

REGIMENTAL DISTRICT—

Counties of Moray, Nairn, Ross and
Cromarty, Sutherland, and Caithness.

DEPOT—

Fort-George.

THIRD BATTALION—

Formerly Highland Rifle Militia.

TERRITORIAL FORCES BATTALIONS—

4th (Ross Highland).

5th (Sutherland and Caithness Highland).

6th (Morayshire).

FOUR SERVICE BATTALIONS (7th to 10th).

**THE
SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS**



OFFICER, SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS

THE SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS

BY

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"SCOTTISH LIFE AND POETRY"

"THE GREY MOTHER AND SONGS OF EMPIRE"

"BRITANNIA'S ANSWER AND OTHER WAR POEMS"

ETC. ETC.

EDINBURGH

W. P. NIMMO, HAY, & MITCHELL

(RECAP)

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Cipher "F" of Duke of Albany
(Duke of York), 1823.

Stag's Head (*Cabar Feidh*),
Crest of the Mackenzies.

Motto—*Cuidich'n Righ*—
(Save the King).

On belt—*Tulloch Ard*—
the Mackenzie slogan.

BATTLE HONOURS BORNE ON THE COLOURS

"CARNATIC," "MYSORE," "HINDOOSTAN,"
"CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, 1806," "MAIDA,"
"JAVA," "SOUTH AFRICA, 1835," "SEVAS-
TOPOL," "PERSIA," "KOOSH-AB," "LUCK-
NOW," "CENTRAL INDIA," "PEIWAR
KOTAL," "CHARASIAH," "KABUL, 1879,"
"KANDAHAR, 1880," "AFGHANISTAN,
1878-80," "EGYPT, 1882," "TEL-EL-KEBIR,"
"CHITRAL," "ATBARA," "KHARTOUM,"
"SOUTH AFRICA, 1899-1902,"
"PAARDEBERG."

THE SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS

I

THE Seaforth Highlanders, as at present constituted, sprang from the amalgamation of the 72nd and 78th, in the year 1881. A regiment of Fraser Highlanders, raised in 1757, had borne the latter number, but it was disbanded in 1763.

Kenneth Mackenzie, grandson of that Earl of Seaforth who lost his estate and titles because of his share

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in “the Fifteen,” had, in the year 1771, the titles of his family restored. To show his gratitude he offered in 1778 to raise a regiment for national service.

The territory of the Mackenzies was not only extensive, but it comprised as fine scenery as there is in the Highlands—from the east, with fertile straths, to the rugged west, with the wilds of Kintail, the lone beauty of Loch Duich, and the tumbling rocky grandeur of Loch-alsh.

The Clan Mackenzie loved for a while to claim descent from the great Norman family of Fitzgerald

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in Ireland, but there was no necessity to turn to such an origin, except the implied compliment of having come across with the Conqueror! They had a sufficiently respectable antiquity already. A Charter was granted by David II. to Murdo, the son of Kenneth of Kintail. Mackenzie was one of the nineteen Highland chiefs who fought for Bruce at Bannockburn. In 1427 the Chief was amongst the Highland barons treacherously arrested by the Scottish Parliament at Inverness, Kenneth More being ranked then as leader of two thousand men. After the fall of the

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Lords of the Isles, the Mackenzies grew in importance and power; the chiefs became minor kings, till in 1607 it was stated, "All the Highlands and Islands, from Ardnamurchan to Strathnaver, were either the Mackenzies' property or under their vassalage, some very few excepted; and all about him were tied to his family by very strict bonds of friendship."

The Mackenzie influence included the loyalty of "the Macraes, MacLennans, Murchisons, Macleods of North Assynt, the McLays inhabiting the countries belonging to the late Lord Seaforth, and all the

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gentlemen and others of the name of Mackenzie in the mainland and Isle of Lewis, in Ross and Sutherland Shires."

