

years to Marischal College in Aberdeen, and then in the spring of 1830 they were sent to a private school in Chelsea, kept by a clergyman who is described as a moderate Evangelical. Alexander so far gained the friendship of the master, that he was employed as amanuensis to copy his sermons. He was also a favorite with the other boys, owing to his eager, adventurous nature, combined with courteous manners and an unruffled temper. The two brothers were confirmed at St. Paul's Cathedral, by Bishop Bloomfield during their Chelsea residence, which extended over fifteen months, when they returned to Aberdeen. Next winter they removed to Edinburgh to attend the University classes, and were boarded with a brother of the famous Dr. Chalmers. They were diligent students, but Alexander's health was so indifferent, that he was not allowed to return to college for the following session. He was boarded with a farmer, apparently to learn agriculture, but farming as described in Virgil's Georgics had more attractions for him than the actual practice, and, in the following winter, he determined on resuming his studies at Edinburgh. This was done, and with the session of 1834-5, his education ended,—that is, as Mr. Ross expresses it, his formal education, for Bishop Ewing was at school all his life.

During this irregular university career several important events occurred. In 1832 their sister died, and the boys once more stood by the grave side in the churchyard of the old cathedral of Aberdeen. They were now fairly alone in the world, and their guardians left them very much to themselves. Their ample means enabled them to have every pleasure that boys in their circumstances were likely to desire. The first summer vacation was spent at Braemar, where their headquarters were the Invercauld Arms. An article in *Blackwood* on the English Lakes kindled the desire of seeing Windermere, when, along with another friend, they started on ponies, bearing fishing-rods, knapsacks, and tartan plaids, with a horse-pistol in a holster, and followed by a favorite Newfoundland dog called Juno. When the three "Hieland laddies" rode through Kinross, they were mobbed by a crowd of boys and idlers who hooted at them, and so pelted poor Juno with stones, that she ran down a street and was never heard of again. On their return from the Lake country, the brothers saw in a local paper an advertisement of a house to be let in Morayshire, with the right of shooting over a considerable estate abounding with all sorts of game. They rode at once to Aberdeen and agreed with the agent to be the tenants of "Invergie House." Here the time passed pleasantly amid rural sports, studies, and social intercourse with the neighbours, and here Alex-