

North Bruce with the rather, to me a lowlander, somewhat rare accompaniment of "the speaking to the question" on Friday, brought to heard mind what I had seen years ago in Glengarry, and what I had often of at home but never witnessed. At Kincardine the Church has been greatly enlarged since 1864, and the "grove" adjacent, were both occupied on the week-days and on the Sabbath of the solemn occasion. The number of attendants in all could not be much below 2,000. The tables spread, with their pure white coverings, under the canopy of heaven; the powerful appeals of men in real earnest, and which were conveyed to listening multitudes in a language which distance of removal from its native haunts, rendered even more touching; mingling too with the vocal strains of the wild but sweet Gaelic melodies; these all blended together could not but produce a deep and hallowed impression. It was a matter of deep regret to me that want of time and other causes put it out of my power to visit as I wished my friends at Paisley, Southampton, and Egmondville. My previously fixed visit to Illinois was pressing upon me; and the arrangements for it admitted of no change.

It was on Thursday, August 1st, we set out for Chicago by the Great Western Railway. We stopped that night at London, in the hospitable mansion of Mr. and Mrs. Chisholm, whose kind attentions now as before will never fade from our remembrance. From Detroit to Chicago the distance is 280 miles, and the "Michigan Central" with its comfortable "Pulman" dormitories, brought us in safety to that large and rapidly growing city. The surface of the prairies is peculiarly favourable to railway travelling, and all my journeys through Illinois, to and from Chicago, have been accomplished, through the kind Providence of God, without any untoward incident.

Till 1830, Chicago was known only as a depot for Indian furs, and as a military post for two companies of the American army. For fifteen years after it began its rapid rise, its position on the prairies of Illinois and at the Southern end of Lake Michigan was anything but inviting. Nevertheless, during twenty years past, it has grown with amazing rapidity till its inhabitants are estimated at 230,000. It is now the acknowledged metropolis of the vast North-West. It is the great thoroughfare of produce from all the seven prairie states, and particularly of corn and cattle of all kinds. Its streets are wide, well built, and paved. Its "Wabash" and "Madison" avenues, the former four miles in length, are superior to anything in the older cities of the Eastern States. Its manufactories in machinery of all kinds, clocks and watches, and in musical instruments of different names, are on a great scale. Its ingenious contrivance for obtaining an ample supply of pure water from the lake, has been executed within three years, and at the small expense of one million dollars. Its system of ordinary and Grammar School education is most complete; and its Colleges for the higher branches of education are established on the best principles. I had the pleasure of being present at the opening of the Presbyterian Seminary of Theology, on the fifth of September, when an excellent lecture was delivered by the Professor of Exegetics Dr. Halsey. The other Professors, Drs. Lord and Elliot are well associated with Dr. H. as men of learning, ability, and worth. This Seminary is the fourth institution of the kind belonging to the old school Presbyterian body; but the other branches of the Protestant Church, whether Presbyterian, Congregational, Methodist, or Baptist, are all provided with admirably appointed seminaries; and it was to my mind peculiarly refreshing to find all the larger distributors of knowledge, whether literary or religious, under a decidedly christian influence.