

means of doing so. All these things I attended to, and in some measure accomplished. But the present work was what I did not contemplate till after I had travelled some time upon the island. It then occurred to me that the people at home knew little of the destitute condition many are in abroad, who have no ministers of the Gospel provided for them by others, nor yet able to support such themselves. It surprised me greatly to think, that the spiritual wants of 20 or 25 thousand people, mostly emigrants from Great Britain, and still living under her government, and within four weeks' sailing of her own shores, should be so little known, or attended to, in the mother country, while the outmost isles of the sea have shared in her Christian compassion and regard. Not that I would cast the least reflection upon missions to the Heathen: But, while the one duty is attended to, the other, certainly not less important, ought not to be overlooked or neglected.

But while I have attempted to call the attention of the public to this subject, I blush when I think of my unfitness for the task. For the reader must be informed that I was only bred a common tradesman, (a shoemaker,) and if I have risen to any thing superior in mental acquirement to the common attainments of my brethren in trade, it is neither owing to my greater natural talents, learning, nor time for improvement, but the right direction my mind received from the pious example and instruction of my parents in youth. My father was an indweller in the parish of Corrie, annexed to Hutton, Annandale, Dumfriesshire. He had sat under the ministry of the famous Mr. George Young, long pastor of that parish *,

* The following authentic notices relative to the family of this excellent clergyman, will not, it is hoped, be unacceptable to many of my readers.—The Rev. George Young, descended of the house of Auchenskeoch, in Galloway, was

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