

PREFACE.

THE Memoir and Remains, that follow, are published at the request of Members of the Presbyterian Congregation of St. Vincent, Sydenham and Euphrasia, who desire to possess, in the book, a memorial of their late Pastor.

In complying with this natural request, I was not unconscious of the fact, that the *outer* life, of the Rev. Mr. McDowall, had little in it of the stirring incident that usually imparts interest to biography. But if, on the other hand, "the work done, the battle fought, the suffering endured, in the invisible domain of the human heart, have been found to possess often a great and tragic interest," then, it cannot be denied but some degree of interest,—especially to those that knew him personally—must attach to the *inner* life of a man, who,—though naturally his "heart was haughty and his eyes lofty,"—became, by the discipline of suffering, like one whose "soul was even as a weaned child."

Of another disadvantage also, I was fully conscious. Not one of the many sermons left by Mr. McDowall in manuscript, was intended by him for publication. They were written with care; but they were also evidently written with the thought ever present, that they were to be *spoken* to men, and not *read* by them. On this account the few sermons, here published, afford, as the reader can easily perceive, no fair criterion of what Mr. McDowall was, either as a writer or as a thinker: but, what is far better, they teach, in language that every one can understand, the great doctrines of God's holiness, man's misery, and Christ's mercy. The truth is, that they were selected, as their author would order were he still with us, more with a reference to the good they may do amongst the