

A SERMON:

THE DUTY OF DILIGENTLY ADDING TO OUR FAITH, THE
GRACES OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.

2 Peter, I. ch., 5, 6, 7, vss. "And, besides this, giving all diligence add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge temperance, and to temperance patience, and to patience godliness, and to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness charity.

The circumstances, my Brethren, in which we are now met are of a peculiar kind, met as we are as the natives of a common Country, the Members of a Charitable Society, for the purpose of engaging in a religious service. As such it is peculiarly becoming for us so to do. We are met as the natives of a Country endeared to us by many associations. It is endeared to us, as the land of our fathers,—the land of our birth,—the land of many of our friends, and of the companions of our earlier years. As the Englishman delights to look back to the rich fields of merry England, so Scotland is endeared to us by the recollection of those scenes with which our boyhood, and the ripper age of some among us were familiar, its lofty mountains, its highland lakes and glens, its green hills, its pleasant vales and silvery streams, each linked with many a tale of former days. It is endeared to us, as the land of freedom, and now reposing under a political constitution the wisest and the best which the world ever saw. It is endeared to us, as a land, where the benefits of education, here yet but very partially known, are universally diffused,—of a system of Education, the glory and the blessing of our Country, which has produced many illustrious names, familiar as household words in the different walks of learning, and to which as a means thousands of Scotia's Sons have owed their advancement, and success in distant climes,—an education which is yet rapidly rising to yet higher attainments, in every

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