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AN ACCOUNT

OF THE

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF CANADA,

·A BRANCH OF THE

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF LONDON.

COMPILED BY

ARCHIBALD JOHN MACDONELL,

(THE YOUNGER, OF GREENFIELD.)

A DIRECTOR OF THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF CANADA.

MONTREAL:

ARMOUR AND RAMSAY,

St. Francois Xavier Street.

1844.

TO JOHN MACDONELL^{add.}, ESQUIRE, PRESIDENT OF
THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF CANADA.

MY DEAR SIR,

When circumstances have forced a people to abandon their native country, and seek the means of subsistence among foreigners, or in the Colonies of their own country, they carry with them as a matter of course, the feelings and the prejudices,—alike honorable—which they had imbibed at home; to perpetuate which in the land of their adoption, to instil into the minds of their children the same principles they themselves had been taught, to teach them to love above all others—above even that of their own nativity, the country from which stern necessity alone could have driven their fathers, and with which all those fathers nearest and dearest associations are connected, and to rivet the connection between their new country and their old, among other means Emigrants have invariably adopted the formation of National Societies. It cannot be otherwise than that these Societies must answer the end for which they are instituted, and arguing with the intention of proving it, would be supererogatory and useless.

With such objects in view did the Highlanders in London establish the Highland Society of London, with what great success is well known. That this venerable and distinguished Institution has main-

ly contributed to preserve in its purity, the Highland character, and has done more to promote the general welfare of the Highlands, than any other Association, is a general and well grounded opinion.

While the Highlanders of Canada remember with gratitude, that to the late lamented Bishop Macdonell, they owe the establishment of a Branch of that Society among them, they cannot forget that to you they are indebted for its re-organization after it had ceased operation for fifteen years.

The generous and patriotic motives that animated you in the work cannot be sufficiently appreciated; but I am sure that you feel yourself in some measure recompensed for all your trouble and anxiety, when you consider how much the Society has already done to promote the objects for which it was established and re-organized.

In order that those objects may be more generally and more clearly known and understood, I have, by permission, compiled an account of the Society, containing the speech of Mr. Simon MacGillivray to the gentlemen who took part in its formation, from which more can be learned of the History and purposes of the Parent Society, than from any remarks I could make; the Constitution and By-Laws, a list of the Members, and such other information, the publication of which, I thought, would in any way tend to serve the Society, or interest and gratify its Members.

I do not think it necessary to appeal to the feelings of our countrymen for a liberal support of the Institution; this has already been given, and to their

credit be it spoken, that from Quebec to Amherst-
 burg the utmost enthusiasm has been shown in
 support of this Society, which I hope and believe
 will be the instrument of preserving in Canada the
 recollection of the Highland name, and with it the
 chivalrous and devoted loyalty, and other noble
 qualities which made the ancient Highland charac-
 ter the first in the world. Should the national char-
 acter be doomed to give way to the encroachments
 of modern innovations, you will have in an eminent
 degree, the satisfaction of knowing that you made
 an effort to save it.

As a Member of the Highland Society of Canada,
 I joined most heartily in the mark of grateful respect
 shewn by it to the memory of its venerated founder:
 and as such I desire to express my gratitude to its
 preserver, while as a private individual, I shew my
 respect for the Gentleman, by inscribing this small
 compilation to you.

I am, my dear Sir,

Very truly yours,

ARCH. JOHN MACDONELL,

(Younger of Greenfield.)

Greenfield, Glengarry, }
 22d Jan., 1844. }

AN ACCOUNT OF THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF CANADA.

CHAPTER I.

THE Right Reverend Bishop Macdonell, whose whole life was spent in the service of his countrymen, rightly judging that the establishment of such an Institution would be of very material benefit to them, solicited and obtained from the Highland Society of London, of which he was a distinguished member, a commission to establish a Branch in Canada, addressed to five members of the Society residing in Canada, of which number the Bishop himself was one. Upon its receipt, the gentlemen to whom it was addressed, being of opinion that the Counties of Glengarry and Stormont, forming the great Highland Settlement in Canada, would offer at once the greatest facility for the establishment, and the most favourable field for the operation of such an Association, determined to hold the institutional meeting in them, and accordingly called a meeting of such gentlemen as were willing to aid, at the house of Mr. Angus Macdonell, at St. Raphaels, in Glengarry.

A highly respectable meeting took place in accordance with the requisition, on the 10th of November, 1818, over which Mr. Simon MacGillivray, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Highland Society of London presided, and at which were present among others, three of the best men and finest Highland gentlemen, this Province ever saw, the late Hon. William MacGillivray, the late Bishop Mac-

donell, and the late Hon. Neil MacLean, all of whom "though dead, still live in the hearts of their countrymen." The commission under which the Branch was to be instituted, being produced, was read as follows:—

"Whereas, the Highland Society of London was instituted in the year 1778, to associate together in the British metropolis, the nobility, landed proprietors and others of the Highlands, together with their descendants, the officers of Highland Corps, and gentlemen connected by family alliance with, or who have rendered some signal service to that part of the kingdom; for preserving the language, martial spirit, dress, music, and antiquities of the ancient Caledonians; for rescuing from oblivion the valuable remains of Celtic Literature; for the establishment and support of Gaelic; for relieving distressed Highlanders at a distance from their native homes, and for promoting the welfare and general improvement of the Northern parts of the Island of Great Britain. And whereas, the said Society to extend the benefit of their Institution, and to unite together in a central union their countrymen wherever situated, have resolved to issue commissions for the establishment of Branches thereof in the British Colonies, and other places at home and abroad, where Highlanders are resident, and being extremely desirous that a Branch should be established in Canada, you are hereby empowered and requested in pursuance of this Resolution, to found a Branch of the Highland Society of London in Canada accordingly, with authority to make such

By-Laws as may be necessary for the management thereof, in conformity to the principles and rules of the said Society.

(Signed)

FREDERICK, President."

"To

William MacGillivray, Esq.

Angus Shaw, Esq.

Rev. Alex. Macdonell.

John Macdonald, Esq.

Henry MacKenzie, Esq."

The Commission being laid on the table, the Chairman in opening the business of the meeting stated "that the best account of the objects and views of the Highland Society was to be found in the Commission just read, and it only remained for him to give some account of the origin and history of the Society, and to offer some suggestions in regard to the best mode of proceeding in the establishment of the proposed Branch thereof, by the gentlemen whom he had the honor of addressing.

"The Highland Society of London was at first merely a convivial club established by some young Highlanders, as a place of resort, where they met to spend occasional evenings among their countrymen, and recur to occurrences, recollections and feelings endeared to them by early associations; to resume the garb and language of their ancestors, and to introduce the songs of the bards and the music of the minstrels which had always bestowed and distinguished a peculiar character on the social meetings of Highlanders.

“ Happily the Highland Club thus established soon became known to many public spirited individuals of distinction and influence in society, and it occurred to them that the design might be extended and applied to public objects of the highest national utility. A public meeting of noblemen and gentlemen was accordingly assembled, and the Society was established for the public purposes recited in the Commission ;—with such views and with the support of a succession of men of the first rank and consideration in the country, it was scarcely necessary to add, that the Society had flourished and was now in the highest state of prosperity. It comprised in the list of its Members, with few, if any exceptions, all the noblemen and gentlemen connected with the Highlands, and who usually resorted to London. The names of several of the Princes graced the rolls of the Institution, and the Prince Regent himself had condescended to become a Member, and to accept the Highland distinction of Chief of the Society. In order further to increase the utility, and to insure the permanency of the Highland Society, it has been incorporated by an Act of Parliament, and might therefore be justly described a benevolent, a literary, and an antiquarian Society, with lawful authority superior to any other similar Institution in the United Kingdom.

