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Rev. Jera Geddie, D.D.

THE PIONEER OF COLONIAL MISSIONS TO THE HEATHEN.

By REV. GEORGE PATTERSON, D.D.



The subject of the following sketch was born at Banff, Scotland, on the 10th April, 1815, but his parents removed to Pictou, N. S., when he was a child,

so that he was by education and in feeling a Nova Scotian. His parents were eminently pious, and their hearts particularly interested in the mission cause. When a child he was brought very low by sickness, and as the hearts of the parents yearned over him, they besought the Lord for his life, offering him to the service of the God of missions, to be employed, if it should so please Him, in work among the heathen. This case may serve as an example and encouragement to Christian parents throughout the church. We read recently of a Christian family in Scotland, in moderate circumstances, in which the mother, with the concurrence of the father, devoted three sons as they were born to the service of God in the heathen field, and all three became useful and successful missionaries, one in Jamaica and two in India.

When a boy, a more shrinking, apparently timid little creature, was seldom seen, and none would ever have expected that he would have become the man to venture alone and unarmed among fierce