

The spirit of restlessness which began to pervade the Highlands towards the close of the 18th century reached Coll early in the 19th. The people began to be dissatisfied with circumstances at home and many of them sought to better their condition by going abroad. Among those who came to Cape Breton during the first quarter of the last century was Duncan Ban. He was married and had at least one child when he came to this country. His wife was Sarah Kennedy, a country-woman of his own. On coming to Cape Breton he settled on a farm in Boularderie where he lived during the remainder of his life.

Duncan Ban feared the Lord from his youth. It would appear that, like John the Baptist, he was filled with the Holy Ghost from his mother's womb. He had no recollection of the time when he did not love his Saviour. A remarkable thing related of him is that the first prayer he remembered hearing was his own. When he was of age to attend school he was known frequently to part with his playmates and go aside to pray. The spirit of devotion remained with him through life. To him was verified the promise, "The anointing which ye have received of Him abideth in you." As he grew up he became an earnest, active Christian, and on coming to this country took a prominent part in establishing the church he loved.

The Rev. James Fraser came to Cape Breton in 1835. He was settled in Boulardarie which he made his headquarters. But his pastoral duties in those years often called him far afield. There were only