“ To enter into any details respecting the beneficial services to the Highlands and to the country at large that are rendered by this Society, or even to enumerate them would occupy far too much of the time of this meeting, and therefore, he (the

Chairman) wished rather to suggest on what points it would be expedient for the Society about to be established in Canada to follow the example of the Parent Society, and what other objects conducive to the improvement and to the peculiar interests of this Province might be associated with those specified in the Commission. The objects of the Highland Society of London were, first, for preserving the language, martial spirit, dress, music, and antiquities of the ancient Caledonians, and thus maintaining a bond of association wherever they should meet. This wish to preserve in the present day the language and customs of other times might possibly be called prejudice, but so also might many of the noblest feelings which can actuate the human mind. Modern latitude of opinion might stigmatize as prejudice, the loyalty of the patriot and the self-devotedness of the soldier the self called ; citizen of the world, might in the language of universal philanthropy blame love of country itself, as a narrow and prejudiced feeling, and while we attempt to measure principles by their utility, might in fact reduce them to individual and sordid selfishness. But surely to a meeting of Highlanders it was unnecessary to enlarge on this point, or to explain how love of country might resolve itself into love of ones countrymen, and thence into attachment to the peculiar customs which distinguished those countrymen, and, even on the score of utility, to the garb which distinguished the Highland soldier, of the language in which the deeds of his forefathers were celebrated, and the music which animated him

in the day of battle, were objects well deserving the attention of those who wished to preserve unimpaired his martial spirit and devote him to the service of his country.

“ The next object of the Society, viz. : the rescuing from oblivion the valuable remains of Gaelic literature was one which he supposed could not be much promoted in this Province ; but if any such remains were still extant among any of the more ancient Emigrants, it was needless to point out the propriety of immediate attention to them. The object next specified, viz. : the establishment and support of Gaelic Schools, and the relieving of distressed Highlanders at a distance from their native homes, were both peculiarly applicable to the state of Society in this Province, where the means of bestowing generally the benefits of education were still very deficient, and where many Highland Emigrants were daily arriving in a state of poverty and distress.

“ The object of the Parent Society, for promoting the improvement and general welfare of the Northern parts of the Island of Great Britain, would probably in this branch thereof, be modified, so as to apply to the improvement and general welfare of the Highland settlements in this Province, and though he was deficient in local knowledge on the subject, yet the information he received left no room to doubt that by a judicious distribution of premiums for agricultural improvement, and by other means within the reach of the Society much might be done towards promoting an object so desirable.

“ This mention of premiums naturally led him to

consider the means of providing them, and of contributing to the other objects of the Society, which it was evident, could only be done by subscriptions to be paid by Members; and in fixing the rate of such subscriptions, the meeting would have to consider, on the one side, the expediency of raising ample funds to promote such laudable purposes, and on the other, the danger of deterring eligible Members from coming forward, by exacting too high a contribution on admission into the Society. On this point, and indeed upon many other on which he had touched, he, (the Chairman) had derived much information and assistance, from a gentleman well known to the meeting, and highly esteemed by all to whom he was known; a gentleman active and indefatigable in promoting every object connected with the prosperity of the Province, and to whose individual exertions the meeting was indebted for obtaining the Commission under which they were then assembled, and for organizing the measures to be brought before them. This gentleman was the Rev. Alexander Macdonell, and he (the Chairman) stated that this gentleman's previous approbation of the propositions to be submitted to the meeting would of itself be sufficient to procure them a favourable reception. It only remained to speak of the internal regulations of the Society.

“The Constitution of the Parent Society was established by Act of Parliament, and the By-Laws (of which he presented a copy) had been framed with great care, and were the result of long experience. Still however they might be found to con-

tain regulations unsuitable to the state of Society in this Province, and it appeared to be the safest plan to adopt provisionally the Constitution and By-Laws of the Parent Society, and to appoint a Committee to consider and report such modifications of them as might appear expedient, and beneficial to the interests of the Society.

“ A similar course might perhaps be adopted with advantage, in regulating the meetings and providing for the expenses attending them, so as never to infringe upon the funds of the Society, which he trusted would always be preserved inviolate, and be strictly applied to the objects specified in the Constitution.

“ A certain number of meetings it was evidently necessary to hold, but it would be well to guard against making them too frequent or too expensive. The meetings of the Parent Society were generally held at that period of the year when London was the resort of persons of distinction from all parts of the country, and their general Annual Meeting was held on the 21st of March to celebrate the Anniversary of the Battle of Alexandria.

“ In this Province the seasons of the year and the state of the roads would necessarily be taken into consideration in appointing the time of meeting, and there was no season in the year in which days might not be selected endeared to the feelings of the Highlanders by the deeds and fame of their gallant countrymen. He understood that the summer would be the most convenient season for the General Annual Meeting of the Society, and the Anniversary of the

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Battle of Bannockburn had been suggested as an appropriate occasion for Scotchmen and the descendants of Scotchmen to commemorate, and certainly he concurred in the opinion, that it was in many respects highly interesting to celebrate the day on which the land of their forefathers had been defended against invasion and rescued from oppression, but in other respects the selection of a day on which Scotchmen had vanquished Englishmen might give room for misconstruction, and it appeared to him, more proper to select the Anniversary of a day equally dear to their own feelings and nearer their own times, a day on which Englishmen, Irishmen, and Scotchmen had fought side by side, or, as the Highland sentiment better expressed it, *shoulder to shoulder* for the good not only of Britain alone, but of Europe, and even of the civilized world, against a foe more formidable than Edward, and against a tyrant equally oppressive. It was scarcely necessary to mention the 18th of June, the anniversary of the glorious field of Waterloo, as a day on which Highlanders had maintained the reputation of their country and emulated the deeds of their ancestors. He would therefore propose that day to be selected for the Anniversary meeting of the Highland Society of Canada."

It was then resolved, That it is expedient to establish in this Province a Branch of the Highland Society of London to be called the Highland Society of Canada. After a Constitution which declared the objects of the newly formed Society similar to those of the Parent Society, had been adopted, the meet-

ing proceeded to the election of Office Bearers, when the Rev. Alexander Macdonell, (afterwards Bishop) communicated the highly gratifying intelligence that he had solicited and obtained the consent of his Excellency Sir Peregrine Maitland to become President, and the following gentlemen were unanimously elected to, and with the exception of the President, were immediately installed into their respective offices :—

President.

Sir Peregrine Maitland, K. C. B., &c. &c. &c.

Vice Presidents.

The Rev. Alex. Macdonell.

Hon. Col. Neil MacLean.

Lieut. Col, Donald Macdonell.

Treasurer.

Alexander Frazer, Esquire.

Secretary.

Archibald MacLean, Esquire.

Directors.

Roderick MacLeod,

Alexander MacLean,

Alexander Wilkinson, Esquires.

After a vote of thanks had been given to the Hon. William MacGillivray and Mr. Simon MacGillivray, for their attendance at, and able assistance in the formation of the Society, the meeting broke up.

I will not go on to say how beneficial the Society thus established became under the able management of the gentlemen who severally held the different offices from this time forward until its dis-

organization, the exact time of which, I am ignorant of. It will be quite enough for my purpose that it contributed very much to the objects it avowed, and drew upon itself the blessings of many distressed Highlanders whom it relieved at a distance from their native homes. In looking over the Records I observed several liberal contributions in money to the assistance of gentlemen engaged in the publication of works in the Gaelic language, and a succession of premiums to Gaelic scholars, performers on the bagpipe and the best dressed Highlanders. Nor were the remains of Celtic Literature neglected, though certainly no very great field for discovery in that way existed in Canada; some collection of poetry was made, but I regret to say that most of the papers are now lost.

