

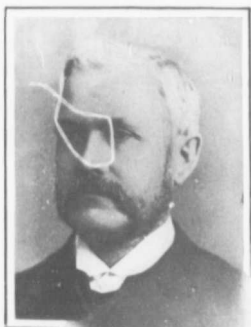
BX9003

H3

E77

1705

fol.



REV. THOMAS SCOULER

THOMAS SCOULER was born on the 10th of July, 1843, at Strathlaven, Lanarkshire, Scotland. In this place and the City of Glasgow, his childhood and youth were spent. His parents were earnest, God fearing people, closely connected with the United Presbyterian Church, of Scotland. His mother died when he was twelve years of age.

While a youth, he became deeply interested in religious work, frequently addressing meetings of a religious character in his native town. For some years he labored as Home Missionary in Hamilton, Scotland, and in Anderston Presbyterian Church, Glasgow. When leaving for Canada in 1874, the congregation of Anderston showed their appreciation of his valuable services by presenting him with a handsome Bible and a purse of gold.

Mr. Scouler obtained his theological training at Knox College, Toronto. Besides doing mission work in Toronto and in various parts of Ontario, he was engaged for eight months in what was then known as the Pearl Street Mission, Hamilton, in connection with Central Church.

In December, 1880, Mr. Scouler was ordained and inducted the first minister of Erskine Church. He labored with very marked success, the present large church being built during his pastorate. He faithfully laid the foundations of the organization of the Church, and the influence of his life and teaching will be felt as long as the Church remains.

Mr. Scouler, in 1886, accepted a call to St. Andrew's Church, New Westminster, British Columbia. Here also a large new church was built.

For the last seven years of his life he was chaplain in the British Columbia Penitentiary, but continued his active interest in the New Westminster Presbytery. He was at one time Moderator of the Synod of British Columbia. After an illness of three months, he died on the 9th May, 1904, leaving a widow and one son to mourn his loss.