

Hamilton, by McCheyne, by the Prophets, by the Apostles, and by the Great Teacher of teachers Jesus himself; see how nature, and art, and biography, and antiquity are not merely recognized, and admired, but pressed into the service of divine truth, the very service for which God designed them.

Forgive this long digression. May God encompass Knox's College with his favour as with a shield. May its deed be a deed of mutual confidence, and respect, and love between the ministers and the people. And since the church is now to be called upon to meet the new wants of this new era, in the history of this best of institutions, may they realize their obligations to that God who has crowned our country with prosperity and preserved it in peace—their obligations to Christ and the Church whose ministers are being trained there—and their obligations to a perishing world to which these ministers are to be sent forth as heralds of salvation.

BALTIMORE, C.W., Nov. 14, 1855.

McK.

GALT AS IT WAS AND IS, WITH A PEEP AT AYR.

"Here oft I ruminate—

With other views of men and things, than once,
And others of a life to come."

If Galt be not a poetic name, certainly the poetic and romantic element entered largely into the composition of him from whom it is said to have derived its designation. The first Presbyterian minister who settled in it, was the Rev. William Stewart. His father resided for a long time in the picturesque village of St. Fillans, beside Loch Earn, whither tourists were wont to repair annually, many of them with sprigs of heath in their bonnets, to witness the celebration of the Highland games. His maternal grandfather was old deacon Reid, as he was called, who figured considerably in the oral annals of the parish. Some two dozen years ago, Mr. Stewart presided over the Galt Presbyterians, and having expounded the testimony, and led the devotions of twenty or so, at that early day reckoned a considerable audience, he would hurry homeward with his pocket Bible. The place in his time was under the twofold scourge of poverty and the cholera. He opened St. Andrew's Church, we think, in connection with the 122nd Psalm, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord." Shortly thereafter he accepted a call to Dornara, in the West Indies. The stipend was large, but the climate apt to prove deadly to Europeans. After arriving, he visited the grave of the Rev. Donald Stewart, who had been his predecessor, as well as from the same county with himself. He was desirous that when he might "put off his tabernacle," it should be buried beside the remains of his former companion and friend. Their race was brief, and a common tomb contains all that was mortal of both. Mr. W. Stewart was not reckoned a popular preacher, but he had that about him which led to high esteem notwithstanding, and his memory is fragrant among the older settlers of Dumfries to this day. He was succeeded by the Rev. John Bayne, now Doctor Bayne, under whose able ministrations the congregation has increased exceedingly. There is a Sabbath school, conducted by male and female teachers; a Ladies' Association; 600 communicants, besides many adherents. A tasteful manse has recently been purchased, near the Dundas Road, at some £500. We have been always sorry, however, that the church had not been better located, as well as more tastefully erected. Though it contains a great number of people, room is scarce in it already.

The ordinance of the Supper was dispensed on the last Sabbath of October. An eloquent discourse was delivered on the day of humiliation, by the Rev. Mr. Irvine of Hamilton;—text, 1st

Samuel, v. 3—"And they took Dagon and set him in his place again." The Rev. Mr. McNair, of Ayr, presided on Sabbath, assisted by us, and gave an excellent sermon, from the petition of King Hezekiah—"O Lord, I am oppressed, undertake for me." The congregational singing reminds one much of the music in some of the congregations in Scotland, the volume of sound is so loud, true, and strong.

On Monday, the 29th of October, a special meeting of the Presbytery of Hamilton was held in Galt. Present—Rev. Messrs. McNair, and Gillespie, and James Cowan, Esq., elder. Being present, we were invited to sit and assist in their deliberations. Two students in Theology were examined and approved of, and trial discourses from Mr. Alexander McLean were heard and sustained, with a view to induction to East Pussinch. Dr. Bayne is expected, if he can, to send a minister to West Pussinch—salary, £150 per annum.

By the time we left, the Galt congregation had contributed £100 towards the purchase of Elmsley Villa in Toronto, for College Buildings.—Indeed this congregation is not only strong, but liberal in the support of a settled ministry, and in upholding the schemes of our Church.

In standing on the summit of a hill, on the east of Harris street, and looking westward, the scene was truly beautiful; the woodland, with its varied autumnal hues stretching from south to north, hill and dale, villa spire and cottage under the eye, with the Grand River careering through the centre of the village. Here is a fit subject for the pencil of the artist. There are in Galt two Presbyterian and two Methodist Churches, and Trinity Church, belonging to the Church of England. A beautiful School-house has been erected beside this last named building, through the spirited enterprise and liberality of A. Shade, Esq. We visited some of the burial grounds. Truly have such places been called "the cities of silence." Here we notice not the din of war, nor "the tumult of the people." "Here the rank grass waves o'er the cheerless ground," and here the sleepers wait in deep repose, till the last morning dawn on the tenants of the tomb.

