

After laboring with his father on the farm until nearly 18 years of age, he prepared to enter college at Edinburgh. This city was 150 miles distant from his home, a journey which he always travelled on foot. Having finished his college course of four years, he entered upon the study of theology under the Rev. Mr. McMillen and was licensed to preach the Gospel in 1809.

For a time he labored in Scotland and received several calls all of which he declined. At length he resolved to leave his fatherland, set sail for America and narrowly escaping a dreadful shipwreck on the passage reached Nova Scotia in safety in 1818.

At that time there were no vacancies in the church and he spent two years itinerating, preaching in almost every corner and creek in the Province. He was first settled at Windsor where he remained only a few years. At the death of his first wife, Miss Clarke, he tendered his demission.

In August 1823 he visited Musquodoboit and preached in the Lower, Middle and Upper Settlements, on which occasion he baptized sixteen children. Six months elapsed when he made a second visit in Jan. 1824, preaching seventeen times in four weeks and on the second Sabbath of July he dispensed the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and admitted forty-three new members.

The following year he received and accepted a call and was inducted on the 13th Sept. 1825. The Rev. John Waddell, Truro, preached the induction sermon.

Shortly after his settlement he began to visit the Eastern shore and continued these visits from Musquodoboit Harbor to Moser River for 36 years. At first he undertook these long and toilsome journeys twice a year but after a time travelled to Sheet Harbor monthly. When the snow was too deep he would dismount from his horse and would carry his portmanteau on his shoulders, glad, as he often remarked, to reach the glittering haunts of men. Though these visits involved much physical toil yet it always afforded him real enjoyment to minister to the spiritual destitution of the long neglected localities on the Atlantic coast. As he dispensed the ordinances of religion the people were refreshed and he often experienced tokens of the Master's presence. When unable through the infirmities of age to continue these long journeys he always cherished grateful recollections of them and their remembrance was sweet.

In 1825 the Communion roll at Sheet Harbor numbered twenty and at the end of thirty years had increased to ninety.

When settled at Musquodoboit his field of labor comprised a large area and the families were much scattered. Being in the prime of life he applied his whole strength to repair, as he tells us, its dismantled towers. At the date of his settlement there was but one church and a log school house. Before his death there were seven churches and fourteen handsome school houses on the Musquodoboit River.

A church was built in Upper Musquodoboit in 1818 but in the following year was consumed by fire, and in 1827 another was erected which still stands.

During Mr. Sprott's ministry the congregation grew and the number of communicants increased from one hundred to two hundred and fifty. The churches were also filled with devout worshippers and prayer meetings were well attended.

After twenty years labor he tendered his resignation which was accepted, and he spent the remainder of his life on his farm at Middle Musquodoboit, often, however, performing missionary journeys to destitute localities breaking to them the Bread of Life.

When about 80 years of age he was sadly crippled with rheumatism and erysipelas which unfitted him for travelling or labor of any kind. Amid his afflictions he felt that his Heavenly Father had not forgotten him but was employing the rod of affliction to chasten him. Though unable to walk about, his general health continued good for a few years until at length after a short illness he passed away to his rest on the 15th Sept., 1869, aged 89 years.

REV. ROBERT SEDGEWICKE.

Mr. Sprott was succeeded in Musquodoboit by the Rev. Robert Sedgewicke. Before coming to Nova Scotia he had been employed as a city missionary for four years in Scotland, and after his licensure in 1836 was settled over the congregation of Aberdeen. There he labored for some years and was then induced to leave the land of his nativity and make this Province his adopted home. Not long after his arrival he received and accepted a call to Musquodoboit, and in 1849 was inducted.

Counting his term of service as a city missionary he has labored in the Master's service for the long period of fifty years. Abundant in labors the congregation made marked progress under his faithful ministrations and after a pastorate of