

## THE LATE REV. PETER GORDON.

(CONTINUED.)

The following extract from a letter of his brothers, during the time of his student life, may throw some light on the state of things at that time, and may be interesting in these days of volunteering.

"I went to the Barony Session Clerk and spoke of your business. He says that teachers without any exception have been heretofore exempted from serving in the militia, and that as far as he knows, there have been no names taken up here yet—that he can give no lines from personal knowledge, but if I brought a line from the elder of the quarter you belonged to, certifying your having resided there for such a time, he would do it, so you can say whether or not it will be needful."

The following letter written during the course of his Theological Studies to one of his fellow students will serve to show to some extent his character as a student.

GLASGOW, February 24.

*Dear Brother,—*

Last night after you and Mr. Eaton left me, I enjoyed a few pleasant moments, by means altogether unexpected, viz., by reading a hundred pages of Marshall's *Mystery of Sanctification*. I am sorry that my judgment concerning it has been so premature, and that I was so much disposed to undervalue those who had so warmly recommended it. I do not think that I could do you a greater favour than to give you a reading of it. I am still of the same opinion concerning the third direction, which you know I took so much pleasure in expressing; but it was very unjust of me to infer the character of the whole from so small a fact, for I turned over to the eighth direction. I read the ninth, tenth and eleventh; and I do not think that ever I saw practical religion better described since I was born except in the Bible. Almost every sentiment met with my warmest approbation, and what is more, those which are by some considered my peculiar views are clearly, scripturally and powerfully maintained. I do not wish to enlarge in commendation of it, because I hope you will soon be able to judge for yourself. Do not consider this as any revolution in my sentiments, but a candid acknowledgment of my former ignorance, about the book which will be the unavoidable attendant of an imperfect and progressive state, only it should put me in mind of the ancient and now much neglected law, which forbade that we should judge any man before we heard him. And I hope that you will not forget it when drawing your inferences from my epistle. It is now nearly twelve and you may easily judge what must be the state of a man who can sleep before breakfast.

I hope that you will have the minutes of the Doctoral Society distinctly written, that you may show yourself worthy of the high office, and that you may show yourself worthy of the high office, and that you will have your mind fully stored with information concerning the important business to be before us on Tuesday, that you may prove yourself an useful member in the scholastic body.

Your acceptance of these few undigested thoughts will confer much honor upon your affectionate  
Father, friend and brother,

P. GORDON.

The society alluded to in the last paragraph was one formed among a few students for the advancement of their Theological Studies. They held meet-