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THE LATE REV. JOHN MCKINLAY, A. M.*

Mr. MCKINLAY was born in the neighbourhood of Dennyloanhead, we believe in the Parish of Denny, in Stirlingshire, in Scotland. Of his parentage and early days we know little, except that he was brought up under the ministry of Dr. Stark, one of the ablest of what was then the Antiburgher branch of the Secession, who but a few months ago was called to his reward, after a ministry of more than fifty years. His classical and philosophical studies were prosecuted at Glasgow College, through which he passed with credit, and at which he obtained the Degree of Master of Arts. While pursuing his studies he taught both at Kilsyth and Falkirk. He studied Theology under the late Dr. Paxton, author of "Illustrations of Scripture," then Professor to the General Associate or Antiburgher Synod. He ever cherished the highest respect and affection for his tutor, and enjoyed a large share of his esteem. At the union of the Burghers and Antiburghers, Dr. Paxton did not fall in with the United Church, but he continued to manifest his esteem for his pupil and his interest in his welfare.

Mr. McKinlay had devoted himself to the mission to Nova Scotia, while a student. At that time earnest solicitations

* The following sketch is part of a sermon preached in Salem Church on the occasion of Mr. McKinlay's death. We had wished that it had fallen to some older and abler hand, to furnish the public with a memorial of the lamented deceased. As none has been forthcoming, we are constrained to attempt it.

were going home for preachers, which all the exertions of the Synod were unable to supply. Influenced, doubtless, by these appeals, he was led to give himself to the service of the Church in this Colony; and as he himself remarked to one who lately came from Scotland under similar circumstances, "he never regretted it." He arrived in Halifax in the summer of 1817, and was for a short time engaged in missionary labour, during which he visited Windsor, Newport, &c., in the eastern part of the Province. Dr. McCulloch having given up the Grammar School in Pictou, to take charge of the Academy, Mr. McKinlay succeeded him in the Grammar School, and afterwards was appointed teacher of the Classics and Mathematics in the Academy, for which he was well qualified by the accuracy as well as the extent of his scholarship.—The result of his labours is best seen in those who were trained under him, who now fill various important stations in society.

In the year 1824, Dr. McCulloch having resigned the charge of the congregation in Pictou, which he had held in connection with his academic duties, Mr. McKinlay was cordially called to be his successor, and was in the 11th of August of that year, ordained to be the minister over them, in which charge he laboured till the time of his death.

Such are the leading events of his life. It only remains that I attempt a delineation, however imperfect, of his character. Mr. McKinlay possessed a singularly well disciplined and well trained mind. His judgment was sound comprehensive and penetrating. He was distinguished by pa-