In General Wade's first report on the Highlands, made in 1724, he states that the number of men able to carry arms in the Highlands and Islands was twenty-two thousand, of whom twelve thousand were loyal to the Stewart dynasty, and ten thousand vassals of those who favoured the line of the strangers. And he looks very specially at the Mackenzies. He had strict injunctions to enquire into the estate of the late Earl of Seaforth, and

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he reports how it extends from Brahan, his principal seat, to Kintail on the western coast, "thirty-six miles in length, and the most mountainous part of the Highlands. The whole Isle of Lewis was also a part of the said Earl's Estate. The Tennants, before the late Rebellion, were reputed the richest of any in the Highlands, but now are become poor by neglecting their business and applying themselves wholly to the use of Arms." He mentions in this report the remarkable loyalty of the tenantry to the dispossessed Earl. The rents continued to be levied by

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Donald Murchison, who, when he gathers them, “annually remits (or carries) the same to his master into France.” The action of Murchison was in extent at least unique, and his daring was commensurate with his loyalty. For example, when the factor appointed by the Commissioners of Forfeited Estates in the year 1721 was entering upon Seaforth’s estate to collect the rents for Government, Murchison had attacked him with four hundred armed men and extorted from him authority to collect these rents for his master! General Wade says, “Last year this Murchison travell’d

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in a Public manner to Edinburgh to remit £800 to France for his Master's use, and remained there fourteen days unmolested."

In Wade's Report of 1725 he suggests a scheme of patrol companies and of garrison camps through the Highlands. Here he has his eye again upon Seaforth, and proposes that the first camp should be fixed near Castle Braham, and that the vassals and tenants of the late Earl should be the very earliest to be summoned to deliver up their arms. He suggests that an indemnity be given to them for the rents which they have already paid to Murchi-

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son on behalf of the Earl, in order that they might submit in future to the superiority of the Hanoverian king. He suggests that if they do not submit and deliver up their weapons they should be made an example to others by harshness of punishment, so that the other clans may be driven into obedience through fear of the vengeance of the reigning house.

In a document of 1745 entitled *Memorall anent the true state of the Highlands*, attributed to President Forbes of Culloden, — written at any rate by one who knew the Gaelic language and the High-

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landers,—it is stated that the Mackenzies are one of the most considerable clans under one head (next to the Campbells) in the nation. “He out of his Countreys of Kintaile, Lochelsh, Lochbroom, and Lochcaron, on the Continent, and in the Isles of Lews, etc., Can raise 1000 Men which is all he can Command; the Earl of Cromartie, with 8 or 9 Barrons of the Name and an Number of Smaller Gentlemen can amongst them raise 1000 More, but are not Much Inclined to follow their Chief, Neither are they in Use, or Very Apt to Armaments in that Coun-

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trey of Ross, etc., of late they are much come in to Independency.”

In the same *Memoriall* he states in his summary, that the Mackenzies can put in the field of fighting men two thousand.

From earliest times, of course, the Highlander was looked upon as rude and dangerous as a neighbour. When Don Pedro de Ayala, who was Ambassador of Spain at the Court of James IV., gave an account of King James's accomplishments, he not only mentioned amongst these his knowledge of Latin, French, German, Flemish, Italian, and Spanish, but noted with some-

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thing like wonder, that "he speaks the language of the savages who live in some parts of Scotland among the islands." This is, of course, not impertinence but ignorance, the common utterance of narrow minds, which are always inclined to be astonished at what they do not understand.

Some distinguished sons of the clan Mackenzie have enriched the life and history of Scotland. Notable amongst them was Sir George of Rosehaugh, who founded the Advocates' Library of Edinburgh. He opposed the union with England, and became king's advocate ;

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it was through his pleading that the Earl of Argyll was executed. He was a very great lawyer, but he earned the nickname of "bluidy Mackeinyie." His vault in Greyfriars' Churchyard of Edinburgh became an institution among the Edinburgh schoolboys, who loved to throw stones at the door, shouting, "Bluidy Mackeinyie, come oot if ye daur!—
Lift the sneck, and draw the bar."

