

walking twelve miles in two hours, seventy miles in one day, that is daylight, and thirty miles in six hours without stopping.

My business of job printing went on prosperously. To a firm at Dawsholm, Gy., by the name of Shortridge & Co'y, I for very many years paid from £16,000 to £25,000 annually. I began to find the consigning business to be more hazardous and less profitable than formerly, and my sons getting to manhood, I thought as an outlet to them, I would establish a house at Montreal, to which place I had been trading for twenty-eight years. When I let this be known, Mr. James Pinkerton and Mr. Hector Russell, a cousin of Mr. Wm. Cormack, who had been brought up to business in the house of H. Russell & Co. of Montreal, and who was then on a visit to his friends in Scotland, was strongly recommended by them as being in every respect fitted to take charge of such a business, and worthy of any confidence. This was in the beginning of 1824. Cormack was introduced to me, and I liked his manner and appearance, so we formed a co-partnership on the terms that I was to manage the business in Glasgow, under the form of Adam Ferrie & Co'y, and to hold two-thirds of it, and he to manage the business at Montreal, under the form of Ferrie, Cormack & Co'y, and to hold one-third of it. I sent him to England with letters of credit, in order to lay in, on the best terms, the goods in his scheme, of their manufactory, while I set to work to make up the Scotch goods; the whole forming a most complete and extensive assortment of price goods, hardware, groceries, stationery, &c. They were shipped in March; Mr. Cormack and my oldest son, Colin, sailing at the same time. The ship was the "Cherub," Captain Raside. She started 1st of April.

All went well with them until they got to the Banks of Newfoundland, when they encountered a violent hurricane which dismasted the vessel, making her a total wreck. The Captain said he never encountered such a gale, and that it was by the extreme exertions of the crew and passengers that they kept the vessel from sinking. His description of the contrast between the terror and uselessness of Cormack, and the cool courage displayed on that trying occasion by Colin, was very flattering to my feelings as a father. They took six weeks to go from the Banks to Montreal, when they might have made the distance in one.

A store had been taken for them in Mr. Torrance's buildings, St. Paul's St. They arrived on the 31st May, and found previous shipments snugly stored. As the vessels that sailed at the same time as they did, and others two weeks after, had arrived, very unpleasant fears and rumors prevailed as to them. By the lateness of their arrival, the first, and that is the best, of the Spring trade was lost. But still, Mr. Cormack wrote most sanguinely of their sales and prospects, and sent me a large order for the Fall goods, which were bought and sent by the early vessels. The whole of the shipments to them then amounted to about £35,000 Stg., and I naturally expected that large remittances would come to me by return of the Fall vessels, but very little actually came. Still I got very flattering accounts from Mr. Cormack, and