

MILITARY BALLADS.

XIII.

THE TROOPER'S DITTY.

Boot, boot into the stirrup, lads,
 And hand once more on rein ;
 Up, up into the saddle, lads,
 Afield we ride again ;
 One cheer, one cheer for dame or dear,
 No leisure now to sigh,
 God bless them all,—we have their prayers,
 And they our hearts,—“ Good-bye !”
 Off, off we ride, in reckless pride,
 As gallant troopers may,
 Who have old scores to settle, and
 Long slashing swords to pay.

The trumpet calls,—“ trot out, trot out,”—
 We cheer the stirring sound ;
 Swords forth, my lads,—through smoke and dust
 We thunder o'er the ground.
 Tramp, tramp, we go through sulphury clouds,
 That blind us while we sing,—
 Woe worth the knave who follows not
 The banner of the King ;
 But luck befall each trooper tall,
 That cleaves to saddle-tree,
 Whose long sword carves on rebel scone
 The rights of Majesty.

Spur on, my lads; the trumpet sounds
 Its last and stern command,—
 “A charge! a charge!”—an ocean burst
 Upon a stormy strand.
 Ha! ha! how thickly on our casques
 Their popguns rattle shot;
 Spur on, my lads, we'll give it them
 As sharply as we've got.
 Now for it:—now, bend to the work,—
 Their lines begin to shake;
 Now, through and through them,—bloody lanes
 Our flashing sabres make!

“Cut one,—cut two,—first point,” and then
 We'll parry as we may;
 On, on the knaves, and give them steel
 In bellyfuls to-day.
 Hurrah! hurrah! for Church and State,
 For Country and for Crown,
 We slash away, and right and left
 Hew rogues and rebels down.
 Another cheer; the field is clear,
 The day is all our own;
 Done like our sires,—done like the swords
 God gives to guard the Throne!

MOTHERWELL.

AN INTERESTING BOOK.

THE EARLY SETTLEMENT AND HISTORY OF GLENGARRY IN CANADA.

The story of the loyal and honourable part borne by the men of Glengarry, Upper Canada, in the war of 1812-15 and in the rebellion of 1837-8 is well known; no reader of even the briefest summary of these two campaigns but must be familiar with the deeds of these stalwart Highlanders. But very few of us have hitherto known much of the men of this race who first entered and made habitable the dense wilderness which bordered the St. Lawrence from Coteau to Kingston—men who had fought nobly for the King during the war with the Thirteen Colonies, and who, when all was lost but honour, decided to carve out new homes for them-

selves in a country which, although wild and almost 'unknown, was still under the old flag. On the whole subject of the controversy and its results to Canada, there have been lamentably few works written from a British standpoint; and these few, almost without exception, are by Canadian writers. To this list, the book before us is no small addition, and Mr. Macdonell deserves the thanks of our whole reading community for having compiled so valuable and instructive a work. It is prefaced with a short sketch of the early Scotch settlements in the province of New York, and of the Johnsons—father and son—who did so much for England in America. The outbreak of the rebellion, the attitude of the Highland settlers and the formation and services of the loyal regiments recruited from this class, are then fully narrated.

The story of the settlement of the Scotch Loyalists—chiefly from “The King's Royal Regiment of New York” and “The Regiment of Royal Highland Emigrants”—commences in the fifth chapter of the work and occupies almost one-half of the volume. Old lists, letters and other documents are given *verbatim*, and many most interesting details of the lives and adventures of these sturdy pioneers are told. The raising of the Fencible regiments in Scotland towards the close of the last century, their services, their disbandment at the Peace of Amiens, and the subsequent emigration of a large number to join their countrymen in Upper Canada, form an interesting and useful chapter of the work. With the story of 1812 is given a concise view of the condition of the colony at that period, followed by a detailed account of the war; as might be expected, special attention is devoted to the services of the Glengarry corps in these arduous and to us, all-important campaigns. On this point we quote Mr. Macdonnell's summary (page 273-4).

“In this war the men of Glengarry participated with honour to themselves and to the advantage of their country in the following:

- Capture of Detroit, August 16, 1812.
- Attack on Ogdensburg, October 4, 1812.
- Battle of Queenston Heights, October 12, 1812.
- Engagement at St. Regis, October 23, 1812.
- Capture of Fort Covington, November 23, 1812.
- Capture of Ogdensburg, February 22, 1813.
- Taking of York by Americans, April 27, 1813.
- Battle of Fort George, May 27, 1813.
- Attack on Sackett's Harbour, May 29, 1813.
- Defence of Burlington Heights, July, 1813.
- Battle of Chateaugay, October 26, 1813.
- Skirmish at Hooples Creek, November 10, 1813.
- Raid from Cornwall on Madrid, February 6, 1814.
- Capture of Oswego, May 6, 1814.
- Battle of Niagara or Lundy's Lane, July 25, 1814.
- Attack on Fort Erie, August 15, 1814.
- Second Battle at Fort Erie, September 17, 1814.
- Skirmish at Lyon's Creek, October 19, 1814.
- Expulsion of McArthur's brigands, October 22, 1814.

The last portion of the volume is devoted to the services of the “Glengarrics” during the rebellion of 1837-9. No less than four militia regiments were raised in the county, numbering in all over two thousand men of exceptionally fine physique. Thrice they were called out for active service, and on each occasion did great credit to their county and their race. Lists of the officers are given, with the dates of their commissions; several important addresses, etc., are also reproduced, notably an extract from a pastoral address of Bishop Macdonell, which is a scathing indictment of the insurrection and its originators.

The volume is a valuable addition to Canadian literature, and should be in the library of every one interested in our military history. To the student of the campaigns referred to it is indispensable.

Sketches illustrating THE EARLY SETTLEMENT AND HISTORY OF GLENGARRY IN CANADA, relating principally to the Revolutionary War of 1775-83, the War of 1812-14, and the Rebellion of 1837-38, and the services of the King's Royal Regiment of New York, etc., etc. By J. A. Macdonell (of Greenfield). Montreal: Wm. Foster Brown & Co., 1893.

