

PREFACE

the perspective in which every important incident should be placed; each has revised the work of the other.

My father's own cardinal maxim in criticizing a biography was that the hero should speak for himself, and to this rule we have endeavoured to adhere. Yet it has been impossible to avoid expressing certain opinions on men and movements of the time; for any of these which arouse controversy I take the fullest responsibility.

In many of his letters, matters of local or ephemeral interest mingle with those of permanent value. When it could be done without altering the perspective, we have not scrupled to cut out passages which seemed unnecessary, or, in a few cases, to run two letters into one. In any case where confusion could have resulted, we have been careful to mark the omission by asterisks.

To the many friends who have given us help; to the comrades of his youth; to the surviving members of his Halifax congregation; to all who have given us their memories of him, and without whose help this book could not have been written, we render thanks. Their names are too numerous to quote, but they are written deep in the memories of us both. The chapter on his relations to his colleagues embodies the ideas, and to a great extent the words, of Professors Cappon, Shortt, and Dyde. I must also thank in a very special manner the Rev. Robert Murray, editor of the *Presbyterian*