

church was densely filled, and the auditory deeply attentive. Along with the minister of the congregation—the Rev. Mr. Stobbs—who presided, there were present the following members of the presbytery, viz.:—the Rev. Dr. Paterson of Kirkwall, the Rev. Messrs. Buchan of Holm, Brown of Shapinshay, M'Gowan of Sandwick, and Reid of Firth. Owing to the Jubilee being held on Monday, and the day being somewhat boisterous, the other members of Presbytery, though fully intending to be present, were not able to be forward in time. The Rev. Dr. Taylor, Professor of Divinity to the U. P. Church of Canada, who had been assisting Mr. Stobbs in sacramental work on the Sabbath immediately preceding, was also present. The services of the day commenced with praise and prayer, conducted by Dr. Taylor, after which he delivered a very able and most instructive discourse from Acts xi. 26, last clause—“And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.” Rev. Mr. Stobbs then gave some historical notices of the congregation, from which it appeared that a few individuals in and around Stromness, who had been attracted by the evangelical preaching of some excellent ministers who had visited them from the General Associate Synod, and by the Rev. Mr. Broadfoot, then minister of the Secession in Kirkwall, had connected themselves with the Kirkwall congregation; had purchased the ground for the church in which the audience was now assembled, in 1804; had sermon for the first time in the church in 1806; were disjoined, at their own request, from the Kirkwall congregation, and were the same year congregated, and obtained a regular supply of sermon; had Rev. Mr. Wylie, a man of great worth, and a very successful minister, ordained over them in October 1809; were deprived of his services by death in 1826; were supplied by preachers for some time, had called their minister twice, and had him settled among them in June 1829. Mr. Stobbs noticed that death had made very many changes among them since 1806, and even since he became their pastor; that only *five* of the original members were now in life—all of them persons who had maintained a consistent walk and conversation during the fifty years past; but he also added that, while the changes had been very numerous, the congregation had continued to prosper, and that the original membership of *thirty* at its formation was now represented by a membership of about five hundred. He said, before sitting down, that while feeling much gratified at being surrounded by as many of his respected brethren in the presbytery as could possibly be forward, in the state of the weather, that he could not help expressing the peculiar gratification he felt, in divine providence having so arranged it, that they had among them on the occasion, his early fellow student and friend—the Rev. Dr. Taylor, of Toronto. The doctor and he had entered the university together forty years ago, they had attended the divinity hall as students of the same year, and had been examined for license together by the Edinburgh presbytery. Nor could he suppress giving utterance to the high estimation in which his valued friend was held, in having been appointed some years ago, by the unanimous vote of the United Presbyterian Synod of Scotland, to conduct the theological studies of the rising ministry of that church, in the important Province of Canada.

The large audience was afterwards addressed in the course of the two meetings by all the ministers present. The Rev. Dr. Paterson spoke on the Secession in Orkney; Rev. Mr. M'Gowan, on the prominent hindrances to vital godliness existing in the islands; Rev. Mr. Brown, on the duty of combining fervency of spirit with diligence in business; Rev. Mr. Reid, on the superior religious advantages of the young of the present day as compared with those of the young fifty years since, and their corresponding duties and responsibility; the Rev. Mr. Buchan, on the greatness of the missionary enterprise; and the Rev. Dr. Taylor on the religious state of Canada. The speeches were able and highly interesting.

In the course of the evening meeting, Mr. Peter Vellian, the only surviving male member of the few who were congregated in 1806, and who has been forty-nine years in the eldership, came forward and, after briefly addressing his minister, presented him in name of the congregation, with a purse containing £91 14s., as an expression of esteem and affection. Mr. Stobbs made a suitable reply, thanking the elders, members, and adherents for their munificence, as he was made to know, their most cordially bestowed gift, and said it was not the less gratifying to him, but the more so, that it had been made not near the outset of his ministry, but after he had been their minister for upwards of 27 years; and that he hoped he might be permitted to say that while he was sensible of many and deep imperfections