

Richard Rose McQueen was born September 30, 1833. He was only a few months over 2 years old when his mother died. Like his brother John, he eventually became a Free Kirk minister. In the 1851 census Richard was listed as a “Visitor” (I believe he was actually a boarder) together with his brother John, at the home of John Fleming on Mount Street in Old Machar, Aberdeen. He is described as “Student at Gymnasium” which may refer to the Chanonry School (also known as the Gymnasium) which opened in 1848 to prepare boys for university.

In 1861 Richard was living with the Kent family in Edinburgh and was a “Theological Student” at the University and New College. He was ordained at Westport, Hawick, Roxburghshire in 1869. On June 24, 1870 he was married and his Marriage Certificate lists his occupation as “Free Church Minister.” The bride was Margaret Phillips of England, who was the widow of George King, with two sons of his, Josiah (15) and James (11). George was a brewer in Hawick who died April 25, 1865 at the age of 33. In the census of 1871 the McQueen family were all living in Hawick, and Richard was listed as “Minister of Territorial Free Church.” In 1872 he was transferred to a home mission charge in Dundee.¹

An announcement published in the *Dundee Courier & Argus* on September 30, 1875 stated “On Monday a deputation from the Free Church congregation at Archiestown appeared at the Free Presbytery of Aberdeen intimating that they had unanimously elected the Rev. R. R. McQueen, of Wilson Territorial Church, Dundee, and requesting the Presbytery to moderate a call in his favor.”

The November 18, 1875 issue of the same newspaper reported “On Tuesday evening a large company met in Wilson Territorial Church, Dundee, when, after tea, a handsome graphiscope [an optical instrument for viewing details of engravings and photographs] was presented to Rev. Richard R. McQueen, and silver salver to Mrs McQueen, with suitable inscriptions, the gifts of the congregation; also from the committee of ladies, Free St. Paul's, a beautiful tea kettle, and from a lady a splendid album; to Mr McQueen, a farewell address, neatly framed, the verses composed and set to music by Mr Paul, conductor of the Sacred Music Association of the congregation, and a silver-mounted curiously carved walking-stick, the workmanship of a member.” Then in the

¹ *ecclegen: Ministers of the Free Church of Scotland 1843-1900*; www.ecclegen.com, entry for MacQueen, Richard Rose

February 10, 1877 [I cannot explain the full year gap] the paper reported “On Thursday, the 1st February, a deputation from the Free Church, Archiestown, met the Rev. Richard Rose McQueen, formerly of Wilson Territorial Church, Dundee, and Mrs McQueen at the Manse there, and presented Mr McQueen with a phaeton and set of silver mounted harness, and Mrs McQueen with a purse of sovereigns in expression of their esteem and appreciation.”

Richard and Margaret had a son in 1878. The census of 1881 shows the three of them, plus a domestic servant, resident at the Free Church Manse in Archiestown, Knockando. Richard is listed as “Minister of Knockando Free Church. In July 1885 an article in the *Aberdeen Weekly Journal* reported on a meeting held under the auspices of the Scottish Farmers' Alliance. Rev McQueen held the chair and introduced the business, “expressing his hearty sympathy with the objects [tenants' rights] of the Alliance.”

At the time of the census of 1891 the household still consisted of the two adults, their only son, and a servant. Richard is still “Minister of Knockando Free Church.”

The turn of the century saw a flurry of activity in Richard's life. He retired from his position at the Knockando church in 1899.² Margaret died in Carlisle (probably her place of birth) in September of 1900. During the first 3 months of 1901 Richard married Annie Elizabeth MacWilliam in Carlisle. Annie was born in Aberlour in 1859, so she was 25 years younger than Richard. Aberlour is adjacent to Knockando, so they undoubtedly met during his years of ministry there. None of the McQueen family appear in the 1901 census in either Scotland or England, but in 1911 Richard, Annie, and Annie's brother Alex Forbes MacWilliam are living at “Rose Rae,” a seaside cottage in Whitstable, Kent, England. Richard died there in March 1915. His will indicates that he owned two houses in Whitstable, “Braemardale” and “Rose Rae”, and that both were mortgaged. His will anticipates the sale of Braemardale with any proceeds to be applied to the Rose Rae mortgage.

2 Lamb, John Alexander; *The Fasti of the United Free Church of Scotland 1900 – 1929*; Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh, UK; 1956, pg 465