

some seven or eight hundred dispossessed farmers to Glasgow, where he found interest with the manufacturers to give them employment, and in face of the anti-Catholic agitation consequent on the Gordon riots, courageously administered to their religious wants.

The alarm caused by the outbreak of the French revolution was followed by a general summons to arms throughout the British dominions, and volunteers were urgently demanded. Father Macdonell, seeing his men exposed to be drafted into regiments where they would be compelled to follow the Protestant worship, organized, with permission of the Government, a Catholic regiment, the first since the Reformation, which rendered valiant service for many years as the Glengarry Fencibles. On the disbanding of the regiment he obtained in recognition of his merits certain grants of land in Upper Canada, whither he determined to transport his impoverished flock. After overcoming many obstacles, he arrived with his little colony at Glengarry in 1804, where he lived with them for a quarter of a century.

Having secured the holdings of his people by legal tenure, he set about building churches and schools. He found but two churches in the whole Province, and but two priests, one of whom was a Frenchman unacquainted with the English tongue, and yet there was a by no means inconsiderable number of Catholics, chiefly Irish, scattered over the wide expanse of country from the frontiers of the Province of Quebec to Lake Superior. Father Macdonell began at once his missionary labors. His zeal and charity overcame all obstacles. To him it mattered little that there were no bridges over rivers, no pathways through the forest. A bark canoe, a rude waggon, or the saddle, sufficed to speed him on his way, bringing the light of the Gospel into the rudest of encampments, the most remote of wildernesses. Here it was rude men, long strangers to sacramental grace; there it