

pices of a local temperance society, and at that time he gave promise of that marked ability as a public speaker for which he subsequently became distinguished. It was at about this period of his life that he first had serious impressions about engaging in the work of the ministry and finally after careful consideration, he decided to direct his studies to that end. In order to secure the advantages of a higher education he went to Victoria College, Cobourg, where he so distinguished himself as a student that he secured the interest of Dr. Ryerson, at that time principal of the College, in his behalf, and through his instrumentality was first appointed English tutor and afterwards classical tutor in the College. He still pursued his studies under the professors of the institution until he graduated, when he was raised to the position of Professor of Moral Science, which he held for about two years. At the expiration of that period he resigned the professorship with the intention of devoting himself solely to the ministry, and with that object in view he took charge of a Presbyterian congregation at Newcastle, in the township of Hope. A circumstance not generally known occurred at about this period in his career. On the return of Dr. Ryerson from his educational tour in Europe in 1846 he offered young Ormiston the principalship of the Norman School of Upper Canada, which offer was declined by the latter from a desire to engage wholly in the ministry. Some years afterwards, however, Dr. Ryerson prevailed upon him to accept the mathematical mastership and the position of lecturer in chemistry in this institution; yet, notwithstanding the arduous duties consequent upon the acceptance of these positions, the Rev. Mr. Ormiston preached weekly in Toronto to large congregations for a number of years. He was thus

brought prominently before the public, and his marked ability both as a preacher and a hearer becoming generally known he was "called" in 1857 to take charge of a United Presbyterian congregation in Hamilton. Here he labored with much success. In 1862 he visited Britain, and during one summer preached in the "London Wall Presbyterian Church," Finsbury, London, and declined a warm "call" from that congregation. Some five or six years ago, however, he was induced to accept a call to take charge of a Dutch Reformed congregation worshipping in New York city, where he is now laboring. His Church is situated on Fifth Avenue, in a very aristocratic portion of the metropolis, and is a new and magnificent edifice, recently erected, the large congregations assembled showing the esteem in which their pastor is held. In 1873 he visited California and the Yosemite Valley, during which tour he was the able correspondent of the New York *Witness*. The Doctor is a remarkable man in appearance, having a large frame and a massive head, on which his hair stands erect. His intellect is very active, and by its great power and originality has secured for the Doctor a great range of admirers. He is slightly eccentric in his manners, and has been troubled with an affection which some time ago caused him to lose the use of one of his legs; he recovered from the attack, only to again be troubled, quite lately, with a similar affection in the other limb. Earnest hard work is characteristic of the Doctor, and with his powerful nervous organization he often exceeds his strength in striving to accomplish a given end. He was present in Montreal at the grand gathering of Canadian Presbyterians, on the occasion of their uniting into one Church, and took a leading part in the solemn services.