

ever, completed creditably his college course he entered the Divinity Hall in 1816, and was licensed as a preacher about the time of the union between the two great branches of the Secession in 1820, and served the Church as a Probationer for about ten years, preaching over a great part of Scotland, and in many places with much acceptance and popularity.

At this time instead of a dearth of preachers, there was in fact more preachers by far than congregations, and many young men of good acquirements and address, remained for years unsettled either because uncalled, or called only to fields which they did not regard as giving promise of permanent usefulness and support.

COMING TO NOVA SCOTIA.

In these circumstances Dr. Roy came to Nova Scotia in 1830. He had been preceded by the Rev. James Smith, who, after a few months of preaching in Truro and Pictou Presbyteries, received unanimous calls from the congregations of Stewiacke, vacant by the death of Rev. Mr. Graham and of East River, vacant by the death of Rev. Dr. McGregor.

Dr. Roy arrived, when the congregation last named were feeling their disappointment in consequence of Dr. Smith's choice of Stewiacke, and was appointed as their supply. Under his preaching their wounded feelings were mollified; they concluded that as a preacher, the last arrived was equal to the one lost, and the result was "an unanimous call."

Dr. Roy in the mean time preached at Chatham, Miramichi, then also vacant by the death of Rev. James Thompson, and spent a few months in Bay Chaleur; and both on the Miramichi River, and at the Bay, we have answered kindly inquiries from Patriarchs and mothers in Israel, who remembered the *thrilling* discourses which he had preached there 40 years ago.

He was ordained in April, 1831, and thus succeeded Dr. McGregor after the interval of one year. He had but one place of preaching, the old Church standing on the East side of East River, directly opposite the Albion Mines. With the new minister the Building was renovated, a commanding spire erected, and the name of 'James' Church' chosen as a memorial of their late venerated Pastor.

MINISTRY.

Here Dr. Roy gave himself to the work of the ministry. He *laboured in the word*, preparing with great care, and delivering able and excellent sermons. The congregation flourished. Two thirds of the whole population, for several miles in all directions, streamed up on the Lord's day to the house of God.

During the week the sick and aged were visited, and in winter, according to the good old practice of our fathers, the whole flock was instructed, either by Pastoral visitations or by a series of Catechizings held in different parts of the settlement.

At this time new life was infused into the secularities of the Church. Younger men than were wont to manage congregational business, pushed to the *front*, and inaugurated the system of prompt quarterly payments in cash, the beneficial effects of which were felt while the congregation continued, *one*, and subsequently, in both the charges into which it was divided.

DIVISION OF THE CONGREGATION.

The division of the congregation, which issued in the commencement of Primitive Church, New Glasgow, was probably the severest trial and in fact the only great trial of his ministerial life, and affected, partially and for a time, his social intercourse with men whom he had been accustomed to regard as pillars. It was the result in part of the growing population and importance of the rising town of New Glasgow, but personalities were involved in the movement to such an extent, that for a season the efforts were painfully felt by all parties. With time, intercourse and mutual co-operation in the Lord's work, these asperities were smoothed, and the Dr.'s social intercourse became almost as free and friendly with those who went out, as with those who remained under his pastoral oversight.

REMOVAL OF JAMES' CHURCH TO NEW GLASGOW.

Not many years subsequent to the division it was proposed to build a new Church in New Glasgow, a project which soon became fact, and to this new building Dr. Roy and his congregation were soon transferred. Henceforward 'James' Church' became the name of the new house of worship, the old one being taken down, to the great regret of many who regarded it with a kind of veneration, as a link of connection between the old and the new generation of ministers.

As in his earlier ministry, so during his later years, Dr. Roy pursued the same course of devotion of all his time and talents to his congregation, reserving only what seemed necessary for objects connected with the general welfare of the Church. His Brethren of the Presbytery, in their published minute, have borne ample testimony to their deep sense of his numerous, varied, efficient and long continued services, as a minister, a member of Church courts, and specially as a member of the Presbytery of Pictou, of which he was Clerk for the long period of nineteen years. And the whole community will endorse the Presbytery's testimony to the fidelity and con-