

RALLY THE GREYS.

BY CAPTAIN GLASGOW, WATERBURY.

On Balachava's blood-stained field,
Where Britain's sons dishonoured yield,
There Miller's voice like thunder pealed—
"Rally the Greys!"

Fierce was the deadly combat there,
When foe to foe their steel made bare,
And loud and earnest was the prayer—
"Rally the Greys!"

Their sabres bright—like mirrors gleam—
Beneath the Autumn's waning beam,
And horsemen brave, like ghosts seem—
"Rally the Greys!"

Loud was the crash of armor, when
That little band, three hundred men,
Charged home in o the Russian den—
"Rally the Greys!"

With ancient foe, they sallied on
For Erin, Scotia, Albion's Tutor,
There Russians died without a groan—
"Rally the Greys!"

"On, Scotia on," brave Scarlett cried,
"Strike home in all thy native pride!"
Then reeking streams the valleys dyed—
"Rally the Greys!"

With firm resolves their swords were crossed,
One moment and our men are lost,
Yet twice they cut out through the host—
"Rally the Greys!"

Loud cheers from Emiskillen's glen,
(Terrific language of the shock)
And mingled loud with sabre stroke—
"Rally the Greys!"

Guardsmen and Greys, together merge,
With Emiskillen in the charge,
A soldier's duties to discharge—
"Rally the Greys!"

"Rally the Greys," brave Miller said,
"Face me," and pointing with his blade,
Ah! few the number that obeyed—
"Forward the Greys!"

"Onwards and charge, yes charge again
(Their chargers trampling on the plain)
"We shall be victors on the plain—
"On, Gallant Greys!"

Horsemen and horse, together lie;
Horsemen lagged began to shiver,
They fly, they fly, the Russians fly—
"Victorious Greys!"

* Acting a Gallant of the Scots Greys in the Crimea.

REPORT

BY MAJ. BUTLER, (69TH REGT.) OF HIS JOURNALS
FROM FORT GARRY TO ROCKY MOUNTAIN
HOUSE AND BACK, DURING THE WINTER OF
1870-71.

GENERAL REPORT.

[CONTINUED]

The Hon. Adams G. Archibald, Lieut.-Governor, Manitoba.

Having in the foregoing remarks reviewed the various elements which compose the scanty but widely extended population of the Saskatchewan, outside the circle of the Hudson's Bay Company, I have now to refer to that body, as far as it is connected with the present condition of affairs in the Saskatchewan.

As a governing body the Hudson's Bay Company, has ever had to contend against the evils which are inseparable from monopoly of trade combined with monopoly of judicial power, but so long as the aboriginal inhabitants were the only people with whom it came in contact its authority could be preserved; and as it centered within itself whatever knowledge and enlightenment existed in the country its officials were regarded by the aborigines as persons of a superior nature, nay, even in by gone times it was by no means unusual for the Indians to regard the possession of some of the most ordinary inventions of civilization on the part of the officials of the company as clearly de-

monstrating a close affinity between these gentlemen and the Manitou, nor were these attributes of divinity altogether distasteful to the officers who found them both remunerative as to trade and conducive to the exercise of authority. When, however the Free Traders and Missionary reached the Saskatchewan, this primitive state of affairs ceased—with the enlightenment of the savage came the inevitable discontent of the Indian until there arose the condition of things to which I have already alluded. I am aware that there are persons who while admitting the present unsatisfactory state of the Saskatchewan ascribe its evils more to mistakes committed by officers of the Company, in their management of Indians, than to any material change in the character of the people, but I believe such opinion to be founded in error. The Indians and the half breeds are aware of their strength and openly speak of it, and although I am far from asserting that a more determined policy on the part of the officer in charge of the Saskatchewan District would not be attended by better results, still it is apparent that the great isolation of the posts as well as the absence of any fighting element in the class of servants belonging to the company, render the Forts on the Upper Saskatchewan, to a very great degree, helpless and at the mercy of that country. Nor are the engaged servants of the Company a class of persons with whom it is at all easy to deal. Recruited principally from the French half-breed population, and exposed, as I have already shown to the wild and lawless life of the prairies, there exists in reality only a very slight distinction between them and their Indian Brethren, hence it is not surprising that acts of insubordination should be of frequent occurrence among these servants, and that personal violence towards superior officers should be by no means an unusual event in the Forts of the Saskatchewan; indeed it has only been by the exercise of manual force on the part of the officials in charge that the semblance of authority has sometimes been preserved. Their tendency towards insubordination is still more observable among the casual servants or "Trip men" belonging to the Company. These persons are in the habit of engaging for a trip or journey, and frequently select the most critical moments to demand an increased rate of pay, or desert en masse.

