

THE SCOTISH TROOPS UNDER THE KING OF DENMARK.

SOME notice of Mackay's regiment, which was raised in the year 1626 for service in the Continental cause of civil and religious liberty against the imperialists of Germany, has already been given in a previous article of this volume, entitled "The Scotch troops in the service of Gustavus Adolphus." But the regiment is noticed there only in connexion with the Swedish hero, and as part of one of the several British brigades in his army; and it well deserves some separate mention, in regard to the brave career which it previously ran under the flag of Denmark.

The original regiment is said by some authorities to have been 2,000 strong; by others nearly 3,000. The men and most of the officers embarked at Cromarty on the 10th of October, 1626, and arrived five days after at Luckstadt on the Elbe; and thence they immediately removed to the interior of Holstein, and there took up their quarters for the winter. The Colonel himself was detained in Scotland by sickness till the following spring; but joined them toward the end of March. "At his coming," says Monro, in the racy and very scarce old work from which we formerly made large extracts, "orders were given his regiment should be brought in arms at Itzehoe, where his Majesty would take their oaths of fidelity. The regiment being come together at the rendezvous, was drawn up in three divisions, attending his Majesty's coming in good order of battle. All officers being placed according to their stations orderly, colours flying, drums beating, horses neighing, his Majesty comes royally forward, salutes the regiment, and is saluted again with all due respect and reverence, used at such times. His Majesty having viewed front, flanks, and rear, the regiment fronting always towards his Majesty, who having made a

stand ordained the regiment to march by him in divisions, which orderly done, and with great respect and reverence as became. His Majesty being mightily well pleased, did praise the regiment, that ever thereafter was most praiseworthy."

On the next day, the regiment marched southward in three divisions, for three several destinations,—two companies to beset the town of Stoade, four companies to take post upon the Elbe at Lauenburg, and five companies to join some English forces under General Morgan toward the Weser. The fortunes and proceedings of the army throughout the summer were very various,—and comprised marchings, stormings, skirmishes, and most other great incidents of a chequered war; and at length the army lay beleaguered during five weeks in autumn at Wismar on the coast of the Baltic, and were cut off by the imperialists from all land communication with Denmark, and felt compelled, some time in October, to escape from their unpleasant position by sea. They landed in safety at Heiligenhafen, in the north-western extremity of Holstein; and thence they marched to the pass of Oldenburg, a few miles to the south, and there they found occasion to bring all their ardour and bravery into play.

"Having all safely landed at Heiligenhafen," says Monro, "we marched towards the pass of Oldenburg, where arrived before night our leager was drawn out into the most convenient part for maintaining of the pass, where the first night we begin to work in the trenches, and continue working the whole night, and the next day till noon, that the enemy was seen marching towards the pass, in full battalions of horse and foot, which before three of the clock had planted batteries to play with cannon on our leager, and to force a passage over the pass, which our general perceiving, gave orders to double the guards both of horse and foot, as also strongly to barricade the pass, and to cast up in the night a redoubt before the pass. The night drawing on being dark, silence was over all, on both sides of the pass. But the day clearing, the

guards on both sides begin the skirmish, the cannons on both sides begin to discharge, the horse guards charge one another till ours were forced to give ground. The foot guards beginning to fight, the reliefs were commanded on both sides to second their own, the service growing hot, and the pass in danger of losing. My Colonel in all haste was commanded to march with the half of his regiment to maintain the pass. The Colonel commanded me to have the men in readiness, and to distribute ammunition amongst the soldiers; which done the Colonel leading on marches towards the pass under mercy of cannon and musket. The General meeting us bids ask the soldiers if they went on with courage; they shouting for joy, cast up their hats, rejoicing in their march, seeming glad of the occasion. The General commending their courage and resolution, doth bless them in passing. At our ongoing to the pass, the enemy's cannon played continually on the colours, which were torn with the cannon. Also to my grief, my comrade Lieutenant Hugh Ross was the first that felt the smart of the cannon bullet, being shot in the leg, who falling, not fainting at his loss, did call courageously, 'Go on bravely comrades, and I wish I had a wooden leg for your sakes.' In this instant of time, and, as I believe, with one bullet the leg was also shot from David Ross son to Ross of Gannis. The service thus hot both of cannon and musket, many were hurt at the ongoing, where I received a favourable mark, being hurt in the inner side of my right knee, with the end of mine own partizan, being shot off by the cannon bullet. And we drawing near to the pass, the Dutch that were on service being all fled but the captain, the pass near lost, my Colonel draws off a platoon of musketœers of the right wing, being most of them brave young gentlemen of the Colonel's own company, which in all haste with an officer were directed to maintain the pass, which being hardly pursued, sundry worthy young gentlemen did lie on the place in the defence of it, and sundry were hurt.

