

by the Governor, and that all the ladders about the Fort were given in charge of the guard. I looked at my friend, observed to him that I expected what happened, but that now there was no remedy, we must bear our misfortune patiently. In a few days after he was set at liberty, having only been accused of some rash expressions against Mungo Campbell, the Factor appointed by the Crown, upon his father Coll Borisdale's estate.

During the short time that Alexander M'Donell was with me in the prison at Fort William, his eldest brother Archibald Borisdale, for whom I was first arrested; John M'Donald Esqr. of Morar, and black Ronald, a natural son of Archibald Borisdale,* father of Coll, and my grand uncle, were made prisoners by means of Allan M'Donald of Knock, (Captain of the guides and spies,) formerly mentioned. Allan Knock had received a complete drubbing from black Ronald, at which Archibald Borisdale Junior, and John M'Donald Morar, married to Mary M'Donell, daughter of Coll Borisdale, chanced to be present. These gentlemen passed by Fort William, in custody, on their way to Edinburgh. Thus, this Captain Allan-revenged his private quarrels under cover of his attachment to government, and got these gentlemen sent under a strong guard to Edinburgh Castle.

Altho' I was glad of young Alexander M'Donell Borisdale's enlargement, I felt myself at his departure very lonesome for want of company. Shortly afterwards, however, a gentleman from the Isle of Skye, Rory M'Donald of Fortymenruck or Camiscross, was introduced into my prison room. This was a gentleman with whom I was always very intimate, and a near neighbour to where I lived, whose vivacity would cheer any man's spirits. He was in the same manner with black Ronald taken by the Captain of the guides and spies, for having given him the said Captain, a consummate beating as a reward for some impertinent language he made use of towards this Rory M'Donald. He was maliciously accused of having tortured a woman so that she died of the effects of the torture, which was afterwards found to be a falsehood.

I think it now high time to relate the cause of this spite and malice of Allan Knock against me, which I will relate without alteration or aggravation, and as far as I remember it was as follows. In one of my jaunts of pleasure to visit my relations and acquaintances in the Isle of Skye, I lodged the first night as usual after leaving home with Rory M'Donald, now my fellow prisoner, and taking my departure early next day, for that part of Lord M'Donald's estate called Troternish, came in the evening to Portree, or Port Royal, so called because

* Of the M'Donells of Borisdale, a branch of the Glengary family, there were three generations out in arms for the Stuart cause in 1745. Viz. Archibald M'Donell of Borisdale; Coll, his son; and Archibald, his grand-son. Old Archibald had been out twice in arms for the Stuarts before the year 1745; i. e. was at the battle of Shiffermuir or Dumblain, under the Earl of Mar in 1715; and at Killiecrankie under Viscount Dundee in 1689. He was a stout and remarkably strong man. In 1745, riding on horseback into Falkirk, in all his arms with his helmet on his head, and his grey locks appearing from under it—he made an awful and respectable appearance. Some strangers seeing him, whispered one to another: old Glenbucket by G—d, old Glenbucket by G—d.