

good and the pure. From the whole after-life of the man, we think that it may be inferred, without hazard of error or exaggeration, that no pulsations in the limbs of the body could be truer to the impulsions of the heart, than would be his feelings and acts to the wish and will of his mother. By nature and grace he was formed to love, and love never yet failed to secure obedience.

After giving minute and deeply interesting particulars connected with his early life and first teachers, he goes on to say: "October 10th, 1809.—I this day entered the University of Glasgow, with a view to study for the holy ministry." With what success he prosecuted his studies at that ancient seat of learning, his extensive and accurate scholarship—which enabled him at an after period to occupy an academical chair with honour to himself and advantage to his pupils—abundantly attests. His pulpit ministrations and published writings plainly told that he had been no idler at school and college. He was an excellent classical scholar, and was superior to most of his fellows in mathematics. Had he devoted himself in after life to this latter department of study, he might have taken a distinguished place in the higher walks of science. But he had a far nobler and holier end in view, even the glory of his Redeemer, in the salvation of souls. In the spring of 1811, he first joined in communion with the Church, "trusting," he says, "to no attainment, service, or resolution of my own, but wholly to the merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour." He informs us, that during that season his father employed him in conducting his week-day evening classes, and in addressing Sabbath Schools, &c.,—exercises in which he felt great delight, as well as benefit to his own soul, "often feeling as if God were present with me, and giving great peace to my mind." In 1812, he commenced the study of divinity, under the Rev. Dr. Paxton, of Edinburgh. During his course at the Hall he was engaged as private tutor to a most interesting boy, William Simpson, only child of Colonel Simpson, of Plean, near Stirling, and there was the most satisfactory evidence that his earnest efforts to bring his pupil into the fold of the Good Shepherd were signally blessed. Having finished the prescribed course at the Divinity Hall, he delivered his trial discourses before the Presbytery of Glasgow with marked approbation, and was licensed as a preacher on the 29th July, 1817. His honoured father, being moderator, presided on the occasion, and his uncle, the Rev. James Muckersie, of Alloa, led in the preliminary prayer. "I felt greatly impressed," he says, "by the solemn transaction, and secretly looked to God my Saviour for strength and light, and all necessary supply and comfort." "Having received an unanimous call from the congregation of Newarthill, Lanarkshire, to be their pastor, and having considered it my duty to accept of it, I was this day 23rd April, 1818, ordained to the office of the holy ministry my father presiding. He remained and preached on the forenoon of the Sabbath following, and I preached in the afternoon. The occasion