By this time, the rest of the Colonel's division were not idle from service, the reliefs going often on, and the rest doing service along the pass, having a hedge for their shelter. The body of the pikes stood for two hours in battle, under mercy of cannon and musket, so that their sufferings and hurts were greater both amongst officers and soldiers, than the hurt done to the musketeers that were on service, for few of their officers escaped unhurt, and divers also were killed. In time of this hot service, powder being distributing amongst soldiers, a whole barrel was blown up, whereby the Colonel was burnt in the face, and many soldiers spoiled. The enemy seeing our powder blown up, press to force the passage; and some coming over, Captain John Monro, with a few musketeers, was commanded in a flat champagne to encounter the enemy, who forced the enemy to retire, so that the pass was cleared again by Captain John's valour, much to his credit.

“ The first division of our regiment having thus maintained the pass for two hours' hot service, then comes from the leager, for relief of the Colonel's division, the Lieutenant-colonel, with the other division nothing inferior to the first, who falling on fresh with manly courage, the other division falls off to refresh themselves during their comrades being on service. At the very entry the Lieutenant-colonel and five other officers were hurt, and many gentlemen and common soldiers were killed. This service continued in this manner from seven o'clock in the morning, till it was past four in the afternoon. It first began with the half of the regiment, who were relieved by the other half, which continued till mid-day; after that the service not being so hot as before, they went on to service by companies, one company relieving another, till night that it grew dark; and then darkness, the enemy of valour, made the service to cease. During all this time, our horsemen stood bravely in battle under mercy of cannon and musket, besides the foot attending to second us, in case the

enemy had set over, and forced the pass, which once he adventured to do, but was suddenly beaten back. All this while, the General the Duke of Weimar, and both the armies, were witnesses to the manly and brave carriage of this praiseworthy regiment.

“ In the evening before night, ammunition on both sides growing scarce, and darkness coming on, the service begins to bear up; by this time there is a barrel of beer sent us from the leager; the officers for haste caused to beat out the head of it, that every man might come unto it, with hat or head-peace, they flocking about the waggon whereon the barrel lay, the enemy's cannonier gives a volley to their beer, which, by God's providence, though shot among the midst of them, did no more harm, but blew barrel and beer in the air, the nearest miss that I did ever see; for many of them were down to the ground, whereof my brother, Captain John Monro of Obistell of worthy memory was one.

“ At night the service ceased, I was sent by the rest of the officers to the leager to my Colonel for orders, to learn of the General who should relieve us at night. My Colonel did go to the General's tent, and I with him, to have his Excellency's resolution, who, having nobly accepted of the Colonel, did praise him and his regiment, requesting him that as the regiment had done bravely all day, in being the instruments under God of his safety and of the army, he would once more request him that his regiment might hold out the inch, as they had done the span, till it was dark, and then they should be relieved, as he was a Christian, and drinking to me, I returned with a resolution to my comrades, leaving my Colonel in the leager. And as it grew dark, we were relieved by the Duke of Weimar's earnest and diligent entreaty, he having proved our good friend, in urging to take us first off. The General having resolved to retire from the enemy, with the whole army, by reason ammunition grew scarce, and we hav-

ing deserved best, were first brought off, getting orders to march in the night to ships."

The retreat of the Mackay regiment was curious and characteristic, and is minutely narrated by Monro. "Having thus passed the day at Oldenburg," says he, "the night the friend of cowards coming on, what we durst not have done by day, being favoured by the moonshine, when all were wearied with hot service and toil in the day, begun to take rest and refreshment by their fires, in the leager all guards relieved, and sentries set out, being all of us after a great storm in a quiet calm, we begin to take our retreat to the water. Our General being full of fear and suspicion goes before, and our Colonel also; we follow, having the avant-guard according to our orders for going a ship-board, which orders were willingly obeyed, perceiving the danger was to follow; and in consideration that long before the Lieutenant Colonel Sir Patrick Mackay and Captain Forbes being hurt had retired for their safety towards the Isle of Femern, and from thence to Denmark to be cured, I supplying the place of the Major, our regiment orderly retiring from the enemy, Captain Mackenzie and my brother Obistell, who before were companions in the day of danger, in the night did march together leading off the regiment to be secured, and I bringing up the rear, accompanied with some other officers. We had no doubt of our safe retreat. The whole army being behind us made us halt the oftener, taking pains to bring up our hurt and sick men, and we marched but softly.

