

the kilt was thus described by one of the soldiers of the regiment: "Thanks to our generous chief (Colonel, afterwards General, Simon Fraser of Lovat), we were allowed to wear the garb of our fathers, and in the course of six winters, showed the doctors that they did not understand our constitution, for in the coldest winters our men were more healthy than those of the regiments that wore breeches and warm clothing." The picture of a Highlander doing duty at Quebec under these conditions would be an appropriate souvenir on the walls of the Officers' Mess of the gallant 48th. The Nuns of the Ursuline Convent at Quebec, moved by sympathy for the kilted warriors, proposed to supply sufficient raiment for Fraser's Highlanders, but the feeling on the subject, indicated above, was too much for Governor Murray, and the hardy Highlander was allowed to wear the garb of his ancestors in Canada, even when denied that right, by the strong arm of the law, on his native mountains.

Early in 1892 the uniforms reached Toronto from Inverness, Scotland, and, fully equipped, the regiment, consisting of eight companies, band of pipers, of buglers, and brass band, put in a full course of spring drill. The staff then comprised Lt.-Col. Commanding, John I. Davidson; Senior Major, commanding the right, A. Morgan Cosby; Junior Major, commanding the left, W. C. Macdonald; Captain-Adjutant, Walter Macdonald; Quartermaster, Jas. Adams; Surgeon, Dr. W. T. Stuart; Assistant Surgeon, A. A. Dame; Chaplain, Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, B.D. The officers commanding companies, in order of seniority, were: Captains Donald Murdoch Robertson, Dugald MacGillivray, W. Henderson, W. Hendrie, R. S. Cassels, J. A. Currie, Chas. A. Hunter and J. F. Michie; and the Lieutenants were: Messrs. D. H. MacLean, Duncan Donald (now Acting Adjutant), W. H. Orchard, J. F. Ramsay, D. A. Campbell, J. H. Thompson. The Non-Commission Staff at that time were: Sergeant Major Alfred Robertson, Quartermaster Sergeant Matheson, Musketry Instructor Wm. Harp, Drill Instructor Hallinger, Pipe Major Robert Ireland and Bugle Major

Robertson. Bugle Major Griffin was appointed later on.

The progress made in establishing the regiment up to this point, and the good appearance it made on parade at the very commencement of its career, were phenomenal; and the services of Captain MacDougall, of the Permanent Force, will ever be associated with the efficiency then attained to. Captain MacDougall, an enthusiastic Highlander and a born soldier, entered whole-heartedly into the work of laying the foundations of the regiment firm and sure. By permission of Major-General Herbert, he acted in the capacity of provisional adjutant to the regiment, and to his ability and unflagging interest was due a great measure of the success which so rapidly crowned the efforts of the officers.

The first ceremony of great public interest was the presentation of the Queen's and regimental colors by the ladies of Toronto. The event took place on the 24th of May, 1892, on the cricket grounds behind McMaster University. The colors were handed over by His Excellency Lord Stanley, Governor-General, who was accompanied by Major St. Aubyn, Lord Kilcoursie and Captain Walsh. In honor of the occasion, the 13th Battalion came down from Hamilton and was brigaded with the 48th, under command of Lient.-Col. Otter. Highlanders came from Guelph, Lindsay, Peterborough and Hamilton to witness the interesting and imposing ceremony. The color party consisted of Lieuts. D. H. MacLean and Duncan Donald; Color Sergeant A. Rose, and Color Sergeant Simpson; Majors Cosby and Macdonald. Rev. D. J. Macdonnell offered an impressive prayer, after which Major Cosby placed the Queen's colors in the Governor-General's hands. Major Macdonald handed the regimental colors to Mrs. Merritt (who represented the lady donors) and she gave them to His Excellency, who placed the Queen's in the custody of Lieut. MacLean, and the regimental color in that of Lieut. Donald.

Addressing Lieut.-Col. Davidson, Lord Stanley paid a high compliment to the 48th, ending his remarks in the following unusually flattering terms: "The commencement of your regiment, has