

historical aspect. Who was Doctor Troyer? What was the relation of Ramsay to the first settlers? How did the two names come to be associated with the Evil One? How did it happen that the blended folk-lore of European countries, transplanted to the shores of Lake Erie, found congenial soil, took root, and thrived as if in its native environment?

Making all necessary and proper allowance for Mr. McCall's advanced age, and the time elapsed since the occurrences recalled by him, the writer endeavoured to ascertain the historical basis for the legend and discovered interesting particulars relating to both Ramsay and Troyer, much light being thrown upon the former especially by official correspondence between Sir William Johnson, Superintendent of Indian Affairs in North America, and his superior officer, the Colonial Secretary in England, as well as by autobiographical material furnished by Ramsay himself.

A brief summary of available information may not be unacceptable.

In the early days of settlement on Lake Erie no names were more widely known than those of David Ramsay and "Doctor" Troyer. Troyer's name is prominent in other tales of witchcraft and magic art, current among pioneer settlers, not only at Long Point, but westward as far as the River Detroit and Lake St. Clair. Owen, in his "Pioneer Sketches of the Long Point Settlement," has something to say about him. A pamphlet entitled, "The Belledoon Mysteries, an O'er True Story, by Neil T. McDonald," first published more than a generation ago, shows him as the active agent in solving and ending certain mysterious manifestations on the Chenail Ecarté, near Wallaceburg, which had caused wide-spread interest throughout the lake-shore region, and even far beyond. Tasker's volume on "The United Empire Loyalist Settlement at Long Point, Lake Erie," published as Volume II of the Ontario Historical Society's Papers and Records, refers to Ramsay. Official records printed in Volume VIII of "Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York," show some of the grounds upon which his evil notoriety was acquired. That very rare volume, "Captain Patrick Campbell's Travels in the Interior Inhabited Parts of North America," published in 1793, contains the case for the defence as presented to Campbell by Ramsay himself.

#### RAMSAY, THE INDIAN KILLER.

David Ramsay, a Fifeshire lad, came to Quebec as ship's boy on board a transport, and after the war, in 1763, settled on the Mohawk River. After serving the Northwest Fur Company of Montreal for