

FUNERAL OF FORT-MAJOR CRUICKSHANK.

(From the Scotsman.)

The funeral of Fort-Major Cruickshank took place on Wednesday with the military honours customary to distinguished officers. Between one and two o'clock the different regiments at present stationed in Edinburgh met on the esplanade of the Castle. About two o'clock the procession, consisting of the Rifles from the Castle, the 5th Dragoon Guards from Piershill, and the Artillery from Leith Fort, accompanied the remains of the deceased officer from the Castle, under the command of their various officers, among whom we observed Viscount Melville, Colonel Dalziel, Lieutenant-Colonel M'Mahon, Lieutenant-Colonel Somerset, &c. They moved thence in slow march through Lawnmarket, Bank Street, Mound, Hanover Street, to Brandon Street, and through Inverleith Row to Warriston Cemetery, which was entered by the north-west gate, the procession arriving there about half-past 3 o'clock. The gun-carriage conveying the bier, followed by the mourners and a firing party, entered the burying-place, and, on arriving at the grave, the Rev. Mr. Millar, garrison chaplain, offered up a prayer. As soon as the coffin had been lowered, three volleys of musketry were fired over the grave, after which the regiments forming the procession returned to their quarters. The mourners were Mr. Cruickshank, builder, Glasgow, who is a brother of the deceased, and two nephews. The ceremony concluded a little after four o'clock. Fort-Major Alexander Cruickshank, who was born at Forres on the 1st January, 1789, entered the army as a private soldier in the 79th Highlanders on the 18th May, 1805. His first foreign service was at the siege and capture of Copenhagen and of the Danish fleet in 1807, under the late Earl Cathcart. He afterwards served in the expedition to Gottenburg in the early part of 1808, under the late Sir John Moore, where the regiment remained about three months, and then proceeded to Portugal, where they assisted in clearing that country of the French army under Marshal Junot. He subsequently served with the army under the late General Sir John Moore on the advance into Spain in the year 1808, and in the memorable retreat to Coruna, returning to England early in 1809. In the same year he served with the expedition to Walcheren, under the command of the late Earl of Chatham, and was present at the siege and capture of Flushing. He accompanied the 79th again to Portugal on the 1st January, 1810, and from thence to Cadiz, where they remained in defence of the city, then besieged by the French under Marshal Soult, until the month of August, when they returned to Portugal. He was present at the battle of Busaco, returning with his corps to the fortified position in front of Lisbon. He served in the campaign of 1811, under Lord Wellington, in pursuit of Marshal Massena, and was present at the battle of Fuentes d'Onor, on the 3d, 4th, and 5th May, when he was taken prisoner of war while in defence of the village, but made his escape from the enemy while on the march to France, between Burgos and Vittoria, and begged his way through Spain and Portugal until he rejoined his corps near Almeida, in the latter country. He served the campaign of 1812 against Marshal Soult, during the siege and capture of Badajoz. He also served the campaign of 1813 in Spain and France, being present at the battles of Nivelle and Nive and the blockade of Bayonne. He served the campaign of 1814 in France, and was present at the battle of Toulouse, where he was severely wounded in the left leg. He finally served the campaign in 1815 under the Duke of Wellington in the Netherlands and France, and was present at the battles of Quatre Bras and Waterloo and at the capture of Paris, where he remained with the army of occupation until 1816, when the regiment returned to England. He was subsequently with the regiment eight years in Gibraltar and Canada, remaining with it until 1849, when he retired on the half-pay of quartermaster, after an active service of 46 years (including the two years allowed for Waterloo). In 1851 he was appointed by the Duke of Wellington, on the recommendation of Lord Panmure, First Major of Edinburgh Castle, which office he held until his death, having thus served his country for the long period of 52 years.