

was caught by the knife and taken completely off. This was at the time regarded as a serious loss, but "use doth breed habit in man," and by the time the wound was healed he could use his left hand with such facility that he scarcely felt the want of that he had lost. The deprivation has never seriously inconvenienced him, and he has been known to say: "I do not know what I would do with a second hand if I had it."

He had strong religious impressions, and from his earliest years had resolved that his life should be devoted to the Christian ministry. He had even at one time serious thoughts of becoming a missionary.

In his sixteenth year he began to attend the West River Seminary of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia. Here he remained two years, spending the interval between the sessions in teaching school, and thereby unconsciously fitting himself for the important and honourable duties which were to devolve upon him in later life. Having completed his studies at the Seminary, he was elected by the committee of the Synod of Nova Scotia as one of four bursars to be sent to the University of Glasgow, to be fitted for the ministry of the Presbyterian Church. He eagerly availed himself of the privilege afforded him, and, having barely completed his eighteenth year, repaired to Scotland. On reaching his destination he began a course of hard study which lasted for eight years.

His career at the University of Glasgow was distinguished by exceptional brilliancy, and long before it had come to a close he might truly have been regarded as, for his years, a sound and accomplished scholar. He was a diligent and successful student in all his classes; in many taking first prizes; in few, if any, coming out without distinction. He was always on the side of manliness; and it says much for him that he concurrently filled the high office of President of the Conservative club, of the Missionary Society, and of the football club—a testimony of the appreciation by his fellow-students of his platform eloquence, his religious convictions, and his love for manly sport. He also engaged zealously in the work of a private tutor in some of the influential families of the city; so that at the end of his course he could look proudly on the fact that he had not only supported himself during his attendance at college, but was able to return the money which the bursary fund of his native province had advanced on his behalf.

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