

teen years he was converted, and united with the First Presbyterian Church of that city. His evident preaching talent and inclination, led his friends to advise him to prepare for the ministry. He had not proceeded far in his preparations, when a complete change of views compelled him to be baptised and become a member of the First Baptist Church of Newark. Afterward, he spent some years in study, chiefly under the supervision of Dr. Samuel Jones, and in 1805, assumed his first charge at Salem, where he was ordained as Pastor. Dr. Staughton and Dr. Jones, officiated at his ordination. He remained at Salem about three years, when he came to this place at the call of the church. His pastoral relations were pleasant and harmonious from the beginning. His pulpit ministrations as well as his judicious and efficient pastoral labors were highly appreciated. Baptisms were reported every year, with only one exception, the whole number amounting to one hundred and fifty, even though the most careful scrutiny was observed in the examination of candidates. Mr. Brown was amiable and cheerful in private life, and held in high esteem for his social qualities; but his especial power was in his pulpit ministrations. These were always instructive and interesting, and often especially eloquent and thrilling. His management of cases of discipline was tenderly wise and judiciously strict, and thus he endeared himself to the church membership and to the community.

In the winter of 1816-'17, the meeting house, which had no doubt been built before the organization of the church, and stood on ground a short distance Northwest of the present edifice, was acci-