

It is said that the king of the Dabriad Scots, who was related to Columba, gave him the Island; though Pinkerton thinks he got it from the Picts, the then possessors of the Northern Hebrides. among whom he and his followers specially laboured, the Irish Scots being already professing Christians. There was constant intercourse then between the Scots of Ireland and those of Argyle, and the navigation of the sea between them was understood. Druidism had its chief seat in Anglesey, Christianity in Iona. Lindesfarne was the earliest centre of the Northumbrian Church. The people who sat in darkness saw in Iona a great light. *Lux in Tenebris*—the Waldensian motto of later date, might have been its as well. Here for thirty-four years lived Columba, copying MSS. of the Holy Scriptures, (he was a beautiful transcriber) and training men for missionary work. He was specially partial to the Psalter, whose blessed verses he delighted in chanting and singing. 'His sonorous psalm singing would come echoing down the glen like the noise of a distant waterfall. It was as a simple Presbyter of the Irish Church (he knew no higher title) that he came to Iona 1328 years ago and set up one of those colleges which have ever been a prominent feature of the Irish and Scottish churches. This of itself would favor the proposal later made by a distinguished brother to connect our college with Columba's name. Is it not worth our serious consideration to call the institution so peerlessly situated on the North West Arm, St. Columba's College? These holy recluses formed all the clergy their church had. Any vows of obedience exacted were only to the President of the college which they made their home. It was in point of fact, simply a well regulated mission station, and church extension consisted in multiplying such stations. They accepted the existing clan system—the natural grouping of the people. The missionary college was a little family of clergymen, with their students, adapting itself to the clan organization, in order to carry religious instruction through all its ramifications. St. Columba's College was just a missionary station which developed into a college on the manual labor plan. He was not sent by the Church of Ireland, though he and Iona cherished filial relations towards it. He got his orders from heaven and could say with his model—Paul, I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you. He