Had it continued in the useful course it was pursuing, the task it has again undertaken would not have been of so difficult a nature, for the exertions of those gentlemen who took a leading part in it continued, would have made working out its objects grow gradually of easier accomplishment, while they would have been of great service to the country generally by extending the bounty of the Society throughout it.

I cannot explain, because I cannot find out exactly the causes which led to the discontinuance of the operations of the Institution; but I think that it is to be attributed in a great measure to the death of some and the removal of others of the Master Spirits who guided it, from this part of the country; and to the frequency of the meetings and to the

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high rate at which the yearly subscription was fixed. It must be borne in mind, that however anxious all the Members of a Society are that their Association should prosper, few are willing or do take upon themselves the trouble of the business drudgery, without the strictest attention to which it is impossible that the Society can flourish; and when I compare dates, I find that the loss to the Highland Society of its enthusiastic working supporters and its disorganization are coeval. The expense and trouble attendant on a meeting in those days were much greater than they are now, and when no one person could be any longer found to make it his business to procure good meetings, I do not wonder that by degrees they became less numerously attended, and less encouraging.

The subscription was fixed so high that few could afford to join the Society; and consequently it was obliged to find active supporters within a smaller circle than it would have had, had the subscription been more moderate. Deprived then of these, without the power of obtaining others—deprived of the fostering care and immediate superintendance of Bishop Macdonell, by his removal to Kingston, with a heavy subscription, and the heavier weight of frequent meetings at a place many miles distant from the residences of almost all its Members, the Society struggled for some time under all the difficulties imposed upon it by political excitement and the private dissension of some of its Members, and then sank into the sleep from which it has just now awakened.

But while there is every reason why a good Highlander should regret its disorganization, there is abundant matter for his gratification, in its re-establishment and present success, and the hope of its long continuance in prosperity and usefulness.

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CHAPTER II.

Mr. Macdonald of Gart, seeing the state of the Society, and regretting as every true-hearted Highlander must have done than an Institution from which so much might be expected in the way of keeping alive the National character of his countrymen, and by this means contributing essentially to their moral and wordly welfare and happiness. "An Institution," says His Lordship Bishop Strachan, in a letter to the Secretary, "calculated to do so much good in the Province, and in which my lamented friend Bishop Macdonell took such delight and interest," should have been allowed to sink into so unfortunate a condition, with a view to raise its Members from their lethargy, and place it again in a position in which it might do credit to the stock from which it sprung and to itself, and good to the country in which it existed, called publicly upon its Members and those interested in its objects, to meet at Williamstown, in Glengarry, on the 26th December, 1842, to take such steps as they might think conducive to its re-organization. In consequence of which several gentlemen met at the time and place appointed, and calling to the chair Mr. Macdonald, and upon Mr. Arch. John Macdonell to act as Secretary, pro tem, they organized a meeting of the Highland Society of Canada.

Upon taking the Chair, Mr. Macdonald said, "That believing he was the sole survivor of the

gentlemen to whom the Commission obtained by the late Bishop Macdonell from the Highland Society of London to establish a Branch in Canada, was addressed, he thought it his duty in the present neglected state of the Branch established under it, to call this meeting to take some steps to place it upon a more respectable and worthy footing.

“The gentlemen present would all agree with him, he was sure, that after the Society had been formed, and had continued for many years in active and useful operation, it was a matter much to be regretted that it should have been suffered to suspend operation entirely for so long a time—a result never contemplated by the Parent Society or by those gentlemen who entered so enthusiastically into its formation.

“When the Society was about to be formed the gentlemen to whom the Commission issued considered the County of Glengarry, the only purely Highland settlement in the Province—containing in itself a large majority of the Highlanders of Canada, with many respectable and influential gentlemen resident in it, and presenting in itself so large a field for the operations of the Society, was the most proper place for opening the Commission and holding the institutional meeting; and it was there for many years supported and conducted with much spirit and zeal; regular meetings were held, and liberal premiums were awarded for different things, as will appear more fully by reference to the records.

“Branches of the great Highland Society have been

established in all quarters of the Empire, and being every where conducted with spirit, do a vast deal of good in carrying out its objects. Canada, the adopted home of so many thousands of Highlanders; the County of Glengarry so particularly distinguished for its loyalty and patriotism ought not to be backward in supporting one, and he appealed to the gentlemen present in the confident hope that they would coincide with him in the opinion, that they were imperatively called upon to take some immediate steps to rescue the Canadian branch from the disreputable condition in which it had been too long suffered to remain.

“With the experience of the past, he hoped they could now reorganize and maintain it with credit to themselves, while they rendered it of some service to the country, and he therefore desired to be allowed to suggest that some Resolution having the re-establishment of the Society as its purport be moved, which he had no doubt would be most favourably received.”

The Chairman having concluded his remarks, Colonel Donald Macdonell moved, second by Mr. Macdonell of Greenfield, and it was resolved:—

“That the Highland Society of Canada, instituted in 1818, by virtue of a commission from the Highland Society of London, be re-organized; and that a meeting be held on the 19th of January next at this place for the purpose of electing Officers for the ensuing year, admitting new members, and transacting any other business relative to the more perfect re-organization of the Society, that may come before it.”

After passing a vote of thanks to Mr. Macdonald of Gart, the Chairman, for having called them together, and for his able assistance in re-organizing the Society, the meeting was adjourned until the 19th of January, 1843.

This day arrived, and it was one of the most disagreeable I recollect having experienced, a heavy cold rain, which after wetting one through, froze, and fastened him to his coat, having commenced early, and continuing to fall without any abatement during the whole day ; but notwithstanding, a large meeting of the Society was held pursuant to adjournment, at Macdonell's, and several new Members having been admitted without a ballot, the Society proceeded to settle its Constitution, and elect its Officers for the year to end on the 8th of January, 1844. Having got through the business, it adjourned the meeting until the 22d of February following, on the evening of which it was determined to give the first Annual Ball.

In the evening, the members dined together for the first time, the newly elected President, Mr. Macdonald of Gart, presiding ; and after spending an evening marked by the greatest harmony, and national and patriotic feeling, separated, every one feeling a proud consciousness of having done something worthy of himself by contributing his share to the establishment and support of an Institution having for its avowed objects the cultivating in the present generation, and the handing down to posterity those sentiments of natural honor, dignity, and morality, which distinguished his ancestors.

Of the meeting on the 22d of February, it is not necessary to say any thing more than that it was followed by a very pleasant ball, at which some of the members appeared in the Highland dress.

It now becomes my pleasing task to speak of an act of the Society,—the first public act since its re-organization—which was hailed with the highest degree of satisfaction, not alone the Highlanders of Glengarry, but by all true-hearted British subjects in the United Province—the erection of a monument by it to the memory of the author of its existence—the late Bishop Macdonell.

Were the Society to have been revived solely for that purpose, and were it never to do another act from which good of any kind could be derived, I will be supported in advancing, that it has already done enough to entitle it to the gratitude and best wishes of all Canadians, for it has spared them the possibility of other peoples' turning upon them with scorn, to say "you have allowed him who was your warmest and best friend, whose long and valuable life was uninterruptedly devoted to your service, without distinction of your race or creeds to lay dead for upwards of three years, without your having gratitude enough among you to pay any—the slightest mark of respect to his memory. Yes! you accepted all that he could do for you, received all that he could give you, and when he died, and give no more, you neglected his memory."

