

wan river. Pond, an American, Wadin, a Swiss, and the brothers Frobisher, Englishmen, all merchants from Montreal, had, in the year 1775 and succeeding years, carried the fur trade by their canoe route even to the distant Lake Athabasca. So early as the year 1783 we find that well-known Nor'wester and leading Celt, Simon McTavish, making an effort to combine the Montreal traders into one company. His was long one of the names to conjure by among the fur traders. Another firm of Scottish merchants in Montreal—Messrs. Gregory and Macleod—assumed an independent attitude, and undertook, like "Ta' Phairson," of the Highland legend of the flood, to have a "boat o' their ain."

It was in July, 1787, that the combination we have mentioned was formed among these Montreal merchants to trade to the Nor'west; and it is quite surprising to find the large number of Celts in the enterprise. Some of the Montreal Highlanders were Jacobites; a number of them had even fought as Rads. in the battle of Culloden, and had, after the '45, fled to New France to find new homes. More of them, however, were disbanded soldiers and their families, of the 78th and *Fraser Highlanders*, who had settled in Canada in 1764. Others, again, had been connected with the Montgomery Highlanders, and some even with the 42nd, or "Black Watch."

When, according to Lemoine, we know that "Fraser's Highlanders are now settled all over Lower Canada, and their descendants number more than three thousand," it is not surprising that such