"At last by ten o'clock of the night we arrived on the shore, and drew up in order waiting the Colonel's command for shipping, who had gone himself unto the road amongst the ships to provide shipping, but could get no obedience, the fear was so great amongst the mariners. Having heard the roaring and thundering of cannon and muskets in the day, fear so possessed them all, that they lacked hands to work and hearts to obey. And the Colonel coming ashore without

bringing ships to receive us, we made use of the time, our comrades the horsemen having come before us, who ever begin confusion, were without orders forcing ships to take in their horses, and had already possessed the whole bulwark and shipping with their horse, I asking my Colonel's leave, drew our whole colours in front, and our pikes charged after them. Our musketeers drawn up in our rear by divisions, fortifying our rear in case the enemy should assault us in our rear, I advanced with our colours alongst the pier. Our pikes charged, we cleared the pier of the horsemen, suffering them to save themselves from drowning, where they found the channel most shallow. And advancing thus to the end of the pier, we seized upon one ship with some horses in it, where we set our colours; and making that ship launch off a little from the shore for fear of being aground, having manned the ship-boat with an officer and some musketeers, we sent to force other ships out of the road to launch in and serve us, until such time as the most part of our regiment were shipped, except some villains who were gone a plundering in the town; but not knowing the danger they were in, they stayed all night from us, and were taken by the enemy the next morning.

“ Thus having shipped our men, we were forced to quit our horses and baggage. The officers that were most diligent, as Captain Monro and my brother Obistell, were busy the whole night ferrying soldiers from the shore, especially the sick and wounded, who were not able to help themselves. In the morning I shipped three boatfuls of wounded and sick men, till at the last I was beaten from the shore by the enemy's horsemen. And my Colonel's ship being under sail laid up to the wind, attending my coming with the last freight, we followed the route of the fleet, seeing the enemy's army drawn up in battle, horse, foot, and cannon, and our army of foot and horse opposite unto them. Where I did see six and thirty cornets of horse, being full troops without

losing of one pistol give themselves prisoners in the enemy's mercy, whereof the most part took service. As also I did see above five regiments of foot, being forty colours, follow their examples, rendering themselves and their colours, without losing of one musket. Judge then, judicious reader, though we were sorry for the loss of our army, if we were glad of our own safety. I think we were, and praised be God with no discredit to us, or our nation; for none can be blamed that doth what he is commanded. Thus following our course the third morning we arrived before Flensburg, where our rendezvous was appointed; and having sent ashore for some victuals, whereof we stood in great need, no man was blamed to provide for himself at such time, when the whole country was to be left to our enemy's mercy."

Some ludicrous incidents occasionally relieved the monotony and desolateness of the untoward campaigns; and the following, which happened at an earlier period than the retreat from Wismar, is told by Monro with peculiar gusto:—"Being quartered a mile from Lauenberg in a dorp, where the boor had quitted his lodging from fear, we were forced to send our suttler, John Matheson, to that town for provision. In his absence, our boys made use of his rug to cover their faces in drowning of bee-hives; the rug being rough did lodge a number of the bees, which, when the boys had drowned the bee-hives, they threw away. The suttler coming late home, we being a-bed, went to rest; and putting off his clothes, drew his rug to cover him; but as soon as the bees found the warmth of his skin, they began to punish him for his long stay; so that he was forced roaring like a madman, to rise, and throw off his rug, not knowing (though well he felt) the smart of his sudden enemies. We called to him, asking if he was mad. He made no answer, but still cried the devil had bewitched him, in piercing him in a thousand parts, still rubbing and scratching, crying with pain, not knowing the reason, till a candle was lighted, and seeing the

bees, threw his rug in a draw-well. The gentle reader may judge whether or not he was punished for his long stay."

