

what might be considered the most suitable field. Canada was recommended and fixed upon, and a call made for three or four men to offer themselves as missionaries for that distant part. Mr. Christie of Holm, Mr. Proudfoot of Pitrodie, and Mr. Robertson of Cupar, volunteered their services, and were accepted as in every way qualified for the work. When it became known to his congregation that Mr. Christie was accepted, great sorrow was caused among the people, and they did what they could to retain him. A petition was drawn up and lodged with the United Associate Presbytery of Orkney, stating that the petitioners could not contemplate his removal from them "without feelings of deep sorrow and regret, of the sincerity of which no one can doubt who knows the harmony, concord and happiness which have uniformly prevailed throughout the congregation, ever since Mr. Christie was settled in this place." They then speak of the fidelity, zeal and affection with which he had laboured among them, and their thankfulness to the great Head of the Church who had favoured them so highly under his ministry, and of their living in the fond expectation that they should be permitted to enjoy the benefit of his highly-esteemed and much-loved labours till death should sever the ties that bind Pastor and people together, and praying the Presbytery to aid them all they could to prevent the contemplated dissolution of the pastoral relationship. Mr. Christie, however, was not to be turned aside from the sphere of usefulness which he anticipated in Canada. He still felt the obligation of the command to go far hence. He, accordingly, with those we have named, was loosed from his charge in Scotland, and, bearing with him a Presbyterian certificate, signed not only by the Moderator and Clerk, but also by the other members of Presbytery, who had expressed their wish to be allowed to affix their signatures to the document, testifying that he carried with him their respect and affection, and their best wishes for his success in the work of the Lord, and a certificate from the Committee of Synod on Foreign Missions, signed by Drs. John Brown, Chairman, William Peddie, Secretary, James Peddie, and John Ritchie, he sailed for Canada about the end of July or beginning of August, 1832, and applied himself at once with devoted energy to the missionary work he had undertaken.

There appears to have been an arrangement between the members of this small band of Christian heroes (for they well deserve the name), that Mr. Robertson was to labour chiefly in the Eastern parts of the Province, Mr. Proudfoot in the Western, and the subject of this brief biographical sketch in the central. Mr. Robertson was not permitted to continue long at his post, having been cut down by cholera a month or so after his arrival. Mr. Proudfoot was spared for many years, and was called by the Synod to conduct the training of young men who had given themselves to the work of the ministry, an office for which he was well qualified. He, too, has gone to his rest. Mr. Christie outlived those with whom he was joined in the beginning of the work.

Working his way westward from Montreal, he preached at several places, such as Gananoque, Kingston, Hamilton, etc., and he cherished to the last recollections of incidents that befel him in these localities, of persons with whom he met, of conversations held respecting the great object upon which his heart was set. When he came as far as Flamboro', events transpired indicating that the Master had appointed this as the place of his stated labour. A congregation was formed, he received an invitation to become pastor of it, accepted it, and here he continued to officiate under tokens of the Divine blessing for a long term of thirty-eight years. The congregation