

faithful exemplar of his own teachings. For the last few years he had retired entirely from the work of the ministry, the slowly-growing infirmities of age compelling him thus to cease a work that he ardently loved. Then he spent much of his leisure time in writing and publishing various small works for gratuitous distribution. After his death a manuscript was found entitled "Inside the Gates, a Condensed Bible View of Heaven," which indicates the subject on which his mind dwelt much during the latter years of his life. Sagacious in judgment, equable in temperament and pure in life, he thus closed an unwontedly long, active and useful career. Without a thought of repining he waited all the days of his appointed life till his change should come, and met death without a struggle or a fear, and straightway entered into the joy of his Lord.

On the morning of the 19th inst., James Barber, Esq., deacon of the Congregational Church, Georgetown, Ont., entered into the rest above, aged sixty-nine years.

He was born in the county of Antrim, Ireland, emigrated to Canada with his parents and three brothers and sister in the year 1822, and settled in the town of Niagara; thence he removed to West Flamboro' in 1837, and afterwards with his three brothers settled in what is now called the village of Georgetown, where he remained until his death. His early life was free from many of the excesses and follies which characterized his youthful companions. He was blest with a pious mother, of the Presbyterian faith, whose teachings and example had a great influence over his heart and life; but it was not until the year 1842, when the Rev. Stephen King, one of the first graduates of our College, visited Georgetown and neighbourhood as a mission field, that he, with a few others professed faith in Jesus, and gave himself up in holy consecration to God forever. The little company of believers was organized on the 7th day of December, 1842, into a Congregational Church, and our departed brother was chosen deacon, which office he filled till the day of his death. On the 28th of the same month Rev. S. King was ordained pastor of the little flock by brethren from Toronto and elsewhere. Having accepted our doctrines and polity from conviction, he was a decided, consistent and true Congregationalist. He firmly believed in the final triumph, if not of our *ism*, of the principles which underlie our church life and polity. He was very much distressed at the looseness which of late years has characterized some of our churches. He firmly believed that as soon as we let go purity and loyalty to Christ and the brotherhood, we should be supplanted in our work by others.

His Christian life lacked the demonstrative emotional, but was of the true, pure, faithful and upright type, that made him a man of great moral excellence and sterling worth. He was never known to be guilty of a mean thing in business or in the church or in the family. His high sense of right, and a lack of gracefulness in communicating his thoughts, made him plain in his utterances, which were too pointed for the guilty. His love to the means of grace was strong; during twenty-seven years of my acquaintance with him as his pastor, I never knew him absent from the regular Sabbath service from indifference or any other cause except from necessity, as sickness or absence from home. He was fond of the house of God and the ministry of the Word. He took a great interest in the erection of our beautiful church building, to which he largely contributed both of his wealth and time. He arose to wealth and all the local honour that could be conferred upon him, but he remained the same devout humble Christian as he was thirty-seven years ago. Externals made no difference in his kindly conduct towards others. As an employer he was a model master; just in his conceptions, wise in his management and humane in his demands, he was loved and honoured by his employes. His generous deeds he did not want to be known. The poor have lost a friend in his death and the churches will miss his liberal hand. As a parent and husband he was kind, thoughtful and true, never allowing anything in the home life that was not of an elevating, noble tendency, and consistent with his Christian profession.

For some eighteen months his health has been failing, and without a pain of any kind he has gradually weakened, baffling medical skill and loving attention. He hoped against hope, until it was too clear, a few

days before his death, his end was nigh. When he realized the fact himself he was perfectly resigned, and with the assurance he would soon be with Christ, whom he had trusted and loved so many years, he fell peacefully asleep in Jesus, leaving a widow and three sons and three daughters to mourn his loss, with a multitude of sorrowing friends. He was interred in the village cemetery on the 21st inst., and his death was improved by his pastor the following Sabbath from Ps. xxxvii. 37.

Georgetown.

Correspondence.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Write as briefly as possible—our space is limited—on one side of the paper only.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

REV. S. P. BARKER.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

SIR,—My attention has been directed to the following paragraph in the "Christian Gleaner," for the present month. It is so misleading as to demand a word or two of refutation. It contains a quibble or two, so characteristic of the writer as not to excite surprise, also a direct misstatement. The extract is as follows:

"Rev. S. P. Barker, of Brantford, to whom reference was made in our February number, based on the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT as our authority, writes as follows:—'My resignation was never accepted, nor did I ever make any personal attacks on any one. I simply charged my choir with having made repeated annoyance for the space of nearly three years, and one gentleman thought fit to interrupt me right in the sermon, and to 'turn on the organ' to drown my voice.'"