Another notable Mackenzie was Henry Mackenzie, the author of *The Man of Feeling*. He is now thoroughly forgotten, except as a name known to students of his

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period, yet his influence in the world of polite letters in Edinburgh in his day was practically paramount. He wrote the report of the Highland Society upon the authenticity of Ossian, and started the *Mirror* and the *Lounger*. It was another Mackenzie also who regulated the Scottish public-house business under the famous Forbes-Mackenzie Act ! Thus, apart from military ardour and warlike activities, the clan have had a good share in legal developments and literary refinements.

Amongst the typical characters whom military service developed

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was John of Gairloch, who got his captaincy for raising a company in that district, when the 78th were first embodied. He was known as "fighting Jack." He saw much active soldiering in Walcheren, at the Cape, in India, Sicily, and the Peninsula. He was adored by his men, and in return he was their faithful, firm, and constant friend. When some one teased him about his affection for his native district, he declared that it gave him greater pleasure to meet a dog from Gairloch than a gentleman from any other place! He presented rather a pathetic figure when, after the

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Indian Mutiny, the regiment returned to Inverness. "Fighting Jack" was by this time the "father" of the British army; and, as the regiment marched past his door, he was carried out, and sat, fragile and shadowlike. It was said that, as the tears rolled down his cheeks when the men saluted the old general, it was surely the first time that "fighting Jack" had ever wept!

Unfortunately, Humberston-Mackenzie, who raised the Ross-shire Buffs, was drawn away to live at Court. As it was politely put, he "became emulous of the society of

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the most accomplished prince of his age." The result was, of course, extravagance and debt; and then the vast territories of the Mackenzies crumbled under the auctioneer's hammer.

II

IN 1741, the year after Earl William's death, the crown sold the Seaforth estate, including the lands of Kintail and the barony of "Islandonan" for the benefit of Kenneth, Lord Fortrose, M.P. for Inverness. Tradition asserts that this Kenneth and Sir Alexander Macdonald Sleat were at school with Prince Charlie in France. They did not, however, join the rising in the Forty-five, though several of Fortrose's clan, and many

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of the Macraes, went whither the romantic impulse carried them. It is asserted that some of the Macraes were even bound with ropes to prevent them following the dictates of their hearts! In consequence of his abstention the honours of his family were in part restored to him. His son, Kenneth, known as the "little lord," was created Earl of Seaforth in 1771, and offered in 1778, as we have seen, to raise a regiment as an expression of gratitude for this distinction. He soon enrolled eleven hundred and thirty men, about five hundred of them from the Mackenzie estates of Scat-

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well, Kilcoy, Applecross, and Redcastle. Only forty - three were English and Irish. The title of the regiment was at first the 78th, but this was altered later to the 72nd Highlanders. In May it was embodied at Elgin, and in August it marched to Leith. Here much discontent arose on the ground that the men had not been treated in good faith, and that their money was in arrear. This especially affected the Macrae part of the regiment.

The little clan had been a kind of bodyguard of the Seaforths, and they were known by the nickname

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of "Seaforth's shirt." It was Murdo, the fifth laird of Kintail, who had invited a Macrae from Clunes to settle with him at Brahan. He passed on to Kintail, where his descendants became a numerous tribe, bound by service to the Mackenzies. The Macraes formed, in fact, the bodyguard of the Mackenzie chiefs, and it was their right to carry the bodies of the chiefs to burial. When Dr. Samuel Johnson crossed Mam-Rattigan, two hundred Macraes met him at the head of the pass. He would have to wait a long time there to-day for a similar number! In 1862, at the

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funeral of the Honourable Mrs. Stewart Mackenzie, the daughter and representative of the last Lord Seaforth, the coffin was borne by Macraes of Kintail only, but it was the last time. At the funeral of her son in 1881 there was not a sufficient number of Macraes at hand for the traditional function, though those who were present claimed their ancient prerogative.

The Macraes marched out of Leith, headed by pipers ; and, bearing for banners two plaids fixed upon poles, they took up a strong position on Arthur's Seat, which they duly entrenched. There they were sup-

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plied with food and ammunition by certain citizens of Edinburgh who sympathised with them. That they had justice on their side was amply proved upon inquiry, in which the Earls of Dunmore and Seaforth, Grant of Grant, and other Highland gentlemen took part. After their grievances had been removed, they marched back to their quarters with Seaforth, Dunmore, and General Skene at their head. This was the famous "affair of the wild Macraes." The lines of their position may still be traced on the hillside.

In consequence of this episode the intention to send the regiment to

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India was abandoned by the Government meanwhile, one half being sent to Guernsey and the other half to Jersey.

On the 12th of June 1781, they embarked at Portsmouth for the East Indies — nine hundred and seventy-three strong men, in the prime of manhood. But a shadow went with them, and before the regiment had reached St. Helena, Seaforth, their beloved chief, had died in the midst of his clansmen. His death was a source of consuming sorrow to his people, and so accentuated the sickness which came upon them that, ere they

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arrived at Madras on 2nd April 1782, two hundred and forty-seven of them had died, while of the eight hundred and eighty that landed, only three hundred and sixty-nine were fit to carry arms. The remnant was sent immediately up country, but suffered much from the heat upon the march, and Sir Eyre Coote put the few who remained healthy into Macleod's Highlanders meanwhile.

The title died with Earl Kenneth, but his estates and the command of the 78th passed by purchase to his cousin, Colonel Thomas Mackenzie-Humberston. It was while quar-

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tered with his regiment as a captain of the 78th in Jersey that this man had distinguished himself by his ardent courage, in helping to repel the attack made on that island by the French. Transferred to the 100th Foot, as Lieutenant-Colonel-Commandant, he was on his way to the East Indies, when the outward-bound East Indian fleet was attacked at Port Preya by the French. He was on shore at the time, but he swam out to one of the ships to take his share in the engagement! In a few months six hundred of the men were fit again for duty, and the war with Tippoo Sahib gave

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employment to the army for some time. The regiment took part in the attack on Dindigul, a rock-fortress. Their assault was repulsed, but the enemy surrendered next morning. The same procedure took place at Palacatcherry, at Bangalore, Seringapatam, Sundidroog, and Ootradroog. In 1793 the regiment went against Pondicherry, and shared also in the capture of Ceylon. They took part, too, under Sir David Baird, against the Cape of Good Hope. At Blaw Berg they suffered severely, Lieutenant MacArthur and thirty men distinguishing themselves by

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engaging and repulsing a largely superior body of Dutchmen.

In 1809 they ceased to be called a Highland regiment, but in 1823 as *The Duke of Albany's Highlanders* they reassumed the plaid and bonnet, with the Royal Stewart tartan trews.

The 72nd passed, meanwhile, to Mauritius and India. About the period of Waterloo they were in South Africa. While there, the Kaffirs were raiding the Boer farms, and Captain Gethin with some of his men went out to punish the marauders. They were led into an ambush and were cut to pieces, the



SEAFORTHS LEADING THE CHARGE

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captain himself falling under thirty-two wounds. They returned home in 1821, but were again sent to the Cape of Good Hope against the Kaffirs.

Their next service was the Crimea, to be followed immediately by the Indian Mutiny, under Sir Hugh Rose. Here, at Kotah, at the blowing up of the great gate, they suffered much from the fire of the enemy ; but when the pipes sounded, the Highlanders with a cry "Scotland for ever !" swept the enemy before them, and took the town.

In the Afghan Campaign of 1878 they were brigaded under General

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Roberts, and fought nobly at the storming of the Peiwar Kotal, along with the Gurkhas. It was in the Sappri defile that Sergeant Green, who was sick, defended Captain Goad by firing all his ammunition at the enemy, from the dhooley in which he lay. In this way he fired sixty-two rounds, and they were not vainly expended. For this gallant action he was raised to a commission. At the taking of Kandahar, General Roberts says that the 72nd and the 2nd Sikhs "bore the brunt of the fighting; they were the leading battalion and frequently had to fix bayonets to carry different

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positions or to check the desperate rushes of the Afghans."

They also did much fighting about Cabul, several officers and men winning great distinction.

In the famous march to Kandahar the 72nd were along with the Gordons and the 60th Rifles.

In 1881 they were combined with the 78th, and adopted the Mackenzie tartan. Next year they served in the Egyptian campaign; at Tel-el-Kebir they led on the extreme left, and later occupied the important post of Zagazig.

III

IN 1787 Humberston-Mackenzie, who had succeeded his brother, offered to raise a regiment on his own estates, but the Government would only accept his services for procuring recruits for the 74th and 75th. Though suffering from deafness and other infirmities, his mind was resolute and keen, and in 1790 he renewed his offer, which was again declined; but in 1793 the pressure and stress of the revolutionary wars made the Government

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appeal to the North for men. The influence of Seaforth was, of course, paramount in Ross-shire, and he was authorised to raise the 78th or Ross-shire Buffs.

Everywhere throughout Ross and Cromarty and in his island domains the following characteristic appeal was widely circulated :—

“Seaforth’s Highlanders to be forthwith raised for the defence of his Glorious Majesty, King George the Third, and the preservation of our happy constitution in Church and State.

“All lads of true Highland blood willing to show their loyalty and spirit, may repair to Seaforth, or the Major, Alexander Mackenzie of

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Belmaduthy; or the other commanding officers at headquarters, at . . . where they will receive high bounties and soldier-like entertainment.

“The lads of this regiment will live and die together, as they cannot be draughted into other regiments, and must be reduced in a body, in their own country.

“Now for a stroke at the Monsieurs, my boys! King George for ever! Huzza!”

The regiment was embodied at Fort-George by Sir Hector Munro in February 1793, and it was numbered the 78th regiment, the same as that raised in 1778 by the former Earl of Seaforth. Five companies were at once sent to Guernsey.

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The earliest active service of the first battalion was in Flanders and thereafter in Holland. At Gildersmalsen the 78th came very near the grim risk of actual annihilation. A regiment of the enemy's hussars, dressed like the Emigrant Regiment of the Duc de Choiseul which was in our service, came on shouting, "Choiseul! Choiseul!" and got in upon the 78th before they were discovered, when the Black Watch repelled them by rapid and deadly volleys.

In 1794 permission had been granted to raise another battalion, which, sent out next year to the Cape of

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Good Hope, remained there in garrison under Mackenzie of Fairburn.

The two battalions now consolidated, again went out to the Cape in 1796, whence the regiment passed on to Bengal. According to General Stewart there were nearly three hundred men from Lord Seaforth's estate in the Lewis in this battalion.

In the Mahratta war it fought under Wellesley. The chief operations of importance were the capture of Ahmednughur, and the battle of Assaye. The former place had to be taken by storm, the main diffi-

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culty in this being that the wall, which was high, had no standing-room on the top, but the dash of the men was such that the enemy fled in fear. The victory of Assaye was the most brilliant achievement in connection with India up to its date. In it, at close of the day, Wellesley himself led on the 78th, to clear the village, at the point of the bayonet.

At the battle of Argaum, and the storming of the strong place Gawelghur which closed the campaign, the Ross-shire Buffs added glory to their name. Next year they were ordered to Baroda. They passed

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on to Java in 1811, under Sir Samuel Achmuty, and in the taking of Cornelis the 78th particularly distinguished themselves.

On its voyage to its native land the regiment experienced shipwreck, the transport *Frances Charlotte* having struck upon a rock near the island of Prepares. The experience was most unpleasant and full of risk. When it was seen that the ship could not be saved, the women, children, and sick were sent to the island in boats which could not return until the following morning. A small part of the rock was dry at low water, so a hundred and

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forty soldiers moved thither by raft and tied themselves as best they could for protection at full tide. It was not till the third day that all who were on board were conveyed to the island itself, whence it was with great difficulty and after much suffering that they were taken off at last by a passing vessel, which at the same time could not help the remainder. Storm-beaten, she had to make for Calcutta, whence assistance was sent by the Marquis of Hastings, the Governor-General, when they found the marooned soldiers miserably subsisting on such shell-fish as they could pick up at

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low water. Taken back to Calcutta, they were sent home later to Britain, and thence on to Ireland.

In 1804 another second battalion was raised. The scheme on which it was gathered together was rather unique. A Lieutenant-Colonel was to raise a hundred men, a Major was to raise ninety, a Captain fifty, a Lieutenant twenty-five, an Ensign twenty. The battalion consisted of eight hundred and fifty men, two hundred of them from the island of Lewis alone. The notable David Stewart of Garth, author of the *Sketches of the Highlanders*, was one of the majors. These were



GENERAL STEWART OF GARTH.

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sent to Gibraltar, and thence to their share in the battle of Maida. Here the French were under Regnier; and Sir John Steuart, who, chagrined by the lack of response on the part of the Calabrians, was about to re-embark his troops, resolved to fling himself against the enemy, whose army did not very greatly exceed his own in number. It is said that the men of the 78th looked so young—six hundred of them, in fact, being under twenty-one years of age—that their Colonel, Macleod of Geanies, felt naturally somewhat anxious about them. They, how-

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ever, made a splendid attack against the 42nd regiment of Grenadiers, whom they hurled back into precipitate rout, and pursued with charge upon charge. In 1807 they were sent to Egypt, and assisted in the taking of Alexandria. The capture of Rosetta was the next thing that lay before them. It seemed deceptively easy. The taking of it was entrusted to General Wauchope, who did not expect its narrow streets, its flat-roofed houses and small windows to be the source of danger which they were. General Wauchope was shot, and three hundred men

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and officers killed and wounded, before they could be extricated. This made General Fraser determined to take the town, and the 78th had its share in this, in the affair of El Hamet, nearly six miles above Rosetta. Here Colonel Macleod found himself opposed by overwhelming force, and having formed his men into a square, fought bravely; but the square was completely surrounded, and charge upon charge was continuously made upon it. At every charge the square was painfully diminished, until at length Macleod and all who were with him in it were slain,

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with the exception of Captain Colin Mackay of the 78th, and eleven Highlanders, along with as many of the 35th regiment. This little band made a very brave attempt to cut through the enemy. The only man who escaped unhurt was Sergeant Waters, who carried Captain Mackay, severely wounded, out upon his back. In this conflict Sergeant John Macrae killed six men with his broadsword. Having dashed out of the square and killed a Turkish leader, he was himself mortally wounded on his way back. Lieutenant Christopher Macrae, with six of his namesakes, fell

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besides the sergeant. It was a disastrous affair. The men had to surrender, and they were scrambled after as slaves, while many of the Arab horsemen amused themselves by galloping about with British heads upon their spears. General William Stewart seeing the capture of Rosetta hopeless, retired upon Alexandria, followed by the enemy. After negotiation the prisoners were for the most part liberated, and then the British forces embarked for Sicily.

Of the results of this disaster at El Hamet, the following were remarkable enough. Two of the prisoners

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of the 78th became notable men in the land of their captivity. Private Thomas Keith rose to become Ibrahim Aga, Governor of Medina, and a famous general of the Sultan ; while one of the drummer boys of the 78th became well known as Osman, the famous doctor of Alexandria, his medical schooling having been acquired when assisting the surgeon of the regiment in rough-and-ready bandaging and medicine mixing.

Thereafter, the 78th having joined an expedition under Moore, intended for Lisbon, were withdrawn from it and returned to England.

IV

REINFORCED by drafts from Scotland, the Ross-shire Buffs were sent off to India.

The Ross-shire Buffs have on their colours the words "Persia" and "Khoosh-ab," recording a campaign in which they won the highest approval and praise of Sir Henry Havelock. On the night before the battle of Khoosh-ab the Persians tried a ruse quite worthy of the Germans to-day. One of their buglers having learned to

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blow the British bugle-calls, repeatedly sounded "Cease firing!" close up to the line of the Buffs, but they paid no attention.

They were with Havelock on the march to Cawnpore and Lucknow, —a hundred and twenty-six miles in eight days, during which they fought four battles and captured twenty guns. Theirs also was the vision of the horror of Cawnpore—

"the inexpressible wrong, the un-
utterable shame,
That turns the coward's heart to steel,
the sluggard's blood to flame."