At Edmonton House, the Head Quarters of the Saskatchewan District, and at the Posts of Victoria, and Port Pitt, this state of lawlessness is more apparent than on the lower portion of the river. Threats are frequently made use of by the Indians and half-breed, as a means of extorting favorable terms from the officer in charge, the cattle belonging to the Posts are uselessly killed, and altogether the Hudson's Bay Company may be said to retain their tenure on the Upper Saskatchewan upon a basis which appears insecure and unsatisfactory.

In the foregoing remarks I have entered at some length into the question of the materials comprising the population of the Saskatchewan, with a view to demonstrate that the condition of affairs in the Saskatchewan with a view to demonstrate that the condition of affairs in that Territory is the natural result of many causes, which have been gradually developing themselves, and which must of necessity undergo still further developments if left in their present state. I have endeavored to point out how the growing wants of the aboriginal inhabitants—from the conflicting nature of the interests of the half-breed and Indian population, as well as from the natural consti-

tution of the Hudson's Bay Company, a state of society has arisen in the Saskatchewan, which threatens at no distant day to give rise to grave complications; and which now has the effect of rendering life and property insecure, and preventing the settlement of those fertile regions which in other respects are so admirably suited to colonization.

As matters at present rest the region of the Saskatchewan is without law, order, or security, for life or property; robbery and murder for years have gone unpunished, Indian massacres unchecked, even in the close vicinity of Hudson's Bay Company posts, and all civil and legal institutions are wholly and entirely unknown.

I now enter upon that portion of Your Excellency's instructions which has reference to the epidemic of Small Pox in the Saskatchewan. It is about fifty years since the first great epidemic of Small Pox swept over the regions of the Missouri and the Saskatchewan, committing great ravages among the tribes of Sioux, Gros Ventres and Flat Heads upon American Territory; and among the Crees and Assinaboins on the British. The Blackfoot Indians escaped that epidemic, while on the other hand the Assinaboins, or Stonies of the Qu'Appelle Plains were almost altogether destroyed. Since that period the disease appears to have visited some of the Tribes at intervals of greater or less duration, but until this and the previous year its ravages were confined to certain localities, and did not extend universally throughout the country. During the summer and early winter of '69-'70 reports reached the Saskatchewan of the prevalence of Small Pox, of a very malignant type among the South Peagim Indians, a Branch of the Blackfoot Nation. It was hoped however that the disease would be confined to the Missouri River and the Crees who as usual were at war with their traditional enemies, were warned by Missionaries and others that the prosecutions of their predatory expeditions into the Blackfoot country would in all probability carry the infection into the North Saskatchewan. From the South Peagim tribes, on the head waters of the Missouri, the disease spread rapidly through the kindred tribes of Blood, Blackfoot and Luceo Indians, all which new tribes have their hunting grounds north of the Boundary Line. Unfortunately for the Crees, they failed to listen to the advice of those persons who had recommended a suspension of hostilities. With the opening of the spring the war parties commenced their raids, a band of seventeen Crees penetrated in the Month of April, into the Blackfoot country, and coming upon a deserted camp of their enemies in which a tent was still standing they proceeded to ransack it. This tent contained the dead bodies of some Blackfeet, and although these bodies presented a very revolting spectacle, being in an advanced state of decomposition, they were nevertheless subjected to the usual process of mutilation, the scalps and clothing being also carried away.

For this Act the Crees paid a terrible penalty—scarcely had they reached their own country before the disease appeared among them in its most virulent and infectious form. Nor were the consequences of this raid less disastrous to the whole Cree Nation. At the period of the year to which I allude, the early summer, these Indians usually assemble together from different directions, in large numbers, and it was towards one of those numerous assemblies that the returning war party, still carrying the scalps and clothing of the Blackfeet directed their steps. Almost immediately upon their arrival the disease broke out