

himself to acquire the modern languages which would enable him to transact business without the aid of an interpreter, and with such success that he became and continued to the end of his life a fair Spanish scholar, while he was a proficient in French and Italian, both of which he could speak with fluency.

It is not known when he first became the subject of religious impressions, or by what particular instrumentality they were produced, for being of a diffident and unostentatious disposition he seldom spoke of himself or of his religious history. He first joined the congregation which was under the pastoral oversight of Dr. Muter, although the last years of his residence in Glasgow were spent under the ministry of Dr. Hengh, who had been called from Stirling, and for whom he entertained the highest respect till the end of his days, and with whom he carried on correspondence for some time after his settling in Guelph.

When the calls of Providence directed him to leave his native city and cross to America, he passed some time in the United States, and there some of his relatives remained, while he left for Canada, first taking up his abode in Toronto, where death deprived him of two of his children, and afterwards in Guelph, which he reached in 1832, when the town was just beginning to recover from the depression into which it had been thrown, from the disapproval which the Canada Company had expressed regarding some part of the conduct of its founder. Here he commenced business as a merchant, and followed it for a number of years, but latterly retired from it, that he might have greater leisure and more time for his own improvement, mental and spiritual, and confined himself to the Agency of the Gore Bank, to which he had been appointed at its first institution, and which he held till his death, having, latterly, been promoted to be manager.

From the date of his coming to Guelph, Mr. Sandilands heartily gave himself to the encouragement and support of the interests of religion. He took an active part in the affairs of the first Presbyterian congregation that was organized in the town, and was for some years an office-bearer. He was the first to receive the Rev. Messrs. Proudfoot and Christie, two of the earliest missionaries to Canada of the United Secession Church; to give them information of the spiritual necessities and prospects of the neighbourhood; to conduct them to scenes of labour and to entertain them with the hospitalities of his home. Although never an elder, he was always a warm supporter of the United Presbyterian Church. His presence in the Sanctuary was to be expected, unless he was prevented by some special event in Providence, and among the hearers of the Word few were more attentive than he, or carried away with them more of the sermon that had been preached. He was always liberal from principle in the support of the Gospel, and his earnest desire was that he should never be so reduced in his circumstances as to be unable to give as he had been accustomed to do to the cause of Christ.

For a considerable period he had been a beloved and efficient Teacher in the Sabbath School of the congregation with which he was connected. According to his own special request he had assigned him one of the primary classes, although his fellow-teachers felt that he was competent, from his knowledge of the Scriptures and his depth of religious experience, to take one of the most advanced; and often have we observed how attentively his youthful charge hung upon his lips as he spoke to them of the wonderful workings of God in the economy of Creation, and of Providence, but most of all in that of Redemption. We are persuaded that the seed sown has not been lost. We know of instances in which his instructions have been treasured up, and pondered with delight and spoken of with interest. May the Spirit make them fruitful to eternal life!

Mr. Sandilands was one of the first that took part in organizing in Guelph a Branch Bible Society in connection (although not immediate) with the British and Foreign Bible Society. We believe that from the very beginning he acted as Depositary, advancing the funds that were necessary to keep up a supply of stock, and give the society the benefit of cash purchases. When, about