

years of age when he was ordained to this work, and for a long period he was the only minister in this wide territory, but he was not dismayed. Fixing his headquarters at Bloemfontein, he entered upon his labors with untiring energy.

The farmers were not well pleased with the youthful appearance of their pastor, but when they heard his first sermon, they found there was one before them whose youth was not to be despised. And when they witnessed the amount of riding, preaching, catechizing, and family visitation done by the young minister, not only in the Free State, but beyond their borders in the Transvaal, their surprise gave way to esteem.

The people gladly gathered in large numbers to worship with him, generally in the open air, sometimes under sails stretched as a protection from the burning sun. The influence of this activity is still felt in the whole district. In travelling through the Free State and Transvaal one is continually meeting those whom he has joined in marriage, or those whom he has baptized; and many a one speaks of him as a spiritual father, and has some loving remembrance of his visits. While thus engaged in the Free State, Mr. Murray found a helpmeet for himself in the person of Miss Emma Rutherford, the daughter of the Hon. H. E. Rutherford, well known as a staunch friend and generous supporter of the Lord's work in the whole country. It may be readily believed that it was to no paradisaic locality that the bride was taken, but for the sake of her husband and the Gospel of his Master, she bravely faced and shared all the hardships of life on the frontier. That these were often severe enough, appears in the fact that after some years Mr. Murray was prostrated by fever, and was long in recovering from the results of the ordeal. His physicians declared that he would never be a strong man again. But, as it proved, this was simply a turning-point in what was to be a yet more extended service. For the young minister shortly afterwards, in 1866, received a call to Worcester, an important inland town of Cape Colony about eighty miles from Capetown. He accepted it, and once again found cause to praise God, who followed him in his new sphere with fresh triumphs of His grace. It was at