The village of Ayr is increasing rapidly. We were sorry to notice that a Romish chapel has been erected there, but there has been no service in it for some time back. When we first saw this locality, there was only Dr. McGeorge's and a very few other houses. The frame was up for the Free Church but not finished. Now there is a goodly array of public and private buildings, and the new brick school-house is quite a model building in some respects. Mr. McNair's congregation is enlarging, and they have lately erected a gallery in their church.

W. G.

TUCKERSMITH, 1855.

JAMES HARVEY, ESQ., OF PAISLEY.

Toronto, Nov. 20, 1855.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—

I request insertion of the following notice of my esteemed friend, Mr. Harvey, my personal acquaintance with whom extends now over a period of more than forty years. Mr. H. belonged to an old and respectable family of landed proprietors in the Barony of Glasgow, and connected with the Antiburgher branch of the Secession Church, from a period nearly coeval with its commencement. From the time of his residence in Paisley, however, our departed friend became a sitter, and afterwards a communicant in St. George's (Established) Church, then under my pastoral charge. At the time of the disruption, although not yet an office-bearer, he stood firm to his well-established principles, and soon showed himself to be one of our most liberal benefactors. Indeed his name may fairly be enrolled in the same list of worthies with those of the late James Ewing of Strathleven,

and William McFie of Langhousie. When I left Paisley in 1845, he stood prominent in the ranks of office-bearers, twenty-four in number, into whose hands the spiritual concerns, and the temporalities of Free St. George's were at that time committed; and since that he has risen in the esteem of all that knew him as a man of sterling principle and unostentatious liberality. For many years he was President of "the Infirmary and Dispensary," one of the local Institutions, which shares in his judicious benefactions. With men of all shades of opinion, political and religious, Mr. Harvey held free and kindly intercourse. He was well known and esteemed in the City of Glasgow, and throughout a wide and respectable circle in the West of Scotland; and whatever might be the sentiments of those who knew him on other matters, there was one thing in which they all harmonised, and that is, that a more upright, straightforward, kind-hearted, and really worthy man than James Harvey, is rarely to be met with in the intercourse of life.

The extract I send you is from the *Paisley Herald* of Oct. 27th. I do not know the authorship of the article, but its accuracy I cordially attest.

Mr. Editor, faithfully yours,

ROBT. BURNS.

DEATH OF JAMES HARVEY, ESQ., PAISLEY.

In our obituary of this day it is our melancholy duty to record the death of this well known and highly esteemed Christian philanthropist. The sad event took place on Friday evening last, at his summer residence in Wemyss Bay, and was caused by the effects of a bilious fever, with which he was seized about five weeks ago. Until within the last fortnight, sanguine hopes were entertained of his recovery; but, as his constitution had been much shattered by a similar attack last winter, he gradually sunk under the stroke, and at length fell asleep in Jesus. It was truly refreshing to witness his exemplary patience under all his trials, his firm trust in the Saviour of sinners, his settled peace, and his joyful hope of immortality. Although his mind, under the influence of the malady, sometimes wandered in speaking of other subjects, yet it never seemed to waver on the subject of religion; and the saving truths of the gospel, when set before him, had always power to compose his spirit, and to call forth expressions of humble confidence, fervent gratitude, and assured hope. He died as he lived, in peace with God, through the blood of his Son, and in peace with all men. In him the town of Paisley has lost a generous benefactor, and an eminent pattern of genuine benevolence and of good works. He took the lead in every charitable and Christian enterprise; and the influence of his example in promoting peace and goodwill, and in stimulating to deeds of liberality cannot easily be estimated. To every good object, both his heart and hand were ever open; while his unaffected simplicity and unobtrusive modesty, enhanced the value of his gifts. Though well known for the generosity of his character, yet from his dislike of ostentation, the full extent of his princely donations will not be known until "the day shall declare it." In him the poor and needy have lost a warm-hearted and sympathising friend. Many are the families who have been cheered amid their privations by his seasonable gifts, and who will rise up and call him blessed. Few have enjoyed more than he the luxury of doing good. In him also the Free Church has lost a devoted adherent, and a faithful office-bearer. While eminently free from a sectarian spirit, and a lover of all good men, yet in all that concerned the prosperity and efficiency of the Free Church he took a special, active, and growing interest; and he felt it a pleasure and a privilege to assist weak congregations in their efforts to liquidate debt on their churches and manse. As a specimen of his large-heartedness, it may now be mentioned, though he would not allow it to be mentioned in his lifetime, that last