

same stations, six years afterwards, on the same errand. It is sufficient to say that they were real. His ministrations on this tour were not only acceptable, but highly popular. The people of Restigouche took steps toward obtaining him as their minister, and he looked forward to that place being the future scene of his labors. But the saying of inspiration, "A man's heart deviseth his way but the Lord directeth his steps," was in this case strikingly illustrated. In returning to Nova Scotia, finding the navigation on the coast for the season closed, he must needs go through Richibucto, where the spirit of commerce had collected a considerable number of Presbyterians. They had been visited by the Rev George Burns, D. D., then of St. John, N. B., yet they were "as sheep wanting a shepherd." They had been supplied by another licentiate of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, one too who then and since has proved an acceptable minister of the New Testament, and they were about giving him a call when Mr McLean arrived and preached *one Sabbath*; and such was the impressio produced that the call intended for another was unanimously given to him. In the meantime, the people of Restigouche not having shown the same alacrity, he felt it his duty to accept.

III. HIS PASTORAL LABORS.

His Pastoral labors in the congregation commenced in May, 1826.* On the 3rd day of July following he was married to Miss Sophia, daughter of the late Mr Jonathan Blanchard of Pictou, and sister of his particular Academical friend and associate, the late Jotham Blanchard, Esquire, Counsellor at Law, and subsequently M. P. P. for the then undivided County of Halifax. In "the plighted partner of his future life" he found a person of great amiableness of disposition, and one who, whether in prosperity or in adversity, was while he lived his devoted companion. The union was one of much enjoyment. But they also experienced the truth of the Saviour's declaration, "In the world ye shall have tribulation." Besides trials to be hereafter referred to, it may be mentioned here that he was called to suffer the loss of his eldest daughter, Sarah, who died September 14th, 1828, aged 15 months. He was enabled to say, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord."

To his pastoral labors he now devoted himself with all the ardour of a naturally ardent nature, "constrained by the love of Christ." His flock was scattered over a wide extent of country, yet he cheerfully undertook the toil of frequently visiting them, although in some instances it was necessary to travel distances of twenty or even thirty miles over an almost trackless desert. Yet at the same time he was a diligent student, and being possessed of excellent natural talents his pulpit exhibitions were of the first order and excited the highest admiration. It is to be lamented that his sermons were written in shorthand, and are thus at present inaccessible, as from them a much higher selection might be made than what has yet been published.—This I affirm from the recollection of hearing him preach from the following texts,—Isa. xxxiv. 16, Rom. x. 17, John xix. 30, Isa. v. 4, and Luke xii. 50. But as has been stated by Mr Murdoch, "his pre-eminence arose from a

* He was ordained at East River, Pictou, in 1825, prior to his departure on his New Brunswick mission. He commenced his pastoral work in Richibucto as stated above in May 1826, but his induction did not take place till the 19th of August of the same year.