The day on which this monument was erected must be looked upon in Canada, as a day to which no ordinary interest is attached; and will be for ever

remembered by being associated with the undying remembrance of him who has very appropriately been called "the father of his people." On it the Highland Society must ever look with peculiar satisfaction, as upon a day conferring everlasting honor upon them; and when those who now compose it, and who were engaged in that day's good work are gone where their illustrious founder has preceded them, may their successors by a continuance of the generous and patriotic feelings, which governed that day, bear out the Rev. Mr. Urquhart, in saying, "that while this was an act worthy of the new-being of the Society, it was an act, *auspicious of its future character.*"

At a meeting of the Society at Cornwall on the 9th of May, 1843, over which the President presided, the Rev. Mr. Urquhart, to whom an intimate acquaintance with that inestimable man, had endeared the memory of the Bishop, after some eloquent and most feeling remarks introduced the following Resolution, which being seconded by the Rev. George Alexander Hay, was put and carried amid the silent applause of those present:—

Resolved, That the Highland Society of Canada do erect on the 18th of June next, in the Parish Church at St. Raphaels, a Tablet to the memory of the late Bishop Alexander Macdonell; that the Society meet on that day which is the day of the festival anniversary meeting, at eleven o'clock in Macdonell's in Williamstown, and proceed thence at twelve o'clock in procession to the Parish Church, where the Rev. John Macdonald be re-

quested to read prayers to erect the tablet ; and that George S. Jarvis, Esq., Guy C. Wood, Esq., and Alex. MacMartin, Esq., be a Committee to procure such tablet."

A tablet of very beautiful workmanship bearing the following inscription :—

ON THE 18TH of JUNE, 1843,
THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF CANADA

ERECTED THIS TABLET TO THE MEMORY OF
THE HONOURABLE AND RIGHT REVEREND
ALEXANDER MACDONELL,

BISHOP OF KINGSTON,

BORN 1760.—DIED 1840.

Tho' dead he still lives

In the hearts of his countrymen.

having been procured by the Committee appointed for that purpose, was, under the direction of Mr. Macdonell, the Secretary (the compiler of this account) placed in the Church on Saturday, the 17th of June, to be ready against the coming of the Society on the following Monday, to witness its consecration by the Church.

The members of the Society began to arrive at Williamstown about eleven o'clock on Monday, shortly after which a guard of honour from the 2d Regiment of Glengarry Militia, under the command of Captain J. A. Macdonell, (a grand nephew of the late Bishop's) arrived. At twelve the Society and the immense multitude of the country people, whose respect to the memory of the late Bishop,

brought them together to witness the first mark of respect paid to his Lordship's memory in a country which owed so much to his exertions, and to honour the Society while so engaged, formed into a procession and took their way to St. Raphaels. When about half a mile out of the village they were met by the very Rev. John Macdonald and his worthy colleague in the cause of religion, the Rev. Mr. Macdonald of Alexandria, at the head of about three hundred men on horseback, who formed in rear of the procession which they followed to St. Raphaels. Arriving at the "Corners," the whole road between them and the Church, upwards of a mile, was found to be lined with green bushes and arches every now and then; and the moment the procession passed under the first arch, an Artillery detachment from the 2d Regiment Glengarry Militia commenced firing minute guns, which they continued until it had arrived at the Church where it was received by an immense concourse of people, composed of persons of all ranks, politics and religion, and in which members of the fair sex, were to be seen intermingled with stout and stalworth Highlanders.

Nothing could be finer than the effect the tout ensemble had; yet though the whole country turned out to pay one mark of respect to the memory of their friend, even this, was a slight acknowledgment of all that the Bishop had done for his countrymen.

From the door of the Church the President addressed the assemblage as nearly as I can recollect in these words:—

“ As President of the Highland Society of Canada, I feel myself called upon to make some observations with respect to the interesting occasion which has brought us this day together, at this place, and I regret much my inability to do so, as I could wish. We must all feel an inward satisfaction that the first of the Society’s acts since its re-organization, has been the erection of this tablet to the memory of a man, whose loss to the country we must all deplore.

“ The late Bishop Macdonell was in all respects an uncommon man ; one of those whom we see rise up in an age to advance the good of mankind and elevate our conception of human nature ; he was, in a word, a great and good man. His private virtues endeared him to all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, and his exalted patriotism and devoted loyalty to his Sovereign, will long cause his name to be cherished at home and abroad, I may truly say that no one ever had the honour and prosperity of his country more truly at heart, than his late lordship ; and although this tribute to his memory is small and of little value, when compared with his great worth, it is to be hoped that generations to come will appreciate the motives from which it originated. This solemn ceremony,—this first act of our revived Society, must, I am convinced, be highly approved of, wherever this worthy man and true Christian was known.

“ To Glengarry, in particular, where the prime of his valuable life was spent, and for the prosperity of which, and to maintain the honour and elevate

the character of whose people all the energies of his mind were ever directed, this day must indeed be gratifying ; and I trust that I shall live to see the day, when a grateful people shall erect in this place a regular monument, worthy of his memory, to which the passer by may point and pointing say,—
“ Here were spent the best days of Bishop Macdonell, the father of his people.”

“ We all know his great anxiety to preserve in this country, the language and genuine character of the Highlanders. He early conceived the idea of forming here a Highland Society, and with that object in view he procured from the Highland Society of London, the Commission under which we now act ; of the Society thus formed he continued to fill the Presidential Chair with much ease and dignity while it remained in active operation. All those associated with him in that Commission with the exception of the humble individual who now addresses you, are now no more, but they all live in our memories, and one of them in particular, as the dear and sincere friend of the late Bishop—the Honourable William MacGillivray, whose cordial co-operation and generous liberality, contributed so much to the formation of the Society—may, I trust, without any irreverence, have his name associated with this day’s work.

I will not detain you any longer by enlarging on the character of this inestimable Prelate ; it will remain for future historians to give it to posterity, with those of other eminent men of his day ; and I will conclude by hoping that we may all follow the

example of our departed and lamented President, in promoting the objects of our Society with zeal, harmony, and cordiality, and by doing so, confer a benefit on our country and reflect credit on ourselves."

The President having ceased speaking the bell rang for Church, where the Vicar General delivered, a short but impressive discourse. The Hon. Mr. MacGillivray addressed the people in the Gaelic language on their coming out, but I regret being unable to give his speech, which from the impression it seemed to make upon his hearers, must have been worthy of him, being, I am ashamed to say, unacquainted with the language in which it was delivered. Every thing being over, the Society returned to Williamstown under a salute of ten guns, carrying with it the conviction that in Glengarry there was a field worthy of its best exertions.

At seven o'clock, forty members of the Society with their guests sat down to dinner in Macdonell's fine banqueting room, which was tastefully decorated with colours. Many of the gentlemen present wore the Highland dress, and the whole presented a very brilliant appearance. The President presided with the Hon. Mr. MacGillivray as Senior Vice President at the foot of the table. Grace was said by the Very Rev. Vicar General Macdonald in Gaelic. MacInnis formerly piper to the late Macdonell of Glengarry and Clan Ranald, was in attendance, and enlivened the evening by playing several fine pibrochs and marches.

