

painting, and made some progress in the art. Having contracted an engagement, after my first return from Portugal, with Miss Emma Colston, who resided with her great-aunt, Miss Howorth, a maiden lady of very advanced age, at Banstead, in the County of Surrey,—and being desirous of placing myself in a position which would enable me to marry, being then nearly thirty years of age,—I had my attention at this time drawn to Canada, as a country offering inducements to emigrants of moderate means. In the early spring of 1836 I sailed in the *Andromeda* for New York, and arrived in Montreal on the 28th June. After remaining there a few days I proceeded to the Townships, in company with Messrs. Moffatt and Gillespie, the former of whom was Commissioner of the British American Land Company. We reached Sherbrooke on the 4th July, and, after looking round for two or three days, I purchased a farm of 200 acres in the Township of Eaton. This proved a very injudicious selection, being too far removed from the more improved parts of the country, especially as I might have had, at that time, my choice of almost any locality. But in this, as in many events of my life, my own erring judgment was wonderfully overruled for good by my Heavenly Father, who, by His Providence, was leading me, by a way which I knew not, but which eventually issued in my embracing the sacred profession of the ministry.

I remained in Canada, employed upon my farm and repairing and fitting up the house, during the winter of 1836 and 1837 and the succeeding summer. In the autumn of 1837 I determined to revisit England, and accordingly sailed in the New York packet ship *Ontario* on the 1st December, and once more landed on my native shores. I spent that winter in England, and returned to Canada in the following spring. Miss Colston's aunt having died in the course of the summer, at the advanced age of 93, every obstacle to our union was removed. Returning, therefore, to England in the autumn of 1838, I was married on the 15th of January, 1839, after an engagement of five years, to my ever dear wife—the mother of the three eldest of your number—with whom the inscrutable decrees of an all-wise Providence permitted me to enjoy only four years of uninterrupted happiness, and then