

## FRIENDLY REMINISCENCES

OF

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When Ontario was one of the two Canadas, and was, comparatively speaking, a wilderness ; when the Indian allies of the British Crown hunted and trapped through long reaches of silent country ; when the sites of what are now great cities and thriving villages were green solitudes where deer fed and woodland creatures lived their life, the Government of England saw the need there was of peopling these waste places with men. At the same time fashion, in hunting coats, was invading the Highlands, bent on transforming the crofter's fields into the loneliness in which the red deer and the muir fowl love to dwell.

The dearth of men in one fair land, and men where they were not wanted in another, led to the colonizing of parts of the County Glengarry with Highland Scotch settlers. They obtained from Government free farms instead of rented fields, and became Canadian yeomen in place of being Scotch crofters. Scotch like they took root and flourished, being favored and fostered by Government.

Following these favored settlers, allured by the reports of their prosperity, came their kinsmen and neighbors, all clansmen from the straths and glens of the much loved land, who took root also in the new country and flourished, making Glengarry a thoroughly Gaelic settlement. Farmers and farm laborers, tradesmen and shepherds, men of means and men of culture, townsmen and herdsmen, Catholic and Presbyterian, all flocked into Glengarry and created there new homes. The Scottish Kirk was raised on new soil, the accustomed form of worship, so dear to Scottish hearts, was inaugurated, and