Throughout the whole period of the Mackay regiment's service under the King of Denmark, they were always on the most dangerous expeditions, and ordered to the most perilous posts; and they were often engaged, and suffered severe losses, and never fled or flinched; so that, in point of numbers, they rapidly shrank to a skeleton, and required the largest possible recruitments from home. "Their enemies," says Monro, "in all encounters, could not but duly praise them, calling them *the invincible regiment*, which always rencountered them on all occasions; so that Mackay's name was very frequent, through the glorious and never-dying fame of his regiment,—never wronged by fortune in their fame, though divers times by their enemies they sustained both loss and hurt. But would to God we had always met man to man, or that our army had consisted all of such men and such officers; if so had been, our conquests had extended as far as the Romans of old did extend the limits and borders of their empire.'

In the winter of 1628, the shattered remnant of the regiment was placed under the command of Monro, while the Colonel went to Scotland for recruits; and so hot work had it in the early portions of the succeeding campaign that before the Colonel could return, it was reduced to four hundred men. The whole corps, or parts of it, did special service in Laland, in Funen, in Femern, in Holstein, and in Zealand,—passing from place to place by water, and sometimes achieving as great wonders by their movements as by their exploits; and at length, in the month of May, they passed southward from Zealand to the north-west corner of Pomerania, to perform their grandest series of services at Stralsund, which was hard beleaguered by the Imperialists, and whose burghers petitioned the King of Denmark to send the Mackay regiment to their aid.

“ The Lieutenant Colonel, Alexander Seaton, being then come from Holland,” says Monro, “ was ordained by his Majesty in all haste to ship three companies, and to go with them for the relief of Stralsund; I being appointed to stay for the other companies coming. They being come to Elsinore, were shipped also; and arriving at Copenhagen, it behoved me in all haste to ship, and follow the Lieutenant-Colonel for relief of Stralsund, being hard beleaguered, where I entered the 28th of May, and was no sooner drawn up in the market-place, but presently we were sent to watch at Frankendore, to relieve the other division that had watched three days and three nights together uncome off, that being the weakest part of the whole town, and the only post pursued by the enemy; which our Lieutenant-Colonel made choice of, being the most dangerous, for his country’s credit; where we watched forty-eight hours together, till we were relieved again by the other division; and so *Singulis noctibus per vices*, during six weeks’ time, that my clothes came never off, except it had been to change a suit or linens.”

“ On the 28th of May,” he says again, “ not without danger both by water and from land, we entered the town of Stralsund, the Imperial army lying before it, having their batteries near the water. At our in-coming they shot our mast; having grounded before our in-coming, we ran the hazard both of drowning and killing. But being again without hurt come off, our comrades wearied of watching, immediately after our entry we relieved the watch at Frankendore, being the only post in the town most pursued by the enemy. The order of our watch was after this manner: of the seven companies one company watched still on the island before the town, called the Hollomne; the other three companies were ordained by four o’clock afternoon, to parade in the market-place, and afterwards to march to their post at Frankendore, without the walls on scurvy outworks, which were but slightly fortified with a dry moat. The enemy

lying strong before us, and approaching near, we fearing a sudden on-fall, those that were relieved of the watch by five of the clock, were ordained again to meet by nine of the clock at night, and to watch again on the by-watch, till four of the clock in the morning, whereof the one-half were appointed to lie in readiness at their arms without the port near the works, while as the other half were appointed also to lie in readiness at their arms on the market-place, to attend all occasions of alarms, either within or without the town. And thus we watched nightly, relieving one another, for the space of six weeks."

But notwithstanding this very hard and unremitting duty, the burghers were surly and inhospitable, and treated their brave Scottish defenders in a style of excessive ingratitude and grossness. Monro's company lay on the streets four successive nights unquartered; and the men became so irritated by this that, on going off the watch and unknown to their officers, they went to the burgomaster, and told him that they would lodge with himself unless he provided quarters for them. He complained to the governor, Colonel Holk, a Dane; and, at the latter's instance, a court-martial tried the company for mutiny, and ordained that three men of it should be hanged, and that these should be taken by ballot. The lots fell on two Scotsmen and a Dane; but, it having been subsequently agreed by the officers that only one of the three should suffer death, they again drew lots, and the lot of death fell upon the Dane. "The governor himself being a Dane," says Monro, "he could not of his credit frustrate justice, seeing before he was so earnest to see our nation punished for a fault, whereof he was rather guilty himself, not having appointed them quarters as he ought, so that the Dane suffered justly for a Dane's fault."

