

For some time after father's death the kirk people moved along smoothly. The disruption caused a split, a strong faction insisting that the pastor should join the Free church. It was remarked that the men most vehement in this demand were the ones who wanted father to stultify himself by joining the old kirk. The fickle multitudes, whose "Hosanna" to-day becomes a "Crucify Him" to-morrow, did not all die nineteen centuries ago.

Mr. Smith's refusal to leave the kirk aroused much ill-feeling. At a meeting called to hear his final discision he was treated badly, just as father had been ten years previously. A violent disruptionist exclaimed: "If we could recall our good old minister from his grave, you would never enter that pulpit again!" Another said, "Dr. Buchanan never read his sermons, as you do!" The meeting broke up in confusion, affecting Mr. Smith keenly. He was extremely sensitive, and the reproaches of the people wounded him deeply. At the height of the excitement, he took sick and died in a few days. Even this sad dispensation failed to heal the breach. The congregation divided, one section building a church at Black's corners, two miles away, and the other building at Franktown. The stone church, the scene of so much dissension, was abandoned for ever. Hardly a member remained in the old kirk, and the building left to the owls and the bats, has gone to ruin. Surely father's solemn warning was amply verified by subsequent events.

"Though the mills of God grind slowly,
Yet they grind exceeding small;
Though with patience He stands waiting,
With exactness grinds He all."

In July of 1834 father visited Montreal, pursuant to an invitation from Rev. Drs. Alexander Matheson and William Taylor, two of the Presbyterian ministers in that city. He supposed the trip would be somewhat of a vacation, his first in a dozen years. At Bytown the Rev. John Cruickshank advised him to turn home as the cholera was raging in Montreal. He replied: "I have two daughters there, it is my duty to go, and God will not