

ment to us, we immediately anticipated the worst. On appearing at the time appointed, we were simply informed that an imperial order had arrived, to the effect that we should leave the country without delay. We demanded the reason of such summary proceedings against us. The councillor of police said, that, so far as he knew, the government had nothing against us personally, but that the nature of our functions was disliked by them. We remonstrated on the ground of the rights of conscience, and that divine and eternal truth which we had made known; on that of our right as British subjects ministering to our fellow-countrymen; and on the ground of the privileges which, by the ancient and hospitable laws of Hungary, we had acquired by a ten years' residence in the country. Farther, we pointed to the serious loss in property which we should sustain, and still more to the cruelty of expelling us, with our young and tender families, at an inclement season of the year, which, from the sickly state of some of their number, we offered to prove, would be attended with danger to life. We may mention that extreme winter cold, which may set in at any time, ranges in that country from zero to ten or twelve degrees Fahrenheit below it; and, when a railway train is impeded by a snow-storm, the passengers must walk great distances on foot among piercing winds and drifting snows, and seek accommodation in the peasants' huts. Had not God tempered the winds to our shorn lambs, such would have been the fate of our little ones also, so far as the clemency of the Austrian government tended to prevent it.

The councillor of police, who behaved throughout with the greatest courtsey, said that he was the mere organ of the government, and had no discretion whatever in the matter but offered to lay our representations before the ministry, and communicate to us the result. We immediately adopted the most efficient means of bringing the subject before our own ambassador and the central government, and intended ourselves proceeding to Vienna in a few days if an unfavourable answer should arrive. On the third day we were again cited to appear.—We were informed that the government, as the only answer they could give to our remonstrances, had sent a more stringent order than before; that we should leave the country immediately; that we must take our departure on the following Thursday; and that, if we did not keep the time appointed, force would be employed. The history of those few days it would be vain attempting to depict. The sorrow and love marked on every countenance—the outpourings of these in every form in which they could find utterance—our own utter exhaustion of body, mind, and feeling—the heart-rending scenes of last farewells again and again repeated by those who, having once left us, returned to perform anew that act

which was lacerating their own and our hearts;—all this, and much besides, forms a picture which it is impossible to describe, as it ever will be to efface it from our memories. Our beloved Pesth, where we had laboured for ten long years, often under much discouragement, but, by the Lord's blessing, with much success—that city, where almost the whole period of our ministerial course had been spent—where many people of the Lord now dwell, to whom we were knit soul to soul—where we had enjoyed a Christian fellowship, in a degree seldom found on earth, free from jealousies and suspicions, in the full open-hearted generous flow of love—we were now leaving, and perhaps, for ever. Lord, lay it not to the charge of those who have thus rudely trode on the tenderest divine and human affections!

We took our departure on the morning of the 15th of January, amidst the tears of our much-loved brethren. On the same evening we reached Vienna. From the manner in which the British ambassador had received Mr. Edwards, and our own first application through an influential member of our English congregation, we entertained but little hope from his interference in the matter. The result justified our anticipations. We cannot forbear from mentioning the extreme kindness which we received from the American minister, who not only accorded to us his fullest sympathy, but offered every assistance which he could render within the limit of his functions, and generously put his purse at our disposal—a kindness which we did not require to avail ourselves of. The Lord watched over us during our homeward journey, and, though with some warnings of what might have happened without His special protection, has disappointed our fears, and brought us to the end of our journey in peace. May the spirit of prayer be given to our friends in Scotland for those we have left behind.

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Lochaber.

Alex. Stewart, col.	1	3
Robert Stewart, elder	5	0
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John Stewart	5	0
Donald Cameron	5	0
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