

is unable at this late date to remember from whom he heard the anecdote, but thinks it was from the late Chief-Justice McLean or Mrs. Cumming of Kingston, a sister of the late Colonel Duncan Macdonell of Greenfield, from whom he mentions he gathered many a story connected with early times and events in Canada.

It is a well known fact that when Ogdensburg was taken on the 23rd February, 1813, by a British force composed principally of the Glengarry Light Infantry Regiment and Glengarry Militia under Colonel George Macdonell (familiarly known among the Highlanders as "Red George") the action was performed without the orders of Sir George Prevost, then commanding in Canada, and who had the same evening left Prescott en route for Kingston. There would be no use now in entering into the merits of the controversy which subsequently took place regarding this aspect of the affair or Sir George Prevost's despatches in connection with it or his alleged alteration of them, or the incorrectness of the account given in Alison's History. Suffice it that Ogdensburg was captured, four officers and seventy men made prisoners of war, both barracks, two armed schooners and two large gunboats burned, eleven pieces of cannon and all the marine, ordnance, commissariat and quartermaster-general's stores taken, and a large loss inflicted upon the Americans in killed and wounded.

As the Highlanders marched across the thin ice of the St. Lawrence to the attack, on one flank was the Chaplain with his Cross in his hand to urge on that portion of them which were of his way of thinking in matters of Faith, while on the other was a brave Presbyterian Minister, the Reverend Mr. Mackenzie, holding up the Bible as an encouragement to those of his persuasion. One of the Chaplain's flock felt somewhat nervous under fire and showed a disposition to fall to the rear, whereupon the Chaplain ordered him to stand fast; but his orders were disobeyed. An example became immediately necessary, and then and there the Chaplain excommunicated him from the Church of his forefathers. It would have been better for the man to have faced the Yankees than the wrath of Maighster Alastair, when, the enemy being in front, his blood was up and the terrors of the Church were at his disposal!