

OBITUARY.

We regret the death of the Rev. John A. Williams, D.D., one of the Vice-Presidents of this Society, which took place on the 17th December last. A resolution of condolence was unanimously passed by the Board at its meeting on the same evening, and a copy sent to the bereaved widow.

We also regret the removal of Mr. John E. Taylor, who has been a faithful Colporteur of this Society for a period extending from July, 1877, till the time of his death, which took place in this city on Sabbath, 29th December last. Mr. Taylor was one of the most successful Colporteurs ever employed by this Society, and has disposed of many thousand copies of the Scriptures. He was an earnest Christian and his end was peace.

Bible Society Recorder.

TORONTO, 1st JANUARY, 1890.

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE VEN. ARCHDEACON SCOTT AT
THE ANNUAL MEETING, OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN
BIBLE SOCIETY, LONDON, MAY, 1889.

I would just put before you, Christian people, as briefly as I can, certain principles which I love myself, and which I hope you will approve also. The first principle which I love is this: That the Bible is the particular gift to us of God the Holy Ghost. Just as God the Father gave us His best gift, God the Son; just as God the Son gave to us His best gift, God the Holy Ghost; so has God the Holy Ghost given to us a great gift indeed, and that is, the inspired Word, the Bible, which we hold now in our hands. And what a gift, and what a tender view it is of the Bible to remember that it is the gift of the Holy Ghost the Comforter, which He provided and inspired! He inspired this Word, and guided its authors to give us all the measure of truth which we poor sinners can possibly require.

The next principle I would present to you is this: That the special object of this great gift is to reveal to us the Father, and to reveal to us the Son. To reveal to us the Father. I think we sometimes forget that the Bible is a majestic and a wondrously perfect revelation of Almighty God. Thirty years ago I was reading the memoirs of a dear Christian lady, Miss Adelaide Newton, and, though I have forgotten everything else of hers in the book, I have never forgotten this, which was in a private letter to a friend. She says—"How delightful it is in the Word of God to study the character of God!" She adds—"I have been able to find in the Word of God descriptions of His character, which I have put under fifty-two heads. Under each of those heads I have found six subdivisions, and thus I have some different view of the character of God, taken from His Word, to occupy every week-day in the whole year." The object of the Bible is also to reveal to us God the Son. The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. In the third chapter of Genesis He is the Seed of woman; in the third chapter of Malachi He is the Sun of Righteousness; and in the last chapter of the Revelation He is the bright and morning Star. These are the objects of this great Book which has been given to us.

And, as the Bible is the gift of the Holy Ghost, so it is the great instrument by which the Holy Ghost works. He may work in other ways upon the human soul, and God grant that we may be worked upon in other ways; but His great instrument is the Word. And therefore it is that we desire to impart this Word all the world over. I never forget the word of a brother