

subsequent course, of carefully sifting everything he read. He made extended criticisms upon the text-books he used, and asserted a manly independence of thought, not only in questions of theology, but of science and philosophy as well. He felt bound to take nothing for granted on the mere authority of men.

In the year 1844, Dr. Carson died, and in the same year Mr. Crawford crossed over to the land of his forefathers, and entered the University of Edinburgh. He was then in his twenty-fifth year. Among the seniors in Edinburgh at this time was Britain's future statesman and renowned prime minister, W. E. Gladstone. Mr. Crawford remained at the University for two years, and must have carefully employed his time; for in addition to keeping up his University studies he preached in the vicinity of Edinburgh every Sabbath evening. Several persons were converted through these occasional efforts.

Leaving Edinburgh he went to London in 1847, and began a course of study in theology in Stepney College, now well-known as Regent's Park College. His course at Stepney extended over another period of two years. Here also, as in Edinburgh, he preached as occasion offered, and persisted in his work even in the face of much opposition. On one occasion, when he was out in the County of Huntingdon, he was "threatened with fine or imprisonment for preaching to over twenty people in a private house without being licensed."

Upon the completion of his college studies in 1849, he began pastoral work in the vicinity of London in the parish of Lee. Here he came into active association with Sir Samuel Morton Peto, an influential layman distinguished both for his piety and his benevolence. The attitude of the Established Church towards all Nonconformists was then even more pretentious and arrogant than now, and no little opposition was stirred up against Mr. Crawford and his work. But he was not easily thwarted, and with characteristic determination he plodded along and succeeded in organizing a church, and in bringing about the erection of a house of worship which cost about twenty-four thousand dollars.

Mr. Crawford was married in Claremont Chapel, Islington, London, to Sarah Louise Hackett, whose father occupied an office as inspector under the Government.