

The earth to tremble thou hast made,  
 Therein didst breaches make,  
 Do thou thereof the breaches heal,  
 Because the land doth shake.'

"A short prayer followed; after which the venerable man read as his text those words of Matt. viii. 27, 'But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and sea obey him?' The sermon which followed was one which those who heard never could forget. The occasion, the scene, the subject, all tended to elevate both speaker and hearers into a higher region, and made holy eloquence sound like inspiration. It was a day of deep and varied emotions. Some were saddened to tears, when they thought of the precious minister whom the Church of Scotland had driven from her pale, in others joy in the truths which they had heard, swallowed up for the time all other feelings; while hoary headed men felt the recollections of youth suddenly revived, and those who had been active in the proceedings of that day seemed to their minds to have 'served themselves heirs to the iniquity and wickedness of some of their forefathers in that place, who stoned that eminent seer and faithful martyr, Mr. James Guthrie.' " \*

Among the number of those who on that occasion hung upon the lips of the preacher, and whose feelings were strongly excited by the event, was James Drummond. He was a man of great tenderness of heart, and his natural feelings were deeply impressed, so that to the latest hour of his life he was accustomed to speak of it with emotion. He had by this time learned to value the truths for which Mr. Erskine had been expelled the Church, and henceforth he cast in his lot with the persecuted remnant. About that year, we are not informed whether before or after this scene, he applied for the privilege of communion with the Church, and was after due examination admitted by Mr. Erskine himself. From that time he acted

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\* Thomson's Early History of the Secession.