

in such striking development, from his Highland ancestors. It was one of these ancestors of whom Livingstone relates that on his death bed he called his children around him and said, "I have searched carefully through all the traditions of our family, and I never could discover that there was a dishonest man among our forefathers. If, therefore, any of you should take to dishonest ways, it will not be because it was in our blood; I leave this precept with you, *be honest*." A precious and characteristic legacy was this of the good old Highlander—better than lands or costly jewels.

At the age of sixteen, young Livingstone, with such studious habits, was able to read many of the classical authors of Greece and Rome. He did not, however, confine himself to these, but eagerly devoured everything he could lay his hands on, especially scientific works and books of travel. Even his father's authority, however, could not induce him to read such books as "The Cloud of Witnesses" or "The Fourfold State," which parental anxiety suggested as the most wholesome for the youthful mind; and the last application of the rod was on his refusal to read Wilberforce's "Practical Christianity." The boy's eager mind was thirsting for knowledge, and at that stage such books were to him but a collection of weary words. He grew up a tall, slim young man, with no great promise of bodily strength; gentle, kindly and reserved in disposition, but with a face indicating great firmness and decision of character. His earnings as a cotton-spinner, during the summer months, enabled him to attend the Greek and Divinity classes in the university of Glasgow in winter. Gradually he passed through a spiritual change which led him to the resolution of fitting himself for missionary work and devoting himself to the alleviation of human misery and the spread of christian principles. In due time he was admitted a Licentiate of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, and became Doctor Livingstone. His theological studies were now followed up with great diligence; and thus he was admirably equipped by his training for his great career. The study of botany, zoology, chemistry and geology, made him alive to all natural phenomena; while his knowledge of the mysteries of diseases and their remedies not only enabled him to guard his own health and help those whom he loved, but greatly strengthened his usefulness and importance among those savage tribes, in whose society he was destined to spend so many years.

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