On the removal of the cloth the President rose and said:—

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“The solemn ceremony in which we have this day been engaged, must I am sure be generally approved of, and we must endeavour to cherish the memory of the worthy man by whom the Society was formed. When I see the goodly company assembled round this festive board, I must congratulate the Society that in so short a time, it has done so much more than the most sanguine amongst us could have anticipated. When we re-organized the Society in December last, we had but a few of the old Members with us ; almost all of them are dead, but our list now shows upwards of one hundred, comprising many of the most respectable individuals in the Canadas, and you will be gratified I am sure in learning that His Excellency the Governor General has done us the honor of becoming our Chief and Patron. I feel confident that he will take a strong interest in our prosperity, and we must hope that he may on some future day honor us with his presence. I trust that you are satisfied with the proceedings hitherto ; and I have particular reason to be so with the zeal, energy and decision of our able Secretary. To our Vice Presidents I give my thanks for their active co-operation with me in my endeavours to promote the welfare of the Institution, and to the Committee, in general for their ready and steady concurrence on all occasions. You have done me the honor, gentlemen, of electing me your first President, but I am confident that there are many among you who could discharge the duty required from the Chair better than I can, I shall, therefore, claim your in-

dulgence and proceed with the toasts of the evening, as best I can ; and first on the list of woman-kind, I shall give you first of Sovereigns :—

“ Our beloved Queen, Victoria—may God bless her,” which was received with Highland loyalty and enthusiasm.

I will not go on to report all the loyal and national toasts that were given, nor the excellent speeches that were made in the course of the evening, which was spent in a most happy manner ; but I will use the words of Mr. George Bain, the Honorary Secretary of the Highland Society of London, in his account of their last anniversary meeting, as applicable to this evening, and all festival meetings of Highland Societies.

“ Many loyal and patriotic toasts were drank with Highland honors, and great enthusiasm. The scene was enlivened by the inspiring strains of the Highland bag-pipes ; some favourite national airs were performed by Donald MacKay, piper to the Society, with his usual skill, to the evident delight of the company, and recalled to the recollections of many present, the convivial meetings of their ancestors, in days gone bye, in the halls of their fatherland. The feelings of Highland hospitality remain the same as of yore, the altered circumstances of the time alone preventing the more frequent enjoyment of such reunions.

Old and young appeared alike to enter into a closer bond of union, and when the toast of “ Highlanders shoulder to shoulder,” was given, the roof of the hall rang with loud and repeated shouts of de-

light; well might Wellington be led to say, as he once did, of the Highland Regiments, "These are the men to conquer." Splendid as was the victory of Alexandria (in commemoration of which this Anniversary is held) obtained over the very elite of the French army, themselves brave and invincible in the field of battle against all their enemies, with one exception, the British, when we recollect that the men engaged in that battle were Highlanders, actuated by one feeling a determination to conquer or die, then we must no longer wonder that they were irresistible. Abercromby and the heroes who fell with him covered with glory, still live in the hearts of their countrymen, who when called upon to defend their native land, will always be found true Highlanders.

Midnight arrived before the company were disposed to separate. It is on such occasions that hand joins to hand, and friendships are formed between congenial spirits, which last as long as life endures, and when, in fulfilling the calls of duty, in far distant lands, such men meet, they revert to their first happy meeting, and though separated from their friends by land and sea, they feel that they are still one in heart, and are of one loved country, "their hearts are in the Highlands."

The Society having reported its re-organization to the Highland Society of London, in December, 1842, received on the 24th of June following a communication from that distinguished Institution, expressing its great satisfaction at the revival of the Society and an entire approval of its proceedings,

with an offer of rendering all the assistance in its power to promote the objects of this branch.

Upon His Excellency Sir Charles Metcalfe's way from Montreal to Kingston, in September last, the Society waited upon its "Chief" at Cornwall, and presented him with an address which after welcoming him to this part of the country, and thanking him for the honor he had done it in becoming its Chief, assured His Excellency that the members of the Society would individually and collectively do their utmost to keep alive among their countrymen that spirit of devoted loyalty to their Sovereign which so particularly distinguished their ancestors; and to maintain unbroken the connection between this their adopted land and that glorious country which they called "Home."

His Excellency replied very graciously that the assurance of their best exertions in the cause of loyalty and honor, was scarcely necessary—they were Highlanders. He thanked them for electing him their Chief, and, while he regretted that his time would not permit of his seeing as much of them as he could wish, he hoped to be able to see more of them at a future day.

Upon the 8th of January of this year, the Winter General Meeting was held, at which Officers for the ensuing year were elected, and other business appertaining to the government of the Society disposed of.

I hope, I will be pardoned for speaking of myself; but as it is a compliment in which I may well, and do feel, an honest pride, as would any

other Highlander placed in my situation, I cannot forbear adding that it was moved by Guy Carlton Wood, Esq., third Vice President, seconded by James MacCracken, Esq., Director, and carried unanimously :—

“ That it be resolved that the thanks of this Society are due, and that they be hereby given to Archibald John Macdonell, Esquire, the Younger of Greenfield, for the very zealous and able manner in which he served the Society as Secretary since its re-organization.”

At a very brilliant ball which followed this meeting, I noticed double the number of gentlemen in the dress of their fathers, that I have seen on any former occasion. Indeed so urgently has the Society pushed that great object of its establishment, that the restoration of the Highland dress, in some measure, may confidently be looked for ; and in closing my account of the Institution, the most fervent manner in which I can express my enthusiastic desire for its success is by saying, “ May it succeed in carrying out all its objects, as well as it has in the preservation of the Highland Dress.”

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CHAP. III.
HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF CANADA,
INSTITUTED 10TH NOVEMBER, 1818,
BY VIRTUE OF A
COMMISSION FROM THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF LONDON.

For preserving the martial spirit, language, dress, music, and antiquities of the Ancient Caledonians ;
For rescuing from oblivion the valuable remains of Celtic Literature ;

For the establishment and support of Gaelic Schools in the Highlands of Scotland, and in other parts of the British Empire ;

For relieving distressed Highlanders at a distance from their native home ; and

For promoting the improvement, and general welfare, of the northern parts of the Kingdom, and of the Highland settlements in Canada.

Constitution of the Society.

Act 1st.—The Governor General of British North America, for the time being to be respectfully requested to become Chief.

Act 2nd.—The Society to consist of a President, three Vice Presidents, one Treasurer, two Auditors, twelve Directors, one Secretary, and an indefinite number of Members.

Act 3rd.—Persons eligible to be proposed Members of the Society shall be Highlanders and their descendants; individuals who have rendered essential service to Highlanders; Officers of Highland Corps, Regular or Militia; and Husbands of Highland Ladies.

Act 4th.—Twelve persons, and no more, may be elected Honorary Members, without possessing any of the qualifications mentioned in the foregoing rule.

Act 5th.—The affairs of the Society to be managed by a Committee, consisting of a President, Treasurer, Auditors, Directors, Secretary, for the time being; three of whom shall form a quorum, for the transaction of business.

Act 6th.—All business proposed for the consideration of the Society, shall first be discussed and determined on by the Committee of Management, which shall always meet previous to any General Court; but whose proceedings must be approved of by the next General Court before they shall be binding or have effect.

Act 7th.—All questions upon the proceedings of

the Society, at any General Court or Committee of Management, shall be decided by vote; and in case of an equality of votes, the President, or Chairman, to have the casting vote, save and except in the election of members, as hereafter mentioned.

General Courts.

Act 1st.—A General Court of the Society shall be holden at least three times a year; that is to say on the third Monday in December; on the second Wednesday in January, and on the eighteenth day of June; and in case the eighteenth day of June should fall upon a Sunday, then, and in that case it shall be holden on the nineteenth, the day immediately following.

Act 2d.—When occasion shall require a Special General Court may be holden by order of a majority of the Committee; or upon the written requisition of any five members of the Society, addressed to any ~~five members~~ of the Office-Bearers or Directors, giving five days notice of such meeting; but a General Court convened on any notice, shall be considered a regular Court of the Society.

