

new step-father was a native of Perthshire and a former partner in my father's business, to which he succeeded. He would be at this time about 43 years of age, and my mother about two years younger. In order to provide suitable accommodation for the numerous family to which he had suddenly fallen heir he had taken a lease of the beautiful suburban villa of Middleton, on the Paisley Road, and in the Parish of Govan, to which were attached a fine garden and pleasure grounds, and twenty-five acres of land. It was then quite in the country, nearly two miles from the City limits, and was the head-quarters of the family for 12 years. My mother excelled in horsemanship. She had a favourite pony named "Bet," which had a habit of running away, and more than once her life was imperilled, but she never lost her presence of mind on these occasions and always kept her seat in the saddle, come what may. After her marriage to James Donaldson in 1831, she was to ride in a phaeton, so the pony was presented to an old friend of the family—the Rev. Gavin Lang of Glassford, whose wife, Annie Marshall—a very clever woman, had often carried me on her back, before her marriage. Glassford was a quiet rural parish some sixteen miles from Glasgow. The old Kirk, situated on high ground, could be seen nine miles off, and hence was often styled "The Church Veeseable"! What a proud boy I was, (just ten years old), when I was told that I was to ride the runaway mare up to Glassford, which I reached safely.

I do not remember who at that time constituted the Manse family, but I think the eldest son, David, who was born at Shelbourne, Nova Scotia, must have been the only child of what afterwards became a large family.

David was many years manager of the Commercial Insurance Co., first in Glasgow, then in London, where he was long the accomplished Secretary of the Church Missionary Society. It is of record that three sons of the old manse became ministers of the Church of Scotland. John Marshall, born in 1834, commenced his ministry in the east parish of Aberdeen in 1856; translated to Fyvie in 1859, to Anderston New Church, Glasgow, in 1865, to Morningside, Edinburgh, in 1868, and to the Barony Parish, Glas-