

9th.—Landed at Wigton. Kissed affectionately the green earth. A kind Providence watched over us, and enabled us once more to see country and kindred. Landed on the day of the sacrament, and attended divine service on the green in the open air. Reached Kirkowen. Found my friends well. Reached my native place in Stoneykirk at the dismissal of divine service on the Monday of the sacrament. The news of my arrival spread like lightning; my mother's house soon filled with people.

16th.—Accepted an invitation to preach at Portpatrick, and preached to a large congregation in the open air. A great change for the better has taken place in Portpatrick and in Stranraer.

23rd.—Visited my father's grave. Preached a funeral sermon to a large congregation.

Visited the old house where I was born, where I enjoyed so many social joys, received the elements of instruction, and enjoyed so many signal proofs of the divine care. Harvest unusually early, crops very poor, not equal to one-third, cattle starving for want of grass. No rain since March. The cattle uncommonly cheap. Never was there such a season since the year 1762.

14th Aug.—Was this day united in marriage with Jane Neilson by Dr. Stewart [minister of Kirkowen]. The courtship was the shortest possible, but she was one of the companions of my youth. I would have married her earlier in life, but we were eight years separated by the pathless foamy ocean (1). Both married; at this time both single without children, and by a strange and mysterious Providence brought together. I have sought in her company a solace from the ills of life. I hope God will bless us and make us blessings to each other.

20th.—Took farewell of my worthy old mother

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