"During our residence here," continues the narrator, "our orders were so strict that neither officer nor soldier was suffered to come off his watch, either to dine or sup, but their

meat was carried unto them to their post. The enemy approaching hard, and we working fast, for our own safety where sometimes we sallied out, and did visit the enemy in his trenches, but little to their contentment; till at last, the enemy did approach right under our work, where sometimes, being so near, we began to jeer one another, so that the Dutch one morning taunting us, said, they did hear there was a ship come from Denmark to us, laden with tobacco and pipes. One of our soldiers showing them over the work, a morgan stern, made of a large stock banded with iron like the shaft of a halbert, with a round globe at the end with cross iron pikes, saith, 'Here is one of the tobacco pipes wherewith we will beat out your brains, when ye intend to storm us.' We did also nightly take some prisoners of them, sometimes stealing off their sentries, which made many alarms in the night and in the day time. Here a man might soon learn to exercise his arms, and put his courage in practice. And to give our Lieutenant-Colonel his due, he had good orders, and he did keep both officers and soldiers under good discipline, and he knew well how to make others understand themselves, from the highest to the lowest.

“ When cannons are roaring, and bullets flying,
He that would have honour must not fear dying.

Many rose here in the morning, went not to bed at night, and many supped here at night sought no breakfast in the morning. Many a burgher in this city, coming forth in his holy-days-clothes to take the air, went never home again till he was carried quick or dead. Some had their heads separated from their bodies by the cannon; as happened to one Lieutenant and thirteen soldiers, that had their fourteen heads shot from them by one cannon bullet at once. Who doubts of this, he may go and see the relics of their brains to this

day, sticking on the walls, under the port of Frankendore in Stralsund."

On the 26th of June, after Marshal Arnheim had pressed the siege six weeks, Walenstine, Duke of Friedland, came to visit the place, and was much displeas'd that the town had not been taken. "He did recognosce the whole town," says Monro, "and finding our post to be the weakest part thereof, by reason of the situation and of the insufficiency of the works, the wall not exceeding the height of a man, he resolv'd to pursue it by storm, swearing out of a passion he would take it in three nights, though it were hanging with iron chains betwixt the earth and the heavens. But forgetting to take God on his side, he was disappoint'd by Him who disposeth of all things at his pleasure, being the Supreme watchman himself that neither slumbers nor sleeps. We having got intelligence of Walenstine's coming, we look'd the better unto ourselves, and having in the evening or twilight set out our perdues, we strengthen'd all our posts, and we plac'd our by-watch in the ravelin, to be in readiness, as also I command'd fourscore musketeers, under the command of Captain Hay, to sit by their arms and to be in readiness to supply all defects might happen by a timely succours, as they should be command'd. Likewise I caus'd to double all sentries; and so sitting down to rest us, we were passing the time by discourse, betwixt ten and eleven o'clock at night, when as our sentry gives fire and calls us to our arms. At our rising we find the enemy approach'g above a thousand strong, with a shout, *Sa, Sa, Sa, Sa, Sa, Sa*. Thus it went on cheerfully, and every man to his station." The contest throughout the night was severe and as nearly as possible unremitting. The first assailants were repuls'd after an obstinate service of about an hour and a-half; and they were succeed'd by an equal number, and these by others progressively till the morning. Monro's party in fact had practically to resist the whole force of the besieging army;

or at least were aided or relieved only twice and partially during the tremendous struggle. "The second relief that came to our post," says he, "was led by Colonel Fretz, newly come to town, with some Swedes, who, though not admitted to command, out of his generosity, being accompanied with his Lieutenant-Colonel Mac-Dougall, and his major, called Semple, with fourscore musketeers, voluntarily did come to succour and help our nation; who at his first coming, received death's wounds, whereof he died shortly after. His Lieutenant-Colonel also was taken prisoner, and was missing for six months, we not knowing whether he was dead or alive. The Major also was killed instantly at his first coming to service. But the last time, and on the last storm, by the break of day the enemy was once entered our works, and was beat back again with great loss, with swords and pikes and butts of muskets; so that the day clearing, the enemy was forced to retire, having lost above a thousand men, and we near two hundred, besides those who were hurt. He that was on this night's service from the beginning to the ending, being in action, might avouch he did escape danger. The enemy forsaking our works unconquered, the moat filled with their dead bodies, equal to the banks, the works ruined in the day time could not be repaired, which caused the next night's watch to be the more dangerous." "During the time of this hot conflict," says Monro again, "none that was whole went off at the coming of the relief, but continued in the fight assisting their comrades, so long as their strength served, ever esteeming more of their credit than of their safety, through the desire they had to be revenged of the losses sustained by their comrades. On the other part, it was reported of Walenstine, that he was so eager to get in the town, that his officers retiring off service being hurt, he caused to shoot them dead, calling them cowards for retiring with so small hurt."