Act 3rd.—The President, one or more Vice Presidents, the Treasurer, Secretary, with six members, or in the absence of the President, Vice Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretary,—eight members, one of whom sha'll be a Director shall form a General Court.

Act 4th.—The President, Vice Presidents, Trea-

sureur, Auditors, Directors, and Secretary, shall be elected annually at the General Court on the third Monday in December, and they shall continue in Office until the third Monday in December following inclusive.

Act 5th.—The General Court to be holden on the 18th of June in each year, being intended to celebrate the Anniversary of the glorious battle of Waterloo, shall be considered the Anniversary festival of the Society; and the expenses thereof, shall be defrayed by issuing tickets of admission at a price not to exceed fifteen shillings.

Act 6th.—Every member residing within the Eastern District who does not intend to be present at the Anniversary festival on the eighteenth day of June, shall signify such his intention to the Secretary, and enclose his annual subscription, post paid, or, by private conveyance at least a fortnight before that day; and thus save the expense of ordering dinner for a greater number than is necessary; otherwise he shall be subject to pay a fine of five shillings, as the Committee taking it for granted that he intends to be present, will order dinner for him.

Act 7th.—The General Court to be holden on the second Wednesday in January, shall be followed by the Annual Ball, the expenses of which are to be defrayed in like manner as above.

Act 8th.—As the general adoption of the Garb of the ancient Caledonians, at the General Courts of the Society, would tend to excite and preserve the national spirit of Highlanders, which has so conspicuously and honourably displayed in all parts

of the world ; it is earnestly recommended to all members to whom it may be convenient, to appear at the several General Courts of the Society in the Highland dress ; and all members of the Society are directed to wear a plaid of whatever Tartan they may please, at every General Court.

Election of Members.

Act 1st.—Persons desirous of becoming members of the Society, shall be proposed at one of the General Court's of the same, and elected by a ballot ; and such person shall be excluded, as shall appear to have had three black balls placed against his name.

Act 2nd.—All members of the Parent Society shall, on their arrival in Canada, (if they desire it,) be considered members of this Branch during their residence in Canada, paying the annual subscription of five shillings.

Act 3rd.—In case it shall be the unanimous desire of the members present at any election of members, that the ballot should be dispensed with, and that the person then in nomination should be elected a member of the Society, such person so elected, shall be deemed and taken to have been elected by ballot, and shall be admitted a member.

Financial Department.

Act 1st.—Every member shall pay a yearly subscription of five shillings, or in lieu thereof a life-subscription of three pounds, and every member on his admission shall pay the sum of five shillings as an entrance fee.

Act 2nd.—The interest only of the Life-Subscriptions, shall be applicable to the purposes of the Society.

Act 3rd.—The Auditors are to receive and audit all accounts, and to give orders for the payment of such as they approve of, on the Treasurer, who shall pay them in the order in which they are presented; they are likewise to examine the Treasurer's books at least once in every year.

Act. 4th.—There shall be three Solicitors to the Society who shall reside within the Eastern District.

Establishment of Branches.

For more effectually promoting the objects of the Society, and that Highlanders and their descendants, and those connected with Scotland by alliance, friendship, or otherwise may cultivate an attachment to each other and to their Parent land, wherever they may happen to reside; Branches of the Society shall be established wherever any number of Scotchmen are settled in Canada, by directions to those who are most likely to take a pride and pleasure in being connected with this Society, authorizing them to form such Branches, at the head of which, they shall be placed by this Society as Vice Presidents, and to constitute them on principles the best calculated to promote the objects of the Society, under the peculiar circumstances of each place.

Reports.

All proceedings of this Society to be reported regularly to the Parent Society.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF CANADA,
1844.

Chief.

His Excellency Sir C. T. Metcalfe, Baronet,
Governor General of Canada, &c. &c. &c.

President.

John Macdonald, Esq., of Gart.

Vice Presidents.

Hon. John MacGillivray,
Colonel Donald Macdonell, Greenfield,
Guy Carlton Wood, Esq.

Treasurer.

Hugh MacGillis, Esq.

Auditors.

Alexander Macdonell, Esq., Greenfield,
Keneth Macdonald, Esq.

Directors.

Duncan Macdonell, Esq., Greenfield,
George S. Jarvis, Esq.

Alexander Macdonell, Esq., Inch.
Alexander MacLean, Esq., M.P.P.

Donald Æneas Macdonell, Esq.

Donald Macdonald, Esq.

James Grant, Esq.

Alexander MacMartin, Esq.

Alexander Macdonell Esq., Greenfield,

Angus Cattenach, Esq.

James MacCracken, Esq.

Archibald John Macdonell, Esq., Younger of
Greenfield.

Secretary.

John Neil MacLean, Esq.

ALPHABETICAL LIST

OF THE

MEMBERS.

Bethune, Rev. John, Montreal, 1823.

Blacklock, Ambrose, St. Andrews, 1822.

Blackwood, John, Montreal, 1843.

Campbell, Archibald, Glengarry, 1843.

Campbell, Charles Archibald, Montreal, 1843.

Cameron, John Hillyard, Toronto, 1843.

Cameron, M. P. P., Malcolm, Kingston, 1843.

Cattenach, Angus, Glengarry, 1843.

Chesley, M. P. P., Solomon Y. Cornwall, 1843.

Clarke, Duncan, Matilda, 1843.

Colquhoun, Sutherland, Glengarry, 1843.

Colquhoun, Walter, do.

Davidson, Colonel John, Huntingdon, 1843.

Dingwall, John, Glengarry, 1843.

Dunlop, M. P. P., William, Goderich, 1843.

Finlayson, M. D., John, Cornwall, 1843.

Forbes, M. P. P., Charles John, Carrillon, 1843.

Flanagan, John, Glengarry, 1843.

Frazer, Richard Duncan, Brockville, 1843.

Frazer, Simon, St. Andrews, 1818.

Frazer, William, Montreal, 1844.

French, B. Gordon, Cornwall, 1843.

Glass, Henry, Perth, 1843.
 Gordon, Hon. Lewis, Amherstburg, 1843.
 Grant, Allan, Glengarry, 1822.
 Grant, Hon. Alexander, L'Orignal, 1843.
 Grant, Alexander, Glengarry, 1818.
 Grant, John, Williamsburgh, 1843.
 Grant, John William, L'Orignal, 1843.
 Grant, William, Picton, 1843.
 Gunn, J., Prescott, 1844.

Hay, Rev. George Alexander, St. Andrews, 1843.

Jamieson, William, Rigaud, 1843.
 Jarvis, George S., Cornwall, 1824.

Kay, William, Cornwall, 1843.
 Kennedy, Angus, Montreal, 1843.

Low, Charles Adamson, Hawkesbury Mills, 1843.

MacAulay, Hon. John Simcoe, Toronto, 1843.
 MacBean, Archibald, Fitz Henry, 1844.
 MacCaw, Thomas, Quebec, 1843.
 MacCraken, James, Glengarry, 1843.
 MacCraken, James Jr., do.
 Macdonald, Alexander, Glengarry, 1843.
 Macdonald, Lieut. A.H., Glengarry Lt. Infantry, 1843
 Macdonald, Rev. Angus, Kingston, 1843.
 Macdonald, Angus D, Cornwall, 1843.
 Macdonald, Donald, h. p. 4th Rt., St. Andrews, 1843
 Macdonald, (F.), Donald, L'Orignal, 1843.

