those days, or who failed to keep it. Many a backwoodsman, later even than this, carried a bag of grist on his back over a path through the woods for many a weary mile to the newly built mill that brought the appliances of civilization so much nearer to them. Many a man dragged a hand sleigh through the bush a week's journey, carrying his grist to the same mill. To travel fifteen miles or more to attend church was counted no hardship. The writer remembers hearing an old lady tell how, in her younger days, she had walked on foot to Montreal, carrying her baby in her arms, one hundred long miles to get him christened. Where conveniences were few, and distances so great, the question of roads was an important question indeed. One of Mr. Cattanaach's first efforts for the benefit of the new land was in this matter of roads, and he was appointed a Commissioner. Some of the young men who earned their first wages at that work under him are now in their old age independently wealthy. Truly Canada makes a good stepmother to her adopted children.

In 1830 he was appointed magistrate. Law and lawyers were delightfully scarce in the newly settled parts of Canada at this time. A Celtic opinion that it was mean to appeal to the law to settle a dispute with a neighbor was very perceptible in Glengarry many years later. Strength of arm had often the advantage of strength of intellect, the knock down argument being counted very convincing. Magisterial duties in these early times were exceedingly various. They solemnized matrimony, in consequence of the dearth of ministers; they settled cases arising out of the bewitchment of cows and of people—the belief in witchcraft emigrated with the early settlers, and it lingered long in some parts,—they had perplexing cases to settle arising out of quarrels about line fences, individual rights being pertinaciously defended; they had various other causes to try arising from original sin or backwoods pugnaciousness.

In 1832 he married Catharine McDonell, widow of Mr.