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ling long distances to obtain that bread of life, which was not dispensed at home, and with the prevalence of "moderatism" in most of the parishes of Scotland, their attention was naturally directed to the ministers of the Secession, among whom the gospel of the grace of God was proclaimed in all its fulness and freeness. One is mentioned as having frequently travelled all the way to Dunfermline to sit under the ministrations of Ralph Erskine, and James is traditionally reported, as having travelled on foot all the way to Muckhart, a distance of over forty miles, to enjoy the faithful preaching of the word. Shortly after his return, a petition was presented to the Secession Presbytery for a supply of preaching, which was granted, and among others, one of the Erskines, we believe Ralph, preached occasionally to them, while residing there for the benefit of his health. At first the prospects of the cause were good, several persons of influence having expressed themselves favourable to it. But these gradually fell off, and from various circumstances the effort did not succeed as was at first anticipated. A few however remained faithful, and amid every severity of cold and rain attended upon the services, which were held in the open air. In 1752 they leased ground and erected a small place of worship, but with the exception of a few months in the year 1760, they were until the year 1767 under the pastoral care of the Rev. Mr. Muckersie of Kinkell, and upon his ministrations James attended regularly, and always spoke of him in terms of the highest regard. "It was a gratifying sight," says Mr. Gilfillan, "to those who can enjoy such a spectacle, to see James and his wife going all the way from Loch Earne to Kinkell, about eighteen English miles, almost every Sabbath in summer, and they were commonly at the place of worship by nine o'clock in the morning. James used to wrap himself up in his Highland plaid, and going into the church in winter or to a small grove near it in summer, he slept two hours, that he might not after his long walk be overcome with drowsiness during the services, and then rose to hear the word, which he always did with great eagerness and seldom without tears." In the year 1767