

period of his life, and it is interesting to look back upon the impressions formed of him then, and compare them with what he showed himself afterward. As to his preaching, it was not of the style, which might be denominated popular, but by the judicious it was relished for its full and clear exhibitions of divine truth. But the most curious fact is that he was regarded, and that by persons having had good opportunities of judging, as disposed to indolence, and by others as rather vain. We could scarcely have imagined any thing more opposite to the tenor of his whole subsequent career. Nothing in his after life seemed more to distinguish him than his laborious and self-denying diligence in duty, and the unfeigned humility of his character. The impressions formed of him might have been well founded at that time, but if they were, his subsequent life reflects all the more honor upon that divine grace, by which he was enabled so entirely to overcome the tendencies of his natural temperament.

The Presbytery, with whom at that time rested the decision in cases of competing calls, having, in accordance with his own inclination, decided in favor of Princetown, he proceeded thither that season, and there finally took up his abode. But in consequence of what he considered the disorganized state of the congregation, and in order that he might have time to become better acquainted with the people, before dispensing church privileges to them, he requested the Presbytery that his ordination might be deferred till the following season, and that he might be allowed in the meantime to preach to the people as a licentiate. This was agreed to and his ordination accordingly did not take place till June 1810.

Accordingly at that time, the Presbytery proceeded to Princetown for his ordination. The members present were, Dr. McGregor, the Rev. Duncan Ross, Dr. McCulloch and the late Mr. Mitchell of River John. They arrived by way of Bedeque late in the week. Dr. McGregor preached on Saturday from Phil. 3. 8,—“I count all things but loss for the excellency of Christ Jesus my Lord.” But the ordination did not take place till the following day, (Sabbath.) An ordination was then an event entirely new in that part of the Island, and excited great interest. There were many doubtless who rejoiced in the event, as realizing their long disappointed expectations, of having the ordinances of religion regularly dispensed among them. But the novelty of the event excited the curiosity of many others. So great the whole population not only of Princetown, but of New London, Bedeque and the west side of Richmond Bay, able to attend, assembled on the occasion. The audience for those days, when population was sparse, was considered immense. The old church