The following night witnessed a similar impetuosity and

bravery of storming and defence, and terminated in similar results. "It was passed furiously on both sides, not without great loss, being well fought, both of the pursuer and defender. In the morning our soldiers, some of them being armed with corslets, head-pieces, with half pikes, morgan sterns and swords, being led with resolute officers, they fall out pell-mell amongst the enemies, and chase them quite out of the works again, and retiring with credit, maintained still the triangle or ravelin. The enemy considering his loss, and how little he had gained, the town also being not void of fear, thinking the third night, the enemy might enter the walls, being thus doubtful on both sides, the enemy sends a trumpeter, to know if they will treat for conditions, our Lieutenant-Colonel having the command, for the time (in Colonel Holk's absence) I think was glad of the offer, to prolong time, till his Majesty of Denmark might send a fresh supply."

The belligerents accordingly agreed to have a cessation of hostilities, and that it should extend to a fortnight; and they proceeded to draw up articles, and remained at peace during several days. But before the articles could be signed, Lord Spynie, a Scottish nobleman, arrived at the head of a new Scottish regiment, with an order from the King to dissolve the treaty. And about the same time the protection of Stralsund was transferred by mutual agreement from Denmark to Sweden; and immediately after, Sir Alexander Leslie, "an expert and valorous Scottish commander," in the service of the renowned Swedish monarch, was sent to govern the town, and conducted some Swedish forces to its aid.

Leslie had no sooner taken the command than he resolved to attack the besiegers, and attempt to drive them from their works; and as the Scottish auxiliaries of Denmark were not yet withdrawn, he chose to employ in this perilous service his own countrymen of the Spynie and Mackay regiments. The former were fresh and in full strength; and they conducted

the attack, and fell upon the enemy's works, and forced them to retire, and drove them to the main body of their army. But they soon found themselves confronted by overwhelming numbers, and were obliged to retrace their steps with considerable loss. "And to make their retreat good," says Monro, "falls up Captain Mackenzie with the old Scottish blades of our regiment, to suppress the enemy's fury. They keeping faces to their enemies, while their comrades were retiring, the service went on afresh. And there Seaton's company was led by Lieutenant Lumsdell, (in absence of their own officers, being then all under cure;) and there were lost of this company above thirty valorous soldiers; and the Lieutenant seeing Colonel Holk retiring, desired him to stay a little, and to see if the Scots could stand and fight or not. The Colonel perceiving him to jeer, shook his head and went away. In the end Captain Mackenzie retired softly from his enemy, keeping faces towards them with credit, till he was safe within works; and then made ready for his march towards Wolgast, to find his Majesty of Denmark."

The Danish monarch was at this time retreating before the Imperialists in Pomerania, having lost the greater part of his army there without coming to any regular engagement, and fallen back precipitately on Wolgast; and no sooner did the Scottish corps of the Mackay and the Spynie regiments, now under the command of Captain Mackenzie, arrive at the King's camp than their services were brought urgently into requisition. "His Majesty finding the enemy pressing hard, fearing much to be surprised or taken, he did give Captain Mackenzie charge to command the whole Scots that were there, and divers others, and to skirmish with the enemy before the ports, till his Majesty were retired, and then to make his retreat over the bridge, and to set it on fire; which the Captain did orderly obey, doing his Majesty the best service was done him in the whole time of his wars, not without great danger of the Captain and his followers, where the

bridge once burning, he was then the happiest man that could first be shipped."

The Scots, along with the remnant of the Danish army, took shipping for Copenhagen; and there the Spynie regiment was reduced and draughted into the Mackay regiment; and the latter, at the same time, was greatly augmented by a body of fresh recruits from Scotland, and altogether was made up to a strength of 1,400 men, exclusive of the officers. The Mackay regiment remained in the service of Denmark till the following August, when a peace was concluded with Germany; and then they were liberally paid, honourably discharged, and offered free shipping back to Scotland. But instead of returning home, they entered the service of Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden.