

THE REAY FENCIBLES

OR

LORD REAY'S HIGHLANDERS.

COMPILED FROM DOCUMENTS SUPPLIED BY THE WAR OFFICE;
"MUSGRAVE'S HISTORY OF THE IRISH REBELLION OF 1798;"
"HISTORY OF THE HOUSE AND CLAN OF MACKAY,"
AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

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TO THEIR COUNTRY BY THE REAY FENCIBLES IS PUBLISHED).

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LORD REAY'S HIGHLANDERS.

THE Highlands of Scotland from remote times have been noted for the warlike qualities of their inhabitants. At no time in the history of Scotland did the martial spirit of Highlanders shine forth more heroically than from Fontenoy to Waterloo, and from the Alma to the siege and capture of Lucknow. Whenever Highlanders were embodied in regular regiments they proved themselves to be, as soldiers, irresistible.

In the thirty years' war in Germany, they earned for themselves and their country immortal renown. In the Dutch service, under the Princes of Orange, they withstood the best veteran soldiers of France. In the seven years' war, under the command of Prince Ferdinand, they acquired fresh laurels. On the field of Fontenoy they carried off the honours of the day—the first in attack, the last in retreat. The “Highland furies” of the Black Watch scared the French officers. The mode of attack practised by the “Forty Twa,” by the permission of the Duke of Cumberland at Fontenoy, has recently been adopted as the

“new mode of attack” in all the armies of Europe. It was on that disastrous day that the soldierly qualities of Highlanders became recognised by the Government. Shortly afterwards, regiment after regiment was raised in the Highlands. From 1740, when the “Black Watch” was first embodied, to 1800, a period of sixty years, no less than twenty-five regiments, from 1000 men to 1200 men strong, were raised in the Highlands, north of the Clyde and the Tay, for permanent or limited service at home and abroad, besides twenty-six regiments of similar strength, called “Fencibles,” for home service only. It has been computed that from 1760 to 1814 upwards of 80,000 men were enrolled in the Highlands for military service, and true soldiers they proved themselves to be—men of stature, men of vigour and endurance. They assisted in wresting Canada from the French, and were the first to scale the battlemented heights of Quebec, and by their impetuous charge decided the defeat of the French, and the fall of that fortress. In the American wars they everywhere distinguished themselves, as much by their endurance of privations and fatigue, as by their prowess in the presence of the enemy. The intrepid conduct of the “Black Watch” at the siege of Ticonderoga was the topic of universal panegyric in Great Britain. The public prints teemed with honourable testimony to their bravery. On the arrival of the news of this affair, the King issued a warrant conferring upon the regiment the title of “Royal,” so that ever after it was known as the 42nd

Royal Highlanders. They contributed greatly to the success of the expedition sent to the West Indies, to capture those islands from the French and Spaniards. In Hindostan, Highlanders were the best troops of Coote, Lake, and Wellesley, annihilating the power of Hyder Ali, the Mahrattas, and Tippoo, in the battlefields of Porto Novo, Mangalore, Seringapatam, Assaye, Argaum, Delhi, Laswaree. In Europe and Egypt, the prestige acquired by the Highland regiments in the wars with Napoleon is still an heirloom.

Scotland is justly proud of her national regiments, and gives them the heartiest and warmest reception when permitted to visit their native land. The reception given by Edinburgh to the "Black Watch," on its return from France in 1818, is an instance of how Scotland welcomes her brave soldiers. It is thus described by the eminent engineer, James Nasmyth, an eye-witness:—"The 'Black Watch' returned to England in the beginning of the year, and set out on their march towards Edinburgh. They were everywhere received with enthusiasm, crowds turned out to meet them and to cheer them. When the first division of the regiment approached Edinburgh, almost the entire population turned out to welcome them. At Musselburgh, six miles off, the road was so crowded and thronged with people as to be impassable. When the soldiers reached Piershill, two miles off, the road was so thronged that it took them two hours to reach the Castle. I was on a balcony in the

upper part of the High Street, and my father, mother, and sisters were with me. We had waited very long, but at last we heard the distant sound of the cheers, which came on and on, louder and louder. The High Street was wedged with people, excited and anxious. There seemed scarcely room for a regiment to march through them. The house tops and windows were crowded with spectators. It was a grand sight, the high gabled houses reaching as far as the eye could see, St. Giles with its mural crown, the Tron-Kirk in the distance and the picturesque details of the buildings, all added to the effectiveness of the scene. At last the head of the gallant band appeared, the red coats gradually wedged their way through the crowd, amidst the ringing of bells and the cheers of the spectators. Every window was in a wave of gladness, and every house top was in a fever of excitement. As the red line passed our balcony, with Colonel Dick at its head, we saw a sight that can never be forgotten. The red and white plumes, the tattered colours riddled with bullets, the glittering bayonets, were seen amidst the crowd that thronged around the gallant heroes, amidst tears and cheers, and hand-shakings and shouts of excitement. The mass of men appeared to be like a solid body moving slowly along, the soldiers being almost hidden amongst the crowd. At last they passed, the pipers and drums playing a Highland march, and the 'Forty Twa' slowly entered the Castle. It was perhaps the most extraordinary scene ever witnessed in Edinburgh."

No part of the Highlands sent forth more gallant soldiers, in proportion to the population, than that part of Sutherland called "Duthaich Mhic Aoidh." The martial spirit actuating the population of this territory has often been remarked upon by historians and statisticians, especially the parishes of Farr and Tongue. These parishes supplied the most and the best men. The periodical depletion of the population by the several regiments raised in those years was commented upon by the bards in song, and by none more comically than by Rob Donn on various occasions. When a district like the Mackay territory sent forth one-eighth of its population, the martial spirit of the clan, their affection for their chiefs and chieftains, and the consideration of duty they owed to them and the Sovereign, must have been of a high order. At no time since the thirty-years' war in Germany were that spirit and relative duty so well evinced as in the latter part of the eighteenth century, when wars with France were frequent, and the ambition of Napoleon threatened to overwhelm every country in Europe, and reduce them to the domination of France. Then it was that Highlanders proved to the world their Caledonian prowess.

In this dread turmoil, when the regular army of the country was sent abroad to fight its battles, it became necessary for internal defence to raise regiments to serve for a limited period within the bounds of the country. The Government of the day looked to the Highlanders, and made appeals

to their noblemen to arm their clansmen. Among other chiefs, Lord Reay was called upon. The representative of the chief of the Mackays assented. A Royal Warrant was issued, empowering him to call his clan to arms in defence of country and Sovereign. The chief appealed to his clansmen, and not in vain. Up there rose a host, like Roderick Dhu's men, from every house, from every brae, from every glen, from every bush and bracken, at once ready for battle. Thus it was that the Reay Fencibles were enrolled,—as gallant a band as ever left the Highlands.

Mr. Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham, was the first minister of the Crown who appreciated the martial qualities of Highlanders. He it was who first proposed and carried into effect the plan of raising Fencible corps in the Highlands, in the year 1759. During the three preceding years, both the fleets and armies of Great Britain had suffered serious reverses. The French, with whom we were then at war, from the West Indies and America to Hindostan, became so elated with their partial successes as to make attacks upon the coasts of England, Ireland, and Scotland, and threaten invasion. To retrieve the national character great efforts were necessary, and Mr. Pitt proved equal to the occasion. He reorganised the army and navy, placed competent young generals in command, and appealed to the country for men. Among the Highland chiefs, well affected to the Government, who were appealed to, was Earl William, the young and chivalrous Sutherland chief, he ~~was the~~ first

in the field with his grand regiment of 1100 men, got together in nine days. So greatly esteemed and beloved was this young nobleman in his own country that 1500 men assembled to follow him wherever he would lead; and sore was their disappointment when told that the Royal Warrant authorised only 1000 men to be enrolled. The more hardy and determined of those who could not be enrolled followed on to Perth, and insisted upon going with their chief. The military authorities in Edinburgh were consulted, and orders were obtained to add another company of 100 men to the regiment. Some of those who could not be enrolled returned home, others joined other Highland regiments then stationed in Perth. There were many Mackays in this regiment from Strathnaver, Tongue, and Durness; and amongst them was the famous Rob Donn Mackay, the poet, whose elegy on the premature death of the estimable nobleman, Colonel Earl William, is considered one of the best efforts of his poetic genius. The corps thus raised and commanded was a type of the manhood and morality of Sutherland. General Stewart records "That the martial appearance of these men, when they marched into Perth in May, 1760, with the Earl at their head, was never forgotten by those who saw them, and who never failed to express admiration of their fine military air."

The tide of war was soon turned by the energy and public spirit infused into every branch of the service by Mr. Pitt. The British fleets and armies conquered in every expedition, and in 1762

France was forced to sue for peace, with the loss of all her possessions in America and Hindostan. Pitt's schemes and plans succeeded in every quarter.

The Highland regiments embodied under his auspices admirably served their country; their prowess in the field, their excellent conduct in quarters, commanded universal esteem. Mr. Pitt was proud of them. In after years, in his place in Parliament, when commenting upon the war proceedings of the Government of the day, he gave expression to his famous eulogy on the Highland regiments: "I sought for merit wherever it could be found. It is my boast that I was the first minister of the Crown who looked for it and found it in the mountains of the North. I called it forth, and drew into your service a hardy and intrepid race of men, who, when left by your jealousy became a prey to the artifices of your enemies, and have gone nigh to have overturned the State in the war before last. These men, in the last war, were brought to combat on your side; they served with fidelity, as they fought with valour, and conquered for you in every quarter of the world."

This was very high praise. It was well deserved; for wherever the warpipe of Scotland sounded the charge, the Highland bayonets decided the combat and won the victory, however numerous were the opposing force. These Highland regiments were worthy of their race. Great Britain is much indebted to them for the prestige of its arms, as well as for the extension and protection of its commerce.

“ No effeminate customs did their sinews embrace,
No luxurious tables did enervate their race ;
Their loud-sounding pipes bore the true martial strain,
So did they the auld Scottish valour retain.”

On the 24th October, 1794, the Royal Warrant for embodying a regiment of Fencibles from Lord Reay's territory was issued to Colonel Hugh Mackay Baillie, grandson of the Hon. Colonel Hugh Mackay of Bighouse. Unfortunately the Chief, Hugh Lord Reay, was at the time incapacitated from leading his clan. It was therefore considered that Colonel Baillie, being a military officer of note and proved experience, and a near kinsman of the chief, was the fittest to command the regiment. He was greatly assisted in getting the men together by Colonel George Mackay of Handa, afterwards of Bighouse, and by the Hon. Eric Mackay, cousin-german of the chief, whom he succeeded in 1797. His letter, encouraging and enjoining his clansmen to enrol themselves for the honour of their chief and defence of the King and country, is given in the Appendix.

In the month of March, 1795, the Reay Highlanders were embodied by Sir Hector Munro, of Indian fame, at Fort George. The regiment consisted of 800 men, 700 of whom had the honourable Gaelic prefix, “Mac,” to their names. No difficulty was experienced in raising so many men, the Mackays came cheerfully forward at the call of their chieftains. A few weeks sufficed to obtain the required number. No sooner was the regiment embodied, uniformed, armed, and drilled for a few weeks, than it was ordered to proceed to

Ireland, where, by its steady conduct and soldierly bearing, it soon attracted the notice and acquired the confidence of Generals Lake and Nugent. The former was particularly attached to his "honest Reays," who frequently formed his body-guard. The regiment was first stationed in the North of Ireland, in Belfast and neighbouring towns, for about two years and a half. The conduct of the regiment in these quarters met with the highest commendation from the general officers commanding the district, and the universal respect and esteem of the inhabitants amongst whom they had been so long quartered. The "honest Reays" were great favourites with the loyal Irish, but a terror to the disloyal, whom, by rapid night-marches, they surprised and scattered without bloodshed.

In May, 1798, the regiment left Belfast for Cavan. In June of that year, Colonel Baillie was promoted to be Major-General, and the command devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel George Mackay of Bighouse. He was singularly beloved by officers and men. His firm but considerate conduct to all under his command greatly aided in preserving excellent order and maintaining the strictest discipline, without the harshness then common with officers, who cared little or nothing about the feelings of their men. Not so with Colonel George. The reverence his clansmen entertained for him was sufficient: a look, a gesture, a word of displeasure from him, had a more deterrent effect than the use of the triangle and lash. The "Reays" were always a happy,

cheerful family under the command of their "father George." Unhappily, in the early part of 1798, he contracted a fatal disease which obliged him to go on leave to Scotland in April, 1798. He died at Scotstown (the house of his brother, Captain Alness Mackay), near Peebles, on the 6th September, 1798, lamented by the whole corps. So dear was his memory to officers and men, that they one and all agreed to contribute four days' pay each, for erecting a monument to perpetuate their regard for him as an officer and a gentleman. This monument stands in the churchyard of Reay, his native parish.

In the absence of Colonel George Mackay, on leave, Major John Scobie of Melness commanded the regiment. On the demise of Colonel Mackay, Major Andrew Ross unattached, was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel, and on his being transferred on the 17th May, 1800, to be Major of the 54th Foot, he was succeeded in July by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, from the 1st Battalion Breadalbane Fencibles, who commanded the corps till its disbandment in 1802.

The story of the "Reays" in Ireland was comparatively uneventful till the early part of 1798. In the month of May in that year the Rebellion in Ireland broke out, and assumed formidable proportions. The evil example of the French Revolution nowhere bore more dangerous fruit than in unfortunate Ireland. Where, so early as 1780, the Irish volunteers, influenced by the success of the American insurgents, leagued themselves together to secure a reform of Parliament,—a

league which ended in their own dissolution. Then came the "United Irishmen," whose real purpose was, then as now, the separation of Ireland from the British Empire. A secret correspondence was maintained with France, where an infamous rabble was deluging the land with the blood of its own people; where ere long the Republic, though destitute of money, contrived to keep a million of men under arms, and where every place was filled by soldiery alone; and the palaces of the Bourbons were occupied by upstart ministers and officials, who "covered their Republican ferocity" with scarlet cassocks, rose-coloured stockings, and crimson robes richly embroidered.

Before long a day was fixed when Ireland was to rise in arms; and perhaps there is no nation in Europe whose history exhibits such a uniform series of oppression, misfortune, and misery, the result of that incapability of union for open resistance and of stern perseverance which form a part of the Irish character, though as soldiers they are second to none. Ireland has always been split into hostile districts and hostile factions, in which sects and creeds denounced vengeance against each other. Ireland, in short, has from the earliest times been a house divided against itself.

The project of the conspirators was separation from Britain, and probably union with France, whose rulers promised aid as soon as the tocsin of insurrection was sounded. The whole game was made known to the Government. The 22nd March, 1798, saw the arrest of many of the leaders. Those of them who escaped arrest determined on

a general insurrection, and fixed the 23rd of May for that event. The camp of Laughlinstown, the artillery park at Chapelizod, and Dublin Castle were to be attacked and carried. These anticipations were frustrated by the vigour of the Viceroy, Lord Campden, by superseding the ordinary tribunals by courts martial, and putting certain districts under military authority.

It was under these circumstances that the "Reays" were ordered from Belfast to Cavan, to overawe the disaffected and to be near Dublin in the event of an attack. While they were thus stationed in Cavan, the plans of the rebels were ascertained, which were, to proceed to the North where they expected a general rising, then to return and join with others whom they expected from the South and West, and make a general attack on Dublin. A body of rebels, consisting of several thousands, were reported to be marching northwards through Kildare and Meath. The "Reays" were ordered to march to Dublin. A regiment of militia was sent after the rebels, and came in sight of them, but seeing their superior numbers, the militia thought it prudent to retire and wait for reinforcements. In the meantime, the "Reays" were on the march to Dublin. Their first division arrived in the Irish metropolis without seeing the enemy, but part of the baggage, being too far in the rear, was attacked by a party of the rebels, who had been watching their movements from a cross road. They slaughtered some, took the rest prisoners, and carried off the baggage. This mishap occurred on the 24th May, 1798.

Report of this disaster very soon reached Major Scobie, commanding the rear division. When it became known a yell of anger was heard; the Highland blood of the "Reays" was roused and kindled. It was instantly determined to seek out the rebels, to retrieve the honour of the regiment, which was considered to be tarnished, or die in the attempt. Three companies of the division were placed by Major Scobie under the command of Captain Hector Maclean, an officer who had seen many years service as subaltern in the "Black Watch," and Captain Aaron Blanche. Along with these three companies were sent some Yeomanry Cavalry, with orders to find the rebels and recover the baggage. When the men received the order to march they expressed their joy by three ringing cheers, and then set forward with the greatest alacrity, vowing vengeance on the "croppies." Having reached Dunshauglin, after a march of ten miles from Navan, expecting to obtain some refreshments, they found that the rebels had completely pillaged the town on the previous day,—killed all the Protestants who attempted to defend hearth and home, and dragged the rest of the townsmen into their ranks. Captain Maclean soon ascertained that the enemy had gone north by a circuitous route. Apprehensive that they might intercept and fall upon the two companies left with Major Scobie and the baggage at Navan, the "Reays," hungry and tired as they were, wheeled about, without further rest, and followed in pursuit of the rebels. Having marched back about six miles, the enemy was discovered

encamped on the summit of the hill of Tara, cooking and eating their victuals. The Irish no sooner discovered the red-coated "Reays," than they set up a yell of defiance and prepared for action, anticipating an easy victory over so small a body of the "saighdairean dearg" (red-coated soldiers), accompanied by only two troops of Yeomanry. The "Reays," nothing daunted at the numbers of the rebels now seen forming on the hill, marched straight to it. In the meantime the rebels, 4000 strong, detached a large body of their forces by a circuitous route round the hill, to attack the "Reays" in the rear, should they attempt to march up the hill. The "Reays," on arriving at the foot of the hill, without any hesitation, resolutely continued their march up to the attack in front, unaware of the pending attack upon their rear. The approach to the summit was by a narrow lane between two hedges, up which the Foot went, preceded by the only gun they had with them, and protected on each flank by a troop of the Yeomanry. Before reaching half-way up, the gun had to be left in the lane, the Infantry were so eager to get at the enemy that they outstripped the gun, and marched on leaving it in the rear. The firing commenced at 6-30 p.m., as soon as the "Reays" emerged from the lane, and rapidly formed for the combat. They then advanced further up, firing as they went. Arriving at the brow of the hill, the firing became very heavy; the enemy in front were in overwhelming numbers, on higher ground, posted behind and protected by old walls and other

shelter, which gave them great advantage. The "Reays" would not be denied, they despised all odds; they were determined to surmount every difficulty. Win victory they would, or die to achieve it.

While this fighting in front was at the hottest, the detachment sent by the Irish to attack in the rear, speedily came forward pell-mell along the lane by which the Mackays had advanced, and were close up to the gun left in the rear, when those left in charge of it turned it upon the yelling, advancing Irish. The gun was double shotted, and just as the Irish was almost at its muzzle, the fire was applied to it. The effect was astounding and destructive; the shot ploughed a lane through the advancing mass, twelve were killed outright, which so terrified those in front that they immediately turned back, threw the rest into confusion, and the whole made off, frightened lest another shot might overtake them.

Soon after this event, the valiant little band fought their way to the brow of the hill, and gradually to the top, when they furiously charged the Irish with the bayonet, tumbling them over at every stroke, and eventually dispersed and pursued them off the hill. The Yeomanry then charged upon the retreating masses, and though raw and undisciplined, they made considerable execution upon the retreating rebels, who fled and scattered in disorder, panic-struck.

In this eminently spirited action, so highly creditable to the audacity and bravery of the "Reays," their loss was marvellously small,—

thirty killed and a considerable number wounded; the Yeomanry lost one killed and five wounded. The rebel loss was 500 killed, and the number wounded must have been considerable.

This battle was fought on the 26th May, 1798. The arms and spoil captured by the "Reays" compensated them in a measure for the baggage taken by the rebels on the 24th. The prisoners taken by the Irish with the baggage were also recovered. This affair became memorable, and its importance at this special conjuncture was incalculable in its consequence. It dispirited the rebels, convincing them that they could not stand against such troops, and so completely deranged their plans that they lost all hope of accomplishing them. It is impossible to describe the joy that pervaded every Protestant and loyal heart on receiving the news of the gallant and signal defeat of the rebels. This victory gave courage to every regiment of Yeomanry and Militia to stand firm and resist. It broke the neck of the rebellion.

After the battle, the "Reays" marched towards Dublin. On the march thither, next day, they met the troops sent to pursue the rebels. Finding that the service upon which they were sent had been so gallantly performed, they immediately returned. On arriving in Dublin, the "gallant Reays" met with the heartiest reception, the services of the quarter-master were not needed, the doors of the principal citizens were thrown open, and the "brave Reays" invited to enter, to be fed and lodged free of charge,—the gallant band deserved it.

Sir Richard Musgrave, in his memoirs of the Irish Rebellion, states that "The prisoners informed the officers of the 'Reays' and Yeomanry that their intention was to have proceeded that night to plunder Navan, and then Kells, where there was a great quantity of ammunition and little or no force to protect it, and that, when they had succeeded, they expected, according to a pre-concerted plan, to have been joined by a great number from Meath, West Meath, Louth, Monaghan, and Cavan, and to have released all the prisoners confined in Dublin, where they would not have met with any opposition. So general an insurrection might have been fatal to the kingdom, for the rebellion in Wexford and Kildare was raging with inextinguishable fury." This shows how important was the victory achieved on the hill of Tara.

The regiment remained in Dublin for a short time, and then marched to Maynooth, where they were stationed till the following August. In June, a detachment from the regiment was sent into Tipperary, under the command of Lieutenant Duncan Maclaren, and stationed at Mount Kennedy. On the 20th, the "Reays" with a troop of the Mount Kennedy Yeomanry, under Lieutenant Gore, attacked a body of rebels about 300 strong, near Ballinarush. The fire was commenced by the rebels, who were posted behind a hedge on the top of a commanding hill. After an engagement of about twenty minutes, the rebels gave way in every quarter and fled, leaving twenty of their number dead behind them.

On the 22nd August, 1798, a French force of about 1300 men landed in Killala Bay, County Mayo, under the command of General Humbert, and took possession of the cathedral town of Killala, where the French General proceeded to form a government, and issue proclamations, calling on the Irish people to join him, assuring them that the forces he had with him were only the advance guard of a powerful army ready to be sent from France. He summoned all individuals from 18 to 40 years of age, to join him in the name of the Irish Republic, and gave orders to raise twelve regiments of Irishmen, "to secure the happiness and independence of Ancient Hibernia."

General Lake, hearing of the French landing in Killala, hastened to put himself at the head of some troops to resist the advance of the French. Detachments were summoned from several quarters near at hand, the "Reays" were called upon and marched with the General across the country to Tuam, County Galway, while the Viceroy and Commander-in-Chief, Lord Cornwallis, assembled a strong corps at Athlone, in West Meath. Humbert, with his French troops and Irish auxiliaries, who flocked to his standard, advanced on Castlebar. General Lake with the Fraser Fencibles, the Kilkenny and Longford Militia and some troops of dragoons, moved forward to resist the French advance, leaving the "Reays" in Tuam to overawe the west. Lake took possession of Castlebar, and met the French outside the town. The Kilkenny and Longford Militia were in the front line, the Fraser Fencibles

in the second, the dragoons on the flanks. The French attacked, and soon threw the Militia into disorder and routed them, and in retiring threw the Frasers into disorder, so that the whole gave way. The French advanced and Lake was forced to retire. Overwhelmed with grief at the unsteady and cowardly conduct of the Militia regiments, many of whom went over to the enemy, in his retreat on Tuam he was frequently heard exclaiming, "If I had my brave and honest 'Reays' with me this would not have happened."

Sir Richard Musgrave gives the following instance of the intrepid execution of a duty entrusted to a Fraser sentinel in Castlebar. He was posted in charge of a public building in the town, when his comrades were retiring from the field, through Castlebar, they entreated him to retire with them. He heroically refused to quit his post without superior orders. This post was elevated with some steps leading up to it, he loaded and fired at the enemy as soon as they came in sight. He repeated this five times successively, killing a Frenchman with each shot, but before he could fire the sixth time they rushed on him. His body was dreadfully mutilated by the Irish.

Castlebar now became the headquarters of the French general, while Lake retired on Tuam to re-form his troops and concert measures with Lord Cornwallis to intercept the enemy and compel him to surrender. The Irish auxiliaries and the disloyal Roman Catholics in Castlebar, considered they had everything in their own hands. As soon as possession was taken of the town, they com-

menced an indiscriminate slaughter of the Protestants and loyalists, and when houses were defended, fire was put to them and every one of the inmates perished in the flames, if any one attempted to rush out he was received on the point of the pike or shot. One woman despairing of saving herself, threw the child she had in her arms out through a window, thinking the innocent would be allowed to escape, she had the horror to see it immolated by a ruffian outside, and it was not till a body of French soldiers with fixed bayonets came upon the scene that the carnage ceased. Even then the Irish questioned the right of Frenchmen to control them in their own country, or prevent them from slaying and burning Protestants and loyalists. French sentries had to be placed all through the town to prevent further further bloodshed and slaughter.

It was expected that Humbert would march on Tuam, which he did after a few days, where he expected to meet with great reinforcement from Connaught, but being apprised that no reinforcement had come and that Lake, with a superior force was posted at Tuam, he deviated to his left and marched through Roscommon, as if making straight for Dublin. Immediately this was known, Lake set out in pursuit, previously informing Lord Cornwallis of the route the French had taken, and his intention to pursue them with the troops he had in hand. In this pursuit he took his "honest Reays" with him. After four days and four nights' incessant marching, Lake's advance troops came up and skirmished with the French, bringing

them to a halt. As soon as Lake appeared with the troops under his immediate command all resistance ceased, the French laid down their arms and surrendered at discretion near Ballimuck, a village in Longford.

The "Reays" had the honour of conducting the prisoners of war to Dublin. Very few Irish were taken, as soon as they saw the French laying down their arms, they threw theirs away, and fled to the hills. The surrender of the French practically ended the rebellion, and comparative tranquillity was restored in Ireland. The "Reays" were afterwards successively quartered in Athlone, Longford, and Galway, sending detachments when required to Ennis, Athenry, Granard, Gort, Ballinasloe, Tuam, Loughrea, Enard,—overawing the disaffected, protecting the loyal and peaceably inclined, and assisting the magistrates in dispensing justice and preserving the peace.

In 1802, this gallant Fencible regiment was ordered home to Scotland, and arrived in Stirling in September. The Royal Warrant for its disbandment was issued on the 10th of August. On the 26th September, Major-General Mackay Hugh Baillie, after inspecting the regiment, issued his farewell address, highly complimenting it on its conduct in quarters and on the field. The King's Orders, in accordance with the Royal Warrant, having been complied with, the regiment was disbanded on the 13th October, 1802. The following is the text of General Baillie's Farewell Address to his regiment :—

“STIRLING, 26th September, 1802.

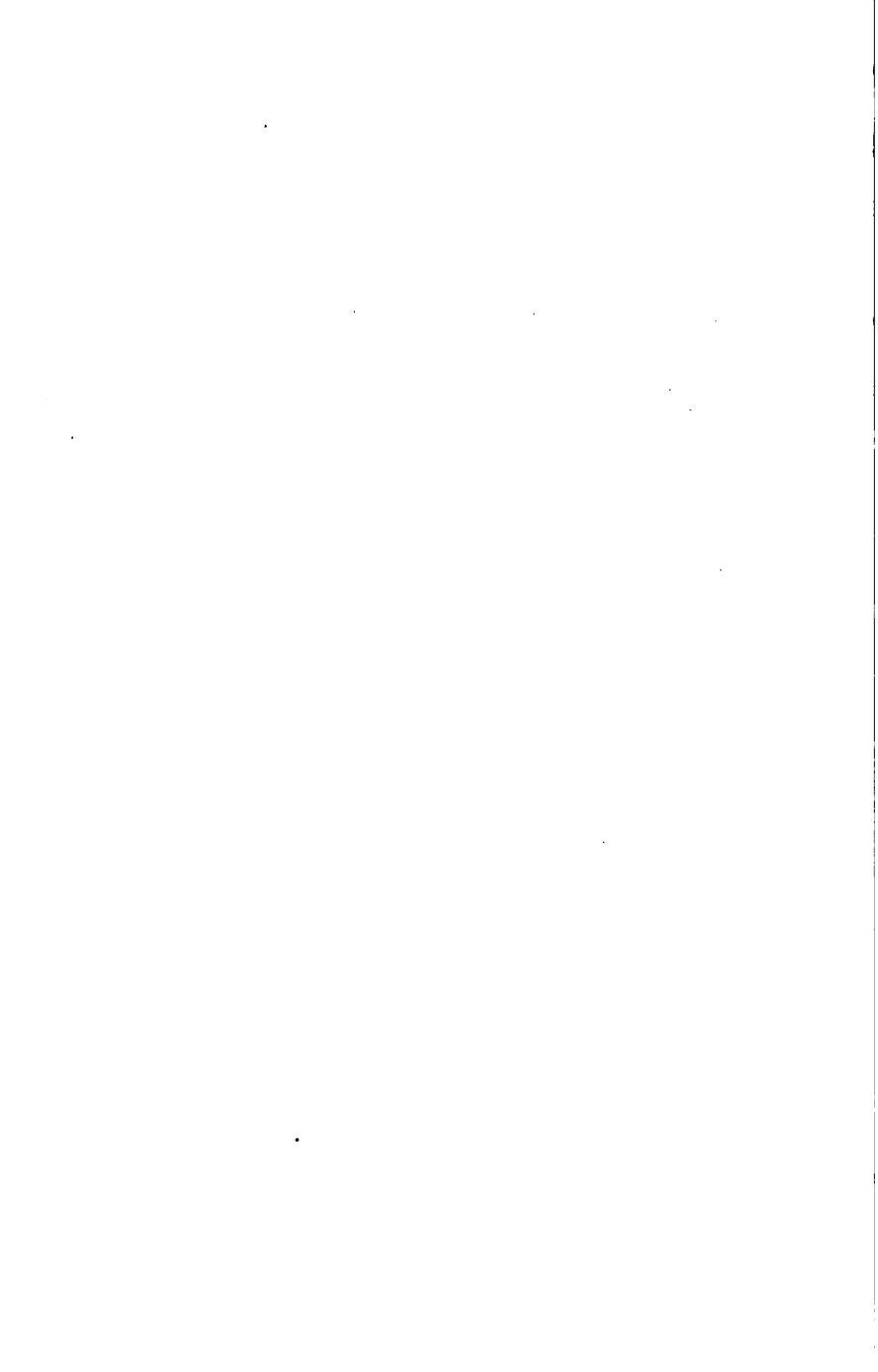
“His Majesty having issued his instructions for disbanding the ‘Reay’ Fencible Highlanders, in consequence of a general reduction of the Fencible regiments throughout the kingdom, Major-General Baillie embraces with eagerness an opportunity of expressing his highest approbation of the uniform good conduct of the regiment since it was embodied. The Major-General reflects with pride and satisfaction on the many opportunities that occurred to evince the loyalty, good discipline, distinguished gallantry, and persevering attention of all ranks to the good of the service. The many testimonials to this effect by the general officers under whom they served at a most critical conjuncture in Ireland, furnishes the most flattering and unequivocal proofs of their merits as British soldiers, and are circumstances that must prove a perpetual source of the most gratifying reflection to every individual that composed it. The unremitting zeal of the officers in advancing and perfecting the regiment in discipline, united to the exemplary spirit of harmony that so happily subsisted amongst them, during the whole period of their service, tending so essentially to confirm and secure the principles of subordination, claims from the Major-General his most sincere and warm acknowledgments, and it is under the most pleasant sensations that he now pays them the tribute of his respect, esteem, and attachment. The Major-General desires his thanks to be conveyed to the non-commissioned

officers and privates, for the disposition to good order and soldier-like conduct they have ever manifested, and which has been so evident from the many encomiums bestowed on their general behaviour on the service on which they were lately employed. Major-General Baillie repeats his acknowledgment to the whole corps, individually and collectively, for the general respectability they have at all times and on all occasions maintained, with an anxious wish that they may speedily reap the fruits of so meritorious services, by the full and permanent enjoyment of all the comforts of a private life, now so justly becomes their due."

This farewell parting address was worthy of the gallant General under whose auspices the regiment was enrolled, under whose chief command it continued till his promotion, worthy of the gallant men he commanded and that day addressed in such complimentary terms.

Such were the officers and men of the "Reay Fencible Highlanders," or as they were termed in Ireland, "Lord Reay's Highlanders," an honour to their race and to their country, descendants of men who always bravely held their own and defended their territory against great odds, who defeated the evil designs of their powerful neighbours when open force was attempted, and though they have been on more than one occasion circumvented and injured by fraud and duplicity, remained ever loyal to their Sovereigns and repeatedly performed good services to the State.

They were the means of preserving a balance of power amongst the Chiefs of the North and of preventing tyranny, and though disadvantageously located, they produced heroes and warriors equal to any in their day, whose fame will remain in the story of their country and on the continent of Europe. In Ireland, as it has been shown, the "Reays" exhibited many proofs of the valour of their race, and eminently manifested that they were the genuine sons of the valiant Mackays of the North.



A P P E N D I X.



APPENDIX.

Warrant for raising a Regiment of Fencible men under the command of Col. M. H. Baillie, signed George R. :—

“Whereas we have thought fit to order a Regiment of Fencible men, to be forthwith raised under your command, which is to consist of ten companies, of 4 sergeants, 5 corporals, 2 drummers, and 95 private men in each, with 2 fifiers to the Grenadier company, besides a sergt.-major and quarter-master sergeant, together with the usual commissioned officers; which men are to serve in Great Britain and Ireland only.

“These are to authorize you by beat of drum or otherwise, to raise so many men in any county or part of our Kingdom of Great Britain, as should be wanted to complete the said regiment to the above-mentioned numbers. And all Magistrates, Justices of the Peace, Constables, and other of our civil officers whom it may concern, are hereby required to be assisting unto you in providing quarters, impressing carriages, and otherwise, as there shall be occasion.

“Given at our Court at St. James, this 24th day of October, 1794, in the 34th year of our Reign,

“By His Majesty’s Command.

“ (Signed) W. WINDHAM.

“To our trusty and well-beloved M. H. Baillie, Esq.,
Colonel of a Regiment of Fencible men to be
forthwith raised, or to the officer appointed by
him to raise men for our said regiment.”

The regiment was placed on the Establishment from the 18th June, 1795.

At the muster taken at Belfast, 6th March, 1798, there were present the Lieut.-Colonel, 4 Captains, 1 Captain-Lieutenant, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, the Adjutant, the Quartermaster, the Surgeon, the Mate (surgeon's assistant), 18 Sergeants, 24 Corporals, 16 Drummers, and 313 private men.

Note.—At the above muster there could only be four companies; the other companies would be stationed in detachments, under the command of commissioned officers, in various quarters in the north of Ireland. This would account for the absence of these officers and so many sergeants, corporals, and men from the muster, which was that of the portion of the regiment in garrison in Belfast.

Stations of the regiment, as far as can be ascertained from the Muster Rolls and Pay Lists :—

Muster at Belfast, - - - - 23rd Feby., 1797.

Muster at Belfast, - - - - 6th March, 1798.

Affidavit made by the Paymaster, at

Maynooth, - - - - 13th Aug., 1798.

Affidavit made by Paymaster, at Long-

ford, - - - - 5th Oct., 1798.

The Affidavits of the musters continue to be made at Longford, till the 19th February, 1800, when the

Affidavit was made at Athlone, - - 19th Feby., 1800.

Do. do. Longford, - - 12th April, 1800.

Do. do. Galway, - - 2nd June, 1802.

The regiment remained at Galway till the 25th August, 1802, when it proceeded to Belfast, where an Affidavit to the muster was sworn on—

At Belfast, - - - - -	9th Sept., 1802.
Embarked for Scotland, . - - -	10th Sept., 1802.
Arrived at Stirling, - - - -	20th Sept., 1802.
Disbanded at Stirling, - - - -	13th Oct., 1802.

SERVICES OF THE REGIMENT IN IRELAND.

Extract from despatch of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, 24th May, 1798 :—

“There were also several bodies, collected last night, in different parts near Dublin, which were attacked by the Rathfarnham Cavalry, and by a detachment of the 5th Dragoons, and dispersed with some loss and some prisoners, and horses taken. A rebel party, however, assembled on the borders of Dublin near Dunboyne, and overpowered some constables, and afterwards took the baggage of two companies of the ‘Reay’ Fencibles coming to town, and have during the course of the day committed many outrages. Several of them, however, were killed, but the body remains indispersed. The city (Dublin) is tranquil, and I have no doubt will remain so this evening, and I trust that to-morrow we shall entirely disperse that body of the insurgents which has not been entirely routed to-day.”

Note.—This was not done as the Lord-Lieutenant anticipated and hoped. The defeat and dispersion of the insurgents was the spontaneous act of the “Reays,” on their arrival at Dunshaughlin, on the 26th May. The troops sent by the

Lord-Lieutenant on this service retreated as soon as they observed the rebels in such force, and on the 27th, having been reinforced, advanced again, and met the "Reays" marching to Dublin, after defeating the whole host of the insurgents on the hill of Tara, the previous day, as appears from the following :—

Extract from the despatch of the Lord-Lieutenant, 27th May, 1798 :—"I have the satisfaction to inform your Grace, that the body of rebels who for some days had been in considerable force to the northward of Dublin, was yesterday defeated with very great loss on their part, by a party of the 'Reay' Fencibles, and the neighbouring yeomanry corps, on the hill of Taragh.

"Five companies of the 'Reay' Fencibles, under the command of Captain Scobie, had halted yesterday at Dunshaughlin, on their march to Dublin, and hearing that the rebels were in great force and had taken a station on Taragh-hill, Captain Scobie detached three of the companies under the command of Captain Maclean, with one field piece, to the spot, who, being accompanied by Lord Fingall and his troop of yeomanry, Captain Preston's and the Lower Kells cavalry, and Captain Molloy's company of yeomanry infantry, attacked the rebels, who, after some resistance, fled in all directions. Three hundred and fifty were found dead in the field this morning, among whom was their commanding officer in his uniform. Many were killed and wounded. Some horses were taken, and a great quantity of arms.

"The loss on the part of the King's troops was nine rank and file killed and sixteen wounded."

The above extract, from the hasty despatch of the Lord-Lieutenant the day after the battle, does not give full particulars of the battle. The conjuncture was very critical,

the rebels were in the ascendant. Dublin, as the Lord-Lieutenant said in his despatch of the 24th, was tranquil and might remain so that evening. There was no certainty of it. Dublin was seething at the time with rebellious ideas, waiting for an opportunity to break out as soon as the rebels outside could approach it, after completing their plans and schemes. The result of the battle of Tara-hill so gallantly fought by the "Reays," disconcerted the plans of the insurgents, and saved Dublin from sack, bloodshed, and murder.

Names of soldiers of the "Reay" Fencibles, killed by the rebels, extracted from the pay lists of the regiment.

The Major's company, commanded by Lieutenant Mackenzie (Donald).	Corporal John Evans, killed 24th May, 1798 (in the baggage affair).
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The Colonel's company, commanded by Lieutenant Angus Mackay.	Private James Holmes, killed 24th May, 1798. Private Donald Macleod, killed 24th May, 1798 (in the baggage affair).
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The Colonel's company, commanded by Lieutenant Angus Mackay.	Private Roderick Mackay, killed 26th May, 1798. Private Alexander Macdonald, killed 26th May, 1798. Private Robert Mackenzie, killed 26th May, 1798.
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The Lieutenant-Colonel's company, commanded by Lieutenant Rupert Mackay.	Private Hugh Mackay, killed 26th May, 1798. Private John Graham, killed 26th May, 1798.
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Captain Colin C. Mackay's company. (probably commanded by Lieutenant George Hunter).	Private James Mackay, killed 26th May, 1798. Private John Mackay, killed 26th May, 1798. Drummer John Macdonald, killed 26th May, 1798.
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As Captain Colin Campbell Mackay was also Quartermaster of the regiment, it is probable that his company, in the battle of Tara-hill, was commanded on the occasion by Lieutenant George Hunter.

The Lieutenant-Colonel's company, commanded by Lieutenant Rupert Mackay.	Corporal Donald Macdonald, killed 27th May, 1798.
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Captain Colin C. Mackay's company.	Corporal Kenneth Mackay, killed 28th May, 1798.
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Captain Hector Maclean's company.	Private George Macleod, killed 8th July, 1798. Private John Maccallum, killed 8th July, 1798.
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Captain Colin C. Mackay's company.	Private George Matheson, killed 30th July 1798.
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Captain Alexander Clarke's company.	Private William Macleod, killed 30th July, 1798.
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Note.—Those killed on the 24th May, was in resisting the capture of the baggage. Those on the 26th May, was in the battle on Tara-hill.

There is no record of the occasions upon which those on the 27th and 28th May, nor of the 8th July and the 30th July were killed.

Extract from a despatch of the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, dated 21st June, 1798, to the Duke of Portland, His Majesty's Principal Secretary for the Home Department.

"Yesterday morning (20th June), a detachment from Mount Kennedy, under command of Lieutenant Maclann (*sic*, probably Lieutenant Duncan Maclaren) of the Reay Fencibles, and Lieutenant Gore of the Mount Kennedy cavalry, attacked a body of the rebels, nearly three hundred, near Ballinarush. The fire commenced, from the rebels who were posted behind a hedge on the top of a commanding hill. After an engagement of about twenty minutes they gave way in every quarter, leaving twenty dead behind them."

Extract from a letter of Lieutenant-General Lake to Captain Taylor, Private Secretary to His Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, dated Camp, Ballinamuck, 8th September, 1798.

"After four days' and nights' most severe marching, my column, consisting of the Carabiniers, detachment of the 23rd Light Dragoons, the First Fencible Light Dragoons, and the Roxburgh Fencible Dragoons, under the command of Colonel Sir Thos. Chapman, Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, Earl of Roden, and Captain Kerr; the 3rd battalion of Light Infantry, the Armagh and part of the Kerry Militia, the "Reay," Northampton, and Prince of Wales' Fencible regiments of Infantry, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Innes of the 64th Regiment, Lord Viscount Gosford, Earl of Glandire,

Major Ross (Major Andrew Ross commanding the Reays), Lieut.-Col. Bulkeley, and Lieut.-Col. Macartney, arrived at Cloone at seven o'clock this morning, where, having received directions to follow the enemy on the same line, whilst His Excellency moved by the lower road to intercept him, I advanced, having previously detached the Monaghan Light Infantry, mounted behind dragoons, to harass their rear.

"Lieut.-Col. Crawford, on coming up with the French rear-guard, summoned them to surrender, but as they did not attend to his summons, he attacked them, upon which upwards of two hundred French infantry threw down their arms, under the idea that the rest of the corps would do the same thing. Captain Pakenham, Lieut.-General of the Ordnance, and Major-General Craddock, rode up to them. The enemy, however, instantly commenced a fire of cannon and musketry, which wounded General Craddock, after which I ordered up the 3rd battalion of Light Infantry, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Innes, to advance and commence the attack upon the enemy's position. The action lasted about half an hour, when the remainder of the column making its appearance, the French surrendered at discretion. The rebels, who fled in all directions, suffered severely.

"The conduct of the cavalry was highly conspicuous. The 3rd Light Infantry and part of the Armagh Militia (the only infantry engaged) behaved most gallantly, and deserve my warmest praise. Lieut.-Col. Innes' spirit and judgment contributed much to our success, . . . and I feel infinitely thankful to all the commanding officers of corps, who, during so fatiguing a march, encouraged their men to bear it with unremitting perseverance. . . ."

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters, near St. Johnstown,
9th September, 1798.

“Lord Cornwallis cannot too much applaud the zeal and spirit which has been manifested by the army, from the commencement of operations against the invading enemy until the surrender of the French forces.

“The perseverance with which the soldiers supported the extraordinary marches which were necessary to stop the progress of the very active enemy does them the greatest credit, and Lord Cornwallis heartily congratulates them on the happy issue of their meritorious exertions. . . .”

Return of the killed, wounded, and missing of the King's troops at the battle of Ballina Muck, Sept. 8, 1798 :—

Killed.....Officers, none : Privates, 3 ; Horses 11.

Wounded „ 1 ; „ 12 ; „ 1.

Missing..... „ none ; „ 3 ; „ 8.

The officer wounded was Lieut. Stephens of the Carabiniers.

Return of the French army taken prisoners :—

General and other officers, 96

Non-commissioned officers and soldiers, ... 746

Horses, about 100

Rebel Irish taken, 96 ; three of whom were called General Officers, by the names of Roach, Blake, Teeling.

LIST OF THE OFFICERS OF THE REAY FENCIBLE REGIMENT
OF FOOT.

Col. Mackay Hugh Baillie, from half- pay of the 94th Foot.	Col., 25th Oct., 1794.	The last muster at which this officer was present with the regiment was taken at Bel- fast on the 23rd Feb., 1797. In the muster taken at Belfast, 6th March, 1798, he is shown on the Roll "sick at Harrogate."
	Major-General, 18th June, 1798.	He rejoined the regiment 24th Sept., 1802, at Stirling, shortly before it was dis- banded.
George Mackay.	Lt.-Col., 25th Oct., 1794.	In Scotland, on leave, April, 1798. Do., sick, July, 1798. Died, 6th Sept., 1798.
Robert Honeyman Mackay, Captain from the 96th Foot.	Major, 25th Oct., 1794.	Exchanged to the half-pay of the late York Fusiliers with Major James Stuart, 1st March, 1798.
Lamington Baillie.	Capt., 25th Oct., 1794.	In Scotland, sick, April, 1798. Resigned 31st July, 1798.
John Scobie.	Capt., 25th Oct., 1794. Major, 22nd Sept., 1798.	At Ballinasloe, Jan., 1800. At head-quarters, Feb. 1800. Disbanded 13th Oct., 1802. and placed on half-pay as Lieut. in the 71st Foot.
Donald Mackay.	Capt., 25th Oct., 1794.	Resigned 30th Nov., 1796.
Donald Forbes.	Do., do.	Resigned 30th Nov., 1796.

William Munro,	Capt., 25th Oct., 1794.	Resigned 5th January, 1797.
Hugh Morrison (Hespelled his name Morison.)	Do., do.	At Granard, February, 1800. At head-quarters, May, 1800. Sick, July, 1800. In Scotland, by leave of Lord- Lieut., Sept., 1800. In do., do., Dec., 1800. Recruiting, January, 1801. Joined from recruiting, 15th December, 1801. Marched for Ennis, 21st April, 1802. At Stirling, 20th Sept., 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
Colin Campbell Mac- kay (also held com- mission as Quarter- Master to the regi- ment).	Capt., 25th Oct., 1794.	In Scotland, by leave of Lord- Lieut., August, 1798. Recruiting in Scotland, Nov., 1798. Joined from recruiting, Nov., 1799. Recruiting, Feb., 1800. Present with regiment, April, 1800. Absent, sick, Feb., 1801. Present with regiment, April, 1801. At Tuam, August, 1802. At Stirling, 20th Sept., 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
James Mackay, Cap- tain-Lieut., takes rank as Captain in the regiment.	Capt.-Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794. Captain of a company, 1st Nov., 1796.	Appointed Lieutenant to a company of invalids at Hull, 18th Oct., 1797.
Alex. Clarke. (He held the com- mission of Pay- master to the regiment.)	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794.	In Scotland, by leave of Lord- Lieutenant, May, 1800. Rejoined regiment, Aug., 1800. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802. Appointed and Lieutenant of Marines on half-pay.

Aaron Blanche, also held commission as Adjutant.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794. Capt., 1st Dec., 1796.	Sick, Aug., 1799. At Granard, March, 1800. In England, by leave of Lord-Lieut., May 1800. Present with regiment, Aug., 1800. Remained in Ireland till the regiment proceeded to Scotland to be disbanded. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
Hector Maclean.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794. Capt.-Lieut., 1st Feb., 1797.	In Scotland, by leave of Lord-Lieut., Sept., 1799. Present with regiment, April, 1800. Recruiting, Oct., 1800. Joined from recruiting, 16th Dec., 1801. Disbanded, and placed on half-pay, 13th Oct., 1802.
Hugh Clarke.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794.	Certified sick in Scotland, 23rd Feb., 1797. Resigned, 30th June, 1797.
Angus Mackay.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794. Capt.-Lieut., 1st Nov., 1797. Capt., 4th Aug., 1798, but ranked from 1st Nov., 1797, for bravery at Tara-hill	Sick in quarters, muster at Belfast, 6th March, 1798. Present with regiment, April, 1798. Recruiting, Oct., 1799. Rejoined from recruiting, 30th August, 1801. On detachment duty at Longhrea, Nov., 1801. At head-quarters, Dec., 1801. In Scotland, by leave of Lord-Lieut., Feb., 1802. Leave expired, 10th Apr., 1802. Leave prolonged for two months. In Scotland since 10th April, 1802. Certified sick in Scotland, June, 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.

George Hunter.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794. Capt.-Lieut., 4th Aug., 1798. Capt., 22nd Sept., 1798, but ranked from 4th Aug., 1798.	Sick in quarters, muster at Belfast, 6th March, 1798. Recruiting in Scotland, Feb., 1799. Present with regiment, Oct., 1799. On detachment duty, Ballinasloe, Jan., 1800. At head-quarters, Feb., 1800. On detachment duty, Loughrea, Dec., 1800. Do., do., Jan., 1802. At head-quarters, April, 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
Hector Mackay.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794.	Sick in quarters, muster in Belfast, 23rd Feb., 1797. Not on muster roll, Belfast, 6th March, 1798.
David Ross.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794.	Sick in quarters, muster in Belfast, 23rd Feb., 1797. Certified sick in Scotland, 6th March, 1798. Recruiting, Aug., 1798. Not in pay-list, May, 1799.
Peter Matheson.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794.	Present at muster, Belfast, 23rd Feb., 1797. Resigned.
Gordon Duncan.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794.	Absent without leave since 10th April, 1796. Resigned, 7th May, 1797.
William Scobie.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794.	Absent, on leave of Lord-Lieut., 6th March, 1798. Sick in Scotland, April, 1798. Recruiting in Scotland, Aug., 1798. Resigned, 30th Sept., 1799.
Duncan Maclaren.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794. Capt.-Lieut., 22nd Sept., 1798.	On detachment duty, Loughrea, Feb., 1801. Appointed Ensign 91st Foot, 28th Aug., 1801.

Alexander Stronach.	Lieut., 25th Oct., 1794.	Appointed Ensign 79th Foot, 18th April, 1796.
Colin Macdermid.	„ „ „	Resigned, 7th Dec., 1796.
Donald Munro.	„ „ „	Not in quarters or muster, 23rd Feb., 1797.
John Mackenzie.	„ „ „	Do., do.
Hugh Macpherson (Was also Surgeon to the regiment).	„ „ „	Resigned, was succeeded as Surgeon, 1st April, 1797; a Lieut., 1st May, 1797.
William Mackay.	„ „ „	Resigned, 10th April, 1796.
Rupert Mackay.	„ „ „	Resigned, 24th Nov., 1799.
Arthur Baillie.	„ „ „	Resigned, 10th April, 1796.
Kenneth Scobie.	Ensign, 25th Oct., 1794.	Appointed 2nd Lieut. in Ply- mouth Division of Marines, 25th July, 1796.
Donald Mackenzie.	Ensign, 25th Oct., 1794.	Recruiting, Sept., 1799.
(Acting Adjutant, March to July, 1800).	Lieut., 1st May, 1797.	Present with regiment, March, 1800. On command with Volunteers, July, 1800. Appointed 2nd Lieut. 21st Foot, 16th Feb., 1802.
William Anderson.	Ensign, 25th Oct., 1794.	Resigned, 4th Feb., 1797.

James Veitch. (Acting Surgeon's mate, 25th Oct., 1794.) Surgeon, 1st April, 1797.	Ensign, 25th Oct., 1794. Lieut., 23rd Nov., 1799.	Resigned the Ensigncy when appointed surgeon, was re- appointed Ensign, 1st June, 1798, which Commission he held together with Sur- geon. Appointed Assistant Surgeon 28th Light Dragoons on the 23rd Nov., 1801.
Alexander Boyle. (Acted as Surgeon's mate, 25th Oct., 1794.	Ensign, 25th Oct., 1794.	Resigned, 31st Aug., 1799.
John Macleod.	„ „ „	Not in muster roll, Belfast, 23rd Feb., 1797.
George Mackay.	„ „ „	Resigned, 24th July, 1796.
Kenneth Todd.	„ „ „	Resigned, 26th Oct., 1796.
avid Mackay.	Chaplain „ „	Retired on pension, 4s 4d per day, 29th Sept., 1797.
George A. S. Scobie.	Ensign, 1st May, 1797.	Sick in barracks, muster at Belfast, 6th March, 1798. Not in pay list, April, 1798.
William Mackay,	„ „ „ Lieut., 1st Nov., 1797.	Resigned, 17th Nov., 1799.
Atkinson Tod.	Ensign, 1st May, 1797.	Not in pay list, April, 1799.
John Nisbet.	Ensign, 1st Dec., 1797. Lieut., 4th Aug., 1798.	On detachment duty, Athenry, January, 1801. At head-quarters, Feb., 1801, At Athenry, March, 1801. At head-quarters, May, 1801. At Athenry, April, 1802. At head-quarters, May, 1802. Remained in Ireland.

Donald Cameron.	Ensign, 1st Feb., 1798.	Sick, June, 1798. Absent, without leave, from 23rd Nov., 1798. Superseded, 17th Jan., 1799.
William Ballantine.	Ensign, 1st Feb., 1798. Lieut., 10th Nov., 1798.	On detachment duty, Gran- ard, Feb., 1800. At head-quarters, May, 1800. Marched to Athenry, 21st May, 1802. At head-quarters, June, 1802. On pay list, Sept., 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
John Scobie.	Ensign. Lieut., 1st Jan., 1798.	Resigned, 30th June, 1799.
Donald Mackay.	Ensign. Lieut., 1st April, 1798.	Appointed 2nd Lieut. 21st Foot, 4th Nov., 1800.
Hugh Grant.	Ensign. Lieut., 1st April, 1798.	On command, Athenry, Aug., 1800. At head-quarters, Sept., 1800. At Gort, June, 1801. At head-quarters, July, 1801. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
William Bailie.	Ensign, 1st Nov., 1797. Lieut., 1st May, 1798.	At Gort, March, 1801. At Loughrea, April, 1801. At head-quarters, Nov. 1801. At Tuam, August, 1802. Stirling, September, 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
Major James Stewart. (From the half-pay of the late York Fusiliers, <i>vice</i> Ro- bert Honeyman Mackay, who ex- changes.)	Major, 1st March, 1798.	Exchanged with Major Ross, 6th July, 1798.
Major Andrew Ross. (Major unattached, <i>vice</i> Stewart, who exchanges.)	Major, 6th July, 1798. Lieut.-Col., 22nd Sept., 1798.	Present, August, 1798. Appointed Major 54th Foot, 17th May, 1800.

Walter Ross.	Ensign, 6th July, 1798. Lieut., 19th Oct., 1799.	Sick, Oct.. 1799. Present, Nov. 1799. At Ballinasloe, July, 1800. Recruiting, July and August, 1800. Do., April and May, 1801. At Loughrea, Nov., 1801. At head-quarters, Jan., 1802. In Scotland, by leave of Lord-Lieut., Feb., 1802. Certified sick in Scotland, April, 1802. Stirling, Sept., 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
Peter Campbell.	Ensign, 18th Aug., 1798.	Never joined ; resigned 14th September, 1798.
Donald Campbell.	Ensign, 17th Nov., 1798. Lieut., 30th Nov., 1799.	Recruiting in Scotland, April, 1799. Present, June, 1800. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
John Sutherland.	Ensign, 13th Oct., 1798. Lieut., 3rd Aug., 1799.	Joined, January, 1798. On detachment duty, Granard, Feb., 1800. Do., Athenry, June, 1800. At head-quarters, July, 1800. At Tuam, Aug., 1802. At Stirling, Sept., 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
Peter Meiklejohn.	Ensign, 27th Dec., 1798. Lieut., 14th July, 1800.	Recruiting, Oct., 1800. Died, 12th Dec., 1800.
Robert Cameron.	Ensign, 18th Jan., 1799. Lieut., 28th Oct., 1800.	Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
Capt. Thos. James Smith. (From the half-pay of the Independent companies.)	Ensign, 18th Jan., 1799.	Joined, May, 1799. Resigned, June, 1799.

Donald Ross.	Ensign, 15th June, 1799.	Recruiting, August, 1799. Appointed Ensign in the Line, April, 1800.
Cornet John Asher. (From the ancient British Fencible Cavalry.)	Lieut., 15th June, 1799.	At Ballinasloe, Aug., 1799. In Dublin, by leave of Lord- Lieut., May, 1800. Absent without leave since 17th June, 1800. Appointed Capt.-Lieutenant Prince of Wales (or Aber- deen Fencibles), with date of 1st May, 1800.
David Logan. (Also assistant Sur- geon from 1st Jan., 1800.)	Ensign, 3rd Aug., 1799. Lieut., 31st Dec., 1800.	Ballinasloe, Jan., 1800. Head-quarters, Feb., 1800. Athenry, Nov., 1800. Head-quarters, Dec., 1800. Disbanded, 13th Oct, 1802.
William Shaw. (Assistant Surgeon from Hompisk's Dragoons. This officer held the appointment of assistant Surgeon to the Reay Fen- cibles, as well as his Ensigncy.)	Ensign, 28th Sept., 1799.	At Ballinasloe, Jan., 1800. Head-quarters, Feb., 1800. Appointed Surgeon to the 15th Foot, 1st Jan., 1801.
Sinclair Maitland Scobie.	Ensign, 19th Oct., 1799. Lieut., 7th April, 1801.	Sick in Scotland, June, 1800. Present, July, 1800. Sick, July, 1801. Present, Aug., 1801. Sick, Nov., 1801. Present, Dec., 1801. On detachment duty, Enard, June, 1802. At head-quarters, Aug., 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.

- Major Colin Campbell.** Lieut.-Col., 25th July, 1800. Absent, by leave of Lord-Lieut., Sept., 1800.
(From the 1st Bat. Breadalbane Fencible Infantry.) Present, Nov., 1800.
In Scotland, by leave of Lord-Lieut., May, 1802.
Present at Stirling, Sept., 1802.
Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
- Charles Anderson.** Ensign, 28th Dec., 1797. Did not join till July, 1800 ;
was reported sick in Scotland in the pay list of June, 1800.
Resigned, 10th Jan., 1801.
- Roderick Macqueen.** Ensign, 14th July, 1800. Joined, Nov., 1800.
At Loughrea, Feb. 1801.
At Athenry, July, 1801.
Head-quarters, Sept., 1801.
Remained in Ireland, as per pay lists, Sept., 1802.
Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
- Charles Coates.** Ensign, 19th July, 1800. Absent by leave of Lord-Lieutenant.
Joined, Dec., 1800.
At Gort, April, 1801.
Head-quarters, May, 1801.
Sick, Aug., 1801.
Head-quarters, Oct., 1801.
Sick, Nov., 1801.
On detachment duty, Loughrea, Dec., 1801.
Do., do., Jan., 1802.
Absent without leave from 11th May, 1802.
Resigned, 22nd June, 1802.
- John Macarthur.** Ensign, 24th Sept., 1800. Joined, Dec., 1800.
Sick, May, 1801.
At Athenry for the benefit of his health, July 1801.
Head-quarters, Sept., 1801.
Stirling, Sept., 1802.
Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.

The Reay Fencibles,

John Mackay.	Ensign, 28th Oct., 1800.	Detached at Athenry, April, 1801. Head-quarters, June, 1801. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
Donald Ross.	Ensign, 10th Feb, 1801.	Recruiting, March, 1801. Joined from recruiting, July, 1802. In Scotland, by leave of the Commander of the Forces, July, 1802. Stirling, Sept., 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
William Fox.	Ensign, 7th April, 1801.	Joined, Aug., 1801. Remained in Ireland, pay list, Sept., 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
George Mackay.	Ensign, 7th April, 1801.	Joined, August, 1801. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.
Albert Frend.	Ensign, 23rd March, 1801.	Joined, July, 1801. Detached, at Loughrea, Jan., 1802. Head-quarters, April, 1802. Remained in Ireland, pay list, Sept., 1802. Disbanded, 13th Oct., 1802.

Orders and instructions for disbanding the Reay Fencible Infantry, commanded by Major-General Baillie :—

“ George R.

“ Whereas we have thought fit to order our regiment of Fencibles, commanded by our trusty and well-beloved Mackay Hugh Baillie, Esq., Major-General of our forces, to be disbanded and discontinued on the establishment of the army, our will and pleasure therefore is, that you do disband our said regiment accordingly, and that in the disbanding thereof, the following rules to be duly observed :—1st, Before such disbanding, you are to cause an exact muster to be taken by the regimental paymaster of the several companies of the said corps.

“ 2nd, Care to be taken that the arms delivered for the use of our said regiment out of our Stores of Ordnance, and indented for, to be returned thither again, and acquittances taken for the same from such person as shall be appointed to receive them.

“ 3rd, Care to be taken before the disbanding that the quarters of each company be duly satisfied ; as also that the accompts of the men be made up, and all their just pretensions completely satisfied to the time of their being dismissed.

“ 4th, Care to be taken that each non-commissioned officer and private man hereby to be disbanded be permitted to carry away with him his knapsack and his clothing for the present year, consisting of coat, waistcoat, breeches, cap, and one pair of shoes, due on the 25th December last, and of the second pair of shoes due at midsummer next. But if the second supply of shoes be not provided in readiness for immediate delivery, each man is to be paid the sum of five shillings and sixpence, as a compensation in lieu thereof.

“ Each sergeant is also to be settled with for the sum of three shillings due to him under the authority of our warrant of the 20th May, 1801, as being the difference between the value of the former articles of half-mounting for a sergeant and private man.

“ The great-coats in wear by the regiment are to be disposed of according to such orders as you shall receive from our Secretary at War.

“ 5th, And we being pleased to allow as of our royal bounty each sergeant, corporal, drummer, and private man, who shall be hereby disbanded, a certain proportion of pay beyond the day of his discharge, to carry him home according to the distance which he shall have to travel, viz :—

In Scotland, 14 days.

To England, 21 days.

To Ireland, 28 days ;

and at the respective daily rates of

1s. 6¾d for a sergeant.

1s. 2¼d. for a corporal.

1s. 1¾d. for a drummer.

1s. for a private.

“ Payment thereof to be made to each of them respectively, and the charge thereof is to be inserted with the pay of the men in the pay lists, care being taken to distinguish in the columns of remarks the day, or days, on which they were disbanded.

“ 6th, An account is also to be sent to our Secretary at War, attested by you and by the Commanding Officer of our said regiments, of the names of such Commissioned Officers as may have been taken from half-pay, and are not by law disqualified from receiving the same again, on the discontinuance of their services in our said regiments.

"7th, And to the end, that the said non-commissioned officers and private men may be sensible of the care we have taken of them upon their discharge, you are to cause these, our directions, to be read at the head of each company, and see that the same be duly put in execution.

"Given, etc., etc., etc., 10th August, 1802, in the 42nd year of our reign.

"By His Majesty's command.

(Signed) "C. YORKE."

"Lieut.-General Vyse, Edinburgh."

Copy Letter from ERIC, LORD REAY, while Heir Presumptive to the Title, to the REV. JOHN THOMSON, Minister of Durness, with relative enclosure.

“ London, 4th Nov., 1794.

“ Rev. Sir,—You must be too well acquainted with the present critical state of public affairs not to be convinced that it is a duty incumbent on every one to contribute in proportion to his powers, and without delay, to assist Government in checking the alarming progress of an enemy whose formidable powers are not directed, as in former wars, to the mere acquisition of territory, but whose diabolical views extend to us less than to total subversion of everything that is sacred or dear to man—I mean their religion, their property, their liberty. Impelled, therefore, in this momentous occasion by the same sentiments that ever animated my ancestors, I have formed the resolution to come forward and give an unequivocal proof of my attachment to His Majesty’s person and Government, by using all the means I have, as presumptive heir to Lord Reay, in bringing forward all the men on the estate to join in a Fencible corps, to be commanded by my cousin, Colonel Mackay Baillie, for the particulars of which I refer you to the enclosed copy of what I have wrote by this post to all the gentlemen who hold farms conformable to these views ; and convinced as I am of the great influence which your respectable character, and no less situation, must give you over the minds of your parishioners, I come to entreat you to unite your efforts to mine, in persuading such of the men who are capable to arm in defence of the common cause, and show in this important juncture their attachment and zeal for the good of their country—motives which your abilities will enable you to enforce from the pulpit, according to the spirit of the

letter which I have already mentioned. I shall not trouble you further on this occasion, except to assure you that I shall ever entertain the most grateful sense of your exertions, and that nothing will give me greater pleasure than having it in my power of ever being serviceable to you. Believe me, therefore, in the meantime, with sincere good wishes for you and yours, rev. sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

(Signed) "ERIC MACKAY."

Copy (Letter referred to) sent to Tacksmen.

"LONDON, 4th November, 1794.

"Sir,—At this crisis of public affairs, when it is the duty, as well as interest, of every good subject to exert himself according to his station in maintaining the safety and dignity of his country against a dangerous and formidable enemy, I have to inform you that, animated by these ideas, and agreeable to the spirit and uniform conduct of my ancestors, I have resolved to employ whatever means my relation to the family of Reay, and as the acting representative of that family, afford me of contributing to the assistance and support of His Majesty's Government upon this occasion.

"As I understand, nothing can more effectually serve the common cause than the raising of Fencible regiments, whereby His Majesty will be enabled to employ the rest of his troops upon the Continent, or wherever they may be wanted abroad. I have presumed to lay before His Majesty an offer to raise, with the assistance of the gentlemen of the Reay estate, a Fencible corps, to serve in any part of Great Britain or Ireland, which offer has been accepted. I flatter myself that in so doing, I have not merely gratified my own personal wishes,

but that I shall have the satisfaction of finding that I have done what will be agreeable to the gentlemen themselves, by affording them an opportunity of coming forward and testifying in such a manner their attachment to His Majesty's person, and their spirit and resolution in defence of their country. With these views, I must request you, sir, to give me all the assistance upon this occasion in your power, and I depend upon your zealous exertions in raising, with all possible dispatch, every man that can be furnished from your farm; and I hope, I need not observe, that if such persons are selected as may perhaps occasion some little distress or inconvenience to the country, at the same time the interest of His Majesty's service must be considered in the present critical juncture, Colonel Baillie, my nearest relation, who is to command the regiment, will soon be in your country, with Lieut.-Colonel Mackay of Bighouse, and will communicate to you the terms upon which the men are to be raised, and what I think are such as will make them enter with alacrity. In a public measure of this kind, I hope that the private advantage or preference of individuals will not be considered as the object to be had in view; but you may be assured, at the same time, that it is my earnest wish, as well as of Colonel Baillie and Bighouse, to pay every attention in the management of this business to the wishes and views of every individual, as far as circumstances will reasonably admit of in such an undertaking.

"Now, my good sir, you must easily conceive how much interested I am in the foregoing business, and, at the same time, conclude that I must feel myself obliged, in proportion to the exertions of those whom I depend upon, and I can assure you that in you I have a great deal of confidence, and that although it is impossible we could know much of each other, from my being so very young while in the country, yet I flatter myself that I am none of those who easily forget services, a

circumstance which I hope to convince you of when my appearance in the country will procure me the satisfaction of a more intimate acquaintance. I have now only to add a wish—it is that the names of the men who engage in the Mackay Fencibles may be transmitted me, as well as of those who are not capable, who do not choose to join, and that the former may be made acquainted that their friends as well as themselves will experience my future protection and support ; and, further, that when, from the advantageous terms offered by the Government, joined to precedence, and the means they will have to make savings, should they, as it is possible, be ordered to that cheap country, Ireland, the men may be enabled and disposed to take farms in the Reay Estates, they may be assured of a preference over those who did not engage, or to any others upon equal terms.

“ It is a particular satisfaction to me that so able a man as Colonel Baillie takes the lead upon this occasion, both he and Colonel Mackay are gentlemen so well known to you all in the country that it must be obvious they would not be concerned therein were not the business for the interest and welfare of the individuals. Therefore, in full assurance that nothing will be omitted on your part to forward the success of a business so interesting to me, I conclude, with my best wishes for your welfare, and am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed) “ ERIC MACKAY.”