- Macdonald, Lieut. Duncan, 2d Glen. Militia, 1843.
 Macdonald, the Very Rev. V. G., Glengarry, 1818.
 Macdonald, of Gart, John, Glengarry, 1818.
 *Macdonald, John, Alexandria, 1843.
 Macdonell, John A., 2d Glengarry Militia, 1843.
 Macdonald, John A., Kingston, 1843.
 Macdonald, Joseph F. Lachine, 1843.
 Macdonald, M. D., Roderick, Cornwall, 1843.
 Macdonald, Roderick, Fitz Henry, 1843.
 Macdonald, Rolland, Cornwall, 1843.
 Macdonald, William, Gaspé, 1822.
 Macdonell, Allan, Cullachie, H. 1843.
 Macdonell, Allan, Lundie, Montreal, 1843.
 Macdonell, Ensign Aeneas, Glengarry Light Infantry,
 1843.
 Macdonell, Alexander, Inch, Mariatown, 1843.
 Macdonell, Alexander, Greenfield, Cornwall, 1843.
 Macdonell, Alexander, half-pay Glengarry Fencibles,
 Glengarry, 1818.
 Macdonell, the Rev. Alex. J., Prince Edward's
 Island, 1843.
 Macdonell, Angus, Cornwall, 1843.
 Macdonell, Archibald John, Younger of Greenfield,
 Glengarry, 1843.
 Macdonell, Colonel Donald, Greenfield, Cornwall,
 1818.
 Macdonell, Donald Aeneas, St. Andrews, 1823.
 Macdonell, Duncan, Greenfield, Glengarry, 1818.
 Macdonell, Duncan, Cornwall, 1843.
 Macdonell, Duncan, Glengarry, 1843.
 Macdonell, George A., Glengarry, 1843.

* Since dead.

- Macdonell, George, Cornwall, 1843.
 Macdonell, Ensing Reginald, Royal Canadian Rifle
 Regiment, 1843.
 Macdougall, Alexander, Cornwall, 1843.
 Macdougall, Donald, Niagara, 1843.
 MacGillis, Angus, Glengarry, 1843.
 MacGillis, Donald, Glengarry, 1843.
 MacGillis, Hugh, Glengarry, 1818.
 MacGillivray, Hon. John, Glengarry, 1818.
 MacGillivray, Angus, Glengarry, 1843.
 MacGruer, Duncan, Cornwall, 1843.
 MacGruer, William, London, 1843.
 MacIntosh, Donald, Riviere d'Lisle, 1843.
 MacLauchlin, Kenneth, Glengarry, 1843.
 MacLaurin, Rev. Mr., do
 MacLennan, Kenneth, do
 MacKenzie, James, Quebec, 1843.
 MacKay, Hon. Thomas, Bytown, 1843.
 MacLean, Hon. Mr. Justice, Toronto, 1818.
 MacLean, M. P. P., Alexander, Cornwall, 1818.
 MacLean, John Neil, Cornwall, 1843.
 MacMartin, Alexander, Cornwall, 1818.
 MacMartin, Malcolm, Glengarry, 1843.
 MacMillan, Alexander, Prescott, 1824.
 MacMillan, Alexander, Perth, 1843.
 MacMillan, Donald, Glengarry, 1843.
 MacMillan, Donald, Cornwall, 1843.
 MacNab, M.P.P., Sir Allan Napier, Hamilton, 1843
 MacNab of MacNab, Archibald, MacNab, 1843.
 MacPherson, Duncan, Glengarry, 1843.
 MacTavish, John George, Lake of Two Mountains,
 1843.

MacTavish, William, Qnebec, 1843.

Ratray, Charles, Cornwall, 1843.

Robertson, George, Cornwall, 1843.

Rose, Isaac N., Williamsburgh, 1843.

Rose, Jesse W., Williamsburgh, 1843.

Rose, William, Glengarry, 1843.

Rhynas, George, Montreal, 1843.

Rhynas, John, B. do

Simpson, Sir George, Governor Hudson's Bay, Com-
pany, 1844.

Shaw, Andrew, Montreal, 1843.

Scott, William James, Prescott, 1843.

Scott, Dr., Montreal, 1844.

Sproul, William, Glengarry, 1843.

Stewart, David, Amherstburg, 1843.

Stewart, Peter, Cornwall, 1843.

Stewart, M. P. P., William, Bytown, 1843.

Taylor, Hugh, Montreal, 1843.

Treadwell, Charles P., L'Orignal, 1843.

Urquhart, the Rev. Hugh, Cornwall, 1843.

Urquhart, Dalhousie, 1843.

Wainright, R. N., John, Carrillon, 1843.

Walker, John, Cornwall, 1843.

Wood, Guy Carlton, Cornwall, 1843.

HONORARY.

Armstrong, C. B., Major General Sir Richard
 Cartwright, John Solomon
 Hope, K. C. B., Major General Sir J. A.
 Jackson, K. C. B., Lieut. General Sir R. D.
 Kingston, Remegius, Lord Bishop of
 Prince, John
 Reid, Hon. Chief Justice
 Kobinson, Hon. Chief Justice
 Stuart, Bart., Hon. Chief Justice Sir James
 Stratton, M. D., Royal Navy, Thomas
 Toronto, John Lord Bishop of

BRANCH SOCIETIES.

Directions have been given to the following gentlemen, who have been appointed Vice Presidents, to establish Branches of the Highland Society of Canada, at the several places opposite their respective names.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF QUEBEC.*Vice Presidents..*

James MacKenzie, Esq.
 William MacTavish, Esq.

MONTREAL.

Andrew Shaw, Esq.
 Neil MacIntosh, Esq.

KINGSTON.

John A. Macdonald, Esq.

TORONTO.

Hon. Mr. Justice MacLean.
John Hillyard Cameron, Esq.

NIAGARA.

Donald Macdougall, Esq.

HAMILTON.

Sir Allan Napier MacNab.
Allan Macdonell, Esq., Cullachie.

AMHERSTBURG.

Hon. Lewis Gordon.
David Stewart, Esq.

BYTOWN.

The MacNab.
William Stewart, Dsq. M. P. P.
Hon. Thomas Mackay.

JOHNSTOWN.

Richard Duncan Frazer, Esq.
Alexander MacMillan, Esq.
William James Scott, Esq.

GODERICH.

William Dunlop, Esq., M. P. P.

PERTH.

Alexander MacMallan, Dsq.

PARENT SOCIETY.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF LONDON,
 INSTITUTED 28TH MAY, 1778,
 AND INCORPORATED 21ST MAY, 1816.

For preserving the martial spirit, language, dress,
 music, and antiquities of the Ancient Caledonians ;
 For rescuing from oblivion the valuable remains
 of Celtic Literature ;

For the establishment and support of Gaelic
 Schools in the Highlands of Scotland, and in other
 parts of the British Empire ;

For relieving distressed Highlanders at a distance
 from their native homes ; and

For promoting the improvement, and general
 welfare, of the northern parts of the Kingdom.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF LONDON,
 1843.

Chief.

Field Marshal His Royal Highness Prince
 Albert, K. G., C. C. B., &c. &c. &c.

President.

Field Marshal His Royal Highness the Duke
 of Cambridge, K. G., &c. &c. &c.

Vice-Presidents

George Forbes, Esq.

Colonel Sir Augustus D'Este, K. C. H.

Micheal F. Gordon, Esq., of Abergeldy.

Alexander Grant, Esq.

Lord Viscount Arbuthnot.

Treasurers.

Divie Robertson, Esq.
 Henry Longlands, Esq.
 David Charles Guthrie, Esq.

Auditors.

James Gordon Duff, Esq.
 Charles Sutherland, Esq.
 William F. Black, Esq.

Directors.

