

man, and died the year after I was married. He had another daughter, who was married to the Rev. Andrew Dayne, minister in Dunbar."

Mr. Kerr's designation to the Nova Scotia mission, must have taken place at a period soon after his licensure. From the *Christian Magazine* (1801), we learn that the "General Associate Synod, in consequence of earnest application from the Brethren in Nova Scotia, agreed on missioning two young men to go over to their assistance against next spring." The names of the individuals nominated to this mission, are not given.—Again, at the Annual Meeting in 1802, "application having been made from America for Ministers and Preachers, the Synod appointed the different Presbyteries to converse with such young men as were in their bounds, about their submitting to a mission, and to report to next meeting." No report however, is given as to the result of this conference. It is highly probable, that about this time, Mr Kerr, as a Licentiate of the Edinburgh Pby., was dealt with in terms of the Synodical injunction. He firmly resisted all the importunities which this Court employed, and for several years received no regular appointments as a Probationer.

For a lengthened period, his mind appears to have been so powerfully prejudiced against the appointment of his ecclesiastical superiors, that he abandoned the ministerial and adopted the mercantile profession.

In this untoward part of his career, Divine Providence signally manifested its overruling agency. One effort was made after another, in Dunbar, Edinburgh, Leith Walk and Alloa, to gain an independent livelihood; but each successive step was downward, until, under strong apprehension of the path of duty, from which he was vainly endeavoring to flee, he yielded himself to his original designation as an American Missionary. He that replied to the mandate; *Son, go work to day in my vineyard, I WILL NOT!* afterward repented a *id vent*.

In the year 1817, he sailed from Leith and landed in Halifax. Almost immediately after entering on Probationary labor, he was called to the Pastoral charge of the Congre-

gation of Economy and Five Islands, and was settled over that district, in the Fall of the year in which he arrived in the Province. In common with all the ministers of our Church at that period, throughout the country, he found it necessary to procure a small farm, and depend to a large extent, upon his skill as an agriculturist, for temporal support. In this he proved eminently successful, and in the course of a few years, regained the fortune which he had squandered in futile attempts to enrich himself at home. At the same time, the necessity which was laid upon him to labor with his hands, greatly retarded his endeavors to promote the spiritual interests of his flock. In later years, when his circumstances enabled him to devote almost the entire amount of his physical, as well as mental labor, to pulpit and pastoral duties; a very decided and permanent improvement appeared, both in the secular and religious affairs of the Congregation.

A very remarkable revival visited the congregations of Londonderry, Onslow and Economy, during the years, from 1843 to 1847. At this period, Mr Kerr was often heard to express his regret, that this unwonted prosperity had come at a time, when old age had unfitted him for those pastoral duties which were then so eagerly sought after and so highly appreciated.

In personal appearance Mr Kerr was tall and commanding; in private manners, dignified but affable, exhibiting in a remarkable degree the high bearing of the gentleman, tempered with the winning courtesy of the christian. In the domestic circle he was somewhat reserved to strangers, but to intimate acquaintances, his society was of the most attractive character. His conversational powers rendered him a universal favorite with all classes, but especially with his brethren in the ministry. A rich vein of humor pervaded the fireside talk and graced with peculiar excellence the racy anecdote, which, seemingly in endless profusion, fell from his lips. That was no ordinary treat, both as to pleasure and profit, which was received by any friend who listened to the social converse of Mr Kerr and the late