

Keir never attended his prelections. By the appointment of Synod, Presbyteries assigned to Students under their charge, several exercises, and examinations, which were to count as one year's attendance at the Hall.

When he entered upon the study of Theology, his father purchased for him the forms, and other school apparatus belonging to an individual in Glasgow, who was relinquishing teaching for the work of the ministry. Here he taught in the intervals between the sessions of the Theological Hall, during the whole of his Theological curriculum. Here he became acquainted with Mr. Gordon, afterward the Rev. Peter Gordon, of P. E. I., who was then a student of the same body, and who also taught in Glasgow. They for some time lived together and a friendship of the most intimate nature sprung up between them. Of this the following curious epistle may be taken as an expression, as well as affording indications of a sprightliness of character in youth, which many who knew him only in his later years would scarcely suppose him to possess.

Glasgow, 14th October, 1805.

OF ALL BRETHREN THE DEAREST:

Mc Arthur and Keir, servants of Jesus Christ, and about to be called to be apostles, and separated unto the gospel of God,—to thee, Gordon, our dearly beloved brother and fellow laborer, in the vineyard of our common Lord, send greeting:—Grace, mercy and peace, from God, the father, and Christ Jesus, our Lord. We thank God, whom we serve, from our forefathers, with pure conscience, that without ceasing we had remembrance of thee in our prayers, night and day; greatly desiring to see thee—that we may be filled with joy. And in order to supply thee with the necessities of life, and to remove all impediments that may stand in the way of thy speedy return to thy place of abode, we send thee forty-two shillings of money, current with the merchant, which by the grace of God we have been enabled to procure for thee. All the saints of God in this place salute thee. Greet the lassie Auld* with a kiss of charity. We salute the brethren which are at Whitburn. Grace, mercy and peace, be with thee, Amen.

Written from Glasgow to brother Gordon by

JOHN McARTHUR,
JOHN KEIR.

We have a letter before us, to his dearly beloved brother, Gordon, after the latter had come to this country, the most of which we shall transcribe, as it unfolds to some extent Dr. Kier's character during his student life:—

Glasgow, March 10th 1857.

MY DEAR FRIEND.

Your kind letter of the 17th November, I received in due time for which I now return you sincere thanks. It found me in very low spirits, a state of mind, to which I have been of late too much subject. I sometimes wish that I could again enjoy your company as in the days of yore; but this thought like many others, which pass through my mind is vain; for our happiness does not

*Afterward Mrs. Gordon, and more recently Mrs. McGregor.

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