Alexander Frazer, Esq.
 Adam Johnstone, Esq.
 John MacKenzie, Esq.
 Robert Low, Esq.
 Donald Grassick, Esq.
 Edmund MacKinnon, Esq.
 William Annandale, Esq.
 Hector Rose, Esq.
 James Tullock, Esq.
 John Boucher, Esq.
 Mark Boyd, Esq.
 John Frazer, Esq.

Chaplains.

The Rev. Roderick MacLeod, D. D.
 The Rev. John Lees, M. A.

Honorary Secretary.

George Bain, Esq.

Accountant.

W. H. Marsden.

Piper.

Donald MacKay.

BRANCH SOCIETIES,

Established with objects similar to those of the
Parent Society.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF MADRAS,
Instituted 1st Janaary, 1814.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF CANADA,
Instituted 10th November, 1818.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF ABERDEEN,
Instituted 24th October, 1828.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF BOMBAY,
Instituted 2d May, 1822.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA,
Instituted 31st May, 1838.

**HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF PRINCE
EDWARD ISLAND,**
Instituted March, 1838.

**HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF ST. JOHN'S,
NEW BRUNSWICK,**
Instituted 13th June, 1842.

**HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF MIRAMICHI,
NEW BRUNSWICK.**
Instituted 13th June, 1842.

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THE CALEDONIAN ASYLUM,
IN CONNECTION WITH
THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF LONDON,
INCORPORATED 1815.

CALEDONIAN ASYLUM.

In connection with the Highland Society of London is the Caledonian Asylum, for supporting and educating the children of Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, natives of Scotland, who have died or been disabled in the service of their country, and of indigent Scottish parents resident in London, not entitled to Parochial relief. I will shew best the views and objects of this noble Institution, by copying the Preface to its Report to the Highland Society of London in the year 1841; while at the same time I can thank Mr. Bain, the Honorary Secretary to the Society, for the kind attention he has paid to my letters for information on that and other subjects of the Highland Society. Since that Report, Mr. James Mathewson, M. P., has nobly contributed one thousand pounds towards extending the benefits of the Institution to Girls; other gentlemen have likewise come forward for the same object—and the amount of subscriptions received since last May, for this purpose, is now upwards of two thousand pounds, in consequence of which immediate steps are to be taken to erect suitable buildings for the reception of girls. It has been considered the wisest plan to confine the instructions given to the boys to a substantial, plain religious education as likely to prove most useful to them in after life. The Medals of the Highland Society are presented by the Rev. the Scottish Presbytery at the annual examination, to those boys who have made the greatest progress.

THE CALEDONIAN ASYLUM was instituted for "Supporting and Educating the Children of Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines, Natives of Scotland, who have Died, or been Disabled, in the Service of their Country, and of Indigent Scotch Parents resident in London, not entitled to Parochial Relief."

The protracted and sanguinary wars in which this country had been engaged, and in which Scotchmen bore so distinguished a part, threw upon the country a greater number of the Widows and Orphans of those brave men who fell in the conflict, than had been known at any former period of our history. The Royal Institutions of Greenwich Chelsea, although liberally endowed, afforded an asylum but to a small proportion of the objects that pressed for admission; and many Orphans, the offspring of Scotch Soldiers and Sailors, were daily seen wandering in a forlorn condition.

Under these circumstances, it was deemed an object worthy of Scotchmen, and the most appropriate monument of the gratitude of their country, to establish an institution in the metropolis of the empire, for the Orphans and destitute Children of those who had devoted their lives to the service of their country, or who might hereafter stand forward in its defence in the hour of danger.

There was, besides, a numerous and meritorious class of Scotchmen residing in London, for whom no national institution had hitherto been provided.

It had long been a subject of regret, that—at a period when the value of education was so univer-

sally appreciated ; when the natives of many different countries resident in London, and some even of the counties of England, had establishments for the education of their infant poor,—no institution had been formed for the Children of Indigent Scotch Parents, notwithstanding the wealth and prosperity of so many individuals, natives of Scotland residing in London.

To remove this national stigma, and to provide the relief so urgently called for, the **HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF LONDON** determined, in the year 1808, to adopt measures for establishing an institution, to be called the **CALEDONIAN ASYLUM**, which should rescue these children from poverty, and afford them the blessings of education.

A Prospectus to this effect was accordingly issued, which was well received by the public. Many of the Nobility and Gentry subscribed liberally, and pledged their future support.

The measure, however, from the circumstances of the country at that period, was for some years suspended. Subscriptions to a considerable amount were in the meantime obtained in the West Indies, through the exertions of **GILBERT SALTOUN, Esq.**, and other patriotic individuals. In 1813 the subject was revived. The **HIGHLAND SOCIETY** prosecuted the measure with renewed vigour, and in a short time the subscriptions amounted to Ten Thousand Pounds.

It is but Justice to record, that **SIR CHARLES FORBES Bart.**, with that liberality and benevolence for which he is distinguished, advanced One Thousand

Pounds towards forwarding the object, in anticipation of contributions from his friends in Bombay, which was afterwards more than realised.

In the following year the HIGHLAND SOCIETY transferred the management of the ASYLUM to the Subscribers, when a Committee of their number was appointed, and measures adopted for organising the Institution; and on the 14th of June, 1815, it was incorporated by act of Parliament.

From unavoidable circumstances, the INSTITUTION was not opened for the reception of Children until December 1819, when the Committee, having procured premises in Cross Street, Hatton Garden, admitted 12 Boys on the foundation: the number was afterwards gradually increased to 40, being the utmost that the building could accommodate, with proper regard to the health of the inmates.

These premises were found unsuitable, and being from their locality incapable of extension, it became necessary to remove the Establishment to a more eligible situation.

Two acres of freehold ground were purchased in Copenhagen Fields, Inslington; the foundation of a suitable building was laid on the 17th May, 1827, and completed in September 1828, when the establishment was removed.

The building erected, although in itself complete, forms only the centre part of a design, which can at any time be progressively extended, or completed, as the means of the Corporation increase. It is capable of containing 100 Children; but, at present, there are only 76 Boys on the establishment, being

the utmost that the funds of the INSTITUTION can support.

The children are admitted from the age of 7 to 10 years, and retained until they have arrived at 14, when they are apprenticed to trades, or otherwise disposed of, according to circumstances.

They receive a plain, useful education, and the utmost care is bestowed on their moral and religious instruction, under the superintendence of a Clergyman of the Church of Scotland; and they are once a-year publicly examined by the Presbytery of the Scottish Church in London.

Hitherto, the benefits of the Charity have been confined to Boys; but it is in contemplation, whenever sufficient funds can be obtained, to extend its benefits also to Girls.

The INSTITUTION has from its commencement been honoured with the Patronage of the Royal Family. His Royal Highness the DUKE OF SUSSEX was president of the HIGHLAND SOCIETY when the measure was first proposed, and afterwards, when revived in 1813; and his Royal Highness, as well as his late illustrious brothers, the DUKES OF YORK and KENT. who were successively Presidents of the CALEDONIAN ASYLUM, uniformly promoted its interests by their influence and patronage.

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HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN DOWAGER.

PRESIDENT,

HIS R. H. THE DUKE OF SUSSEX, EARL OF INVERNESS, &C. &C. &C.

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS SOPHIA.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF KENT.

HER GRACE THE DUCHESS OF GORDON.

THE MOST NOBLE THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF BREADALBANE.

THE RIGHT HON. LADY WILLOUGHBY D'ERESBY.

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HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH, K. G.

THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUESS OF BUTE.

THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUESS OF BREADALBANE, K. T.

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