It is said that the Ross-shire Buffs having found in the ghastly me-



COLOURS
OF THE
78TH HIGHLANDERS
(Ross-shire Buffs)

Carried during the service of the Regiment
in India, and retired in 1854

(Now deposited in St. Giles Church, Edinburgh.)

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from "Old Scottish Regimental Colours," by Andrew Ross.



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mentos of that most awful tragedy a lock of black hair which had been torn from the head of one of General Wheeler's daughters in her struggle for life against her murderers, divided it up amongst them, swearing they would never be satisfied till they had dipped it in the blood of the enemy.

At the Alum Bagh they fought and suffered well. The sorrow of the time was not without its humour. Thus a wounded piper was being carried off the field when his unarmed comrades beheld an Indian trooper galloping down upon them. The quick wit of the piper, how-

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ever, saved the situation, for he aimed at the advancing foe with the longest drone of his bagpipe, and the Indian turned and fled! Another piper tells how, at a sudden corner, he was about to be attacked by one of the enemy's cavalry. Suddenly he seized his pipe and blew a wild scream on it, and "the fellow bolted like a shot!"

The record of the Victoria Crosses won by the 78th is proud beyond reckoning. One in Lucknow, shut up in a blazing house with nine comrades, behaved with such valour that he inspired them to hold the

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building though the enemy were firing into it through four windows. Surgeon MacMaster at Lucknow carried in the wounded and attended to them as if he did not believe in death at all.

The 78th, left behind at Lucknow to protect the passage of the Char Bagh Bridge, had a very hot time, exposed to heavy musketry while two great guns were thundering at them with terrible accuracy. Desperate, at last their adjutant led them in a charge against the guns. They dropped everywhere, but were not to be repelled, and the thin thread of survivors captured the

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cannons. That adjutant was Sir Herbert Macpherson, who commanded the Indian contingent in the war in Egypt in 1882. In Lucknow also, Surgeon Jee distinguished himself over and over again and wrote his name high upon the honours of his regiment.

In Egypt in 1882, and especially in 1898 at Atbara, the Seaforths fought like true inheritors of a valiant past.

In the great Boer War the Second Battalion of the Seaforths suffered severe loss—twelve of their officers were killed, wounded, or taken. At Koodoesberg they gained a craggy

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summit, which they held in spite of terrible shell-fire. They were with Macdonald at Paardeberg in the taking of Cronje's position. At Kroonspruit they had their share in the fighting, and later on supported Ian Hamilton in the general advance. In the official report it is mentioned that the Seaforths were fighting all the way from Ventersberg to Heilbron; while they were in all the operations of General Macdonald in the Brandwater basin. In the present great campaign the Seaforths have developed into a very large fighting force of several battalions. They underwent all

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the rigours of the winter campaign. They specially distinguished themselves in the battle of Neuve Chapelle, where the Fourth Battalion (Territorials) lost two hundred men. In later struggles in the trenches that loss has been painfully augmented. . It touches one's heart to read the Territorial lists with the names of remote places in them. The gardener from some quiet estate, the keeper from some lonely glen,—a man from "Riverside, Contin,"—one can hear the water running past the little house he left behind him when he responded to the call of duty.

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In Neuve Chapelle, men who just a few months earlier had been engaged in most peaceable occupations, fought like experienced veterans, and wrote great glory on the name of their native land. Farmers from Ross-shire, lawyers and merchants from the small northern towns, fell heroically leading their men to death or victory. Major Cuthbert, factor on the beautiful Ardrross estates, was outstanding in gallantry. Shells burst close around him. Wounded, he still fought on ; and when the command of the regiment fell upon him he proved himself worthy of the highest

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honours that can fall to a soldier.
The county of Ross is crowned
to-day with a proud sorrow over
her unreturning brave. In Neuve
Chapelle nine dead men from the
little village of Poolewe are lying in
their graves; while from the scat-
tered crofts of Gairloch thirty brave
lads gave their lives.

And still the day of peace seems far
remote; and still the Ross-shire
men go forth to die for Empire and
the freedom of the world.

They truly are *Cuideachd an rìgh*
—the comrades of the King. May
God keep and guard them!

Printed by MORRISON & GIBB LIMITED, Edinburgh