Let me briefly explain. Mr. Barker tendered his resignation, evidently for the purpose of compelling the church to maintain his salary at a figure beyond the power of a diminishing congregation. To his surprise all the leading members shewed a willingness to accept it, and so when a meeting was called to consider the question, Mr. Barker and a number of friends were present to prevent action. The vote was a close one, but by getting members of the congregation to vote many of whom had been but casual hearers and had never attended a church meeting before, it was decided by a majority of one or two to not accept the resignation. Mr. Barker and his friends immediately withdrew, when the church resolved to only pledge \$800 as salary, a figure that Mr. Barker had said in the pulpit he would not accept. He acted accordingly, and on the next Sabbath evening preached his farewell sermon. In this he referred to "those sitting at the right of the organ" as the offenders and, as there were only three or four there, he might as well have named them. To this Mr. B. (not a member of the church) replied, *but the organ was not turned on.*

TRUTH.

Brantford, May 21st, 1880.

We print the following from the "Globe" as a fitting pendant to the above.

To the Editor of the Globe.

SIR,—A paragraph found its way into your columns which demands an explanation. It is to the effect that "the Congregational Church here and the Primitive Methodist have united, under the pastorate of the Rev. S. P. Barker." The facts are that the Rev. Mr. Barker recently resigned the pastorate of the Congregational Church, and the Rev. A. E. Kinmonth, of Seneca Falls, N.Y., has accepted a call as his successor, and emerged upon his duties. The Rev. Mr. Barker has held a few services since in public halls, and recently has cast in his lot with the Primitive Methodist Church—one to which, I believe, he belonged before forming connection with the Congregational body.

CONGREGATIONALIST.

Brantford, May 21, 1880.

News of the Churches.

THE Rev. Wm. Sherman was ordained to the ministry and installed successor to the Rev. Dr. Duff at Sherbrooke, P.Q., on the 26th inst.

THE Rev. George Wollett sails for England, on the 28th inst., for the benefit of his health. He hopes to be able to return able for work early in the fall.

KINGSTON—BETHEL. Mr. J. B. Saer has been engaged to supply this church for two months owing to the continued illness of the pastor. The Rev. W. M. Peacock is spending the summer at Almonte, Ont.

PINE GROVE. A concert of sacred music was given in the Congregational Church, Pine Grove, on the 17th inst., by a company of musicians from Toronto, under the directions of Mr. Blackburn. The selections were from Handel, Mozart, Haydn, Rossini and Mendelssohn, and were rendered in a manner that reflected credit on the performers. —R. H.

SPEEDSIDE.—On Monday, the 17th inst., the first mason work on the new Congregational Church at this place, was done. The old building has been removed and every necessary preparation made, and the contractor intends to push the work vigorously so as to complete it within the prescribed time. In the meantime the congregation worship in the large and commodious school-house hard by. —COM.

BRANTFORD.—The Rev. A. E. Kinmonth, of Seneca Falls, N.Y., has accepted a unanimous call to the pastorate of this church and thus far the indications are most encouraging. The congregations are increasing, and pastor and people appear to be in perfect accord. The weekly prayer-meeting is well attended, and the new pastor is manifesting a deep interest in the Sabbath school. The recent troubles have united the membership in a closer bond of unity.

BRANTFORD.—A very pleasant re-union took place in the basement of the Congregational church, Wednesday evening, the occasion being a welcome to the Rev. A. E. Kinmonth, pastor of the church. The ladies, with their usual generosity, spread a bountiful repast, after which a few informal but cordial and loving addresses were given. The Rev. W. Hay, of Scotland; Rev. Robert Cameron, of the Tabernacle; Rev. Mr. Brock, Brant Avenue; Rev. G. C. McKenzie, Grace Church; and Rev. T. Lowry, Wellington street Presbyterian Church, all conveyed to Mr. Kinmonth and his church their hearty good wishes. It is no reflection on the others when we say that Mr. McKenzie's speech was the address of the evening.—*Expositor.*

LISTOWEL.—On the evening of May 17th, the teachers, officers, and some friends of the Sabbath school visited the residence of Peter Campbell, Esq., and presented the pastor, Rev. A. F. McGregor with a gold chain and pencil and a neat inkstand. These were accompanied by the following address: Dear Brother,—It is with feelings of sorrowfulness, deeper than words can express, that we meet here to-night to say farewell. In looking back over the past two years—the years of your ministry with us—we know that God has owned and blessed your labours in our midst, and more especially have your labours been blessed in the Sabbath school in which we always found you a willing and efficient worker. In regard to your decision in severing your connection with us we can only say that we trust you have been guided by God, and we think that you must have had a clear indication of His will, especially as our relations as pastor and people have been of the most friendly kind, and our prayer is, that the great Head of the Church may open for you a field of still greater usefulness, and in saying farewell we beg you to accept these small presents as a token of the respect and Christian love we bear you, and if in God's good providence we should be again united as pastor and people, none would welcome that union more than we, and if we should never all meet again on earth, we trust we shall meet on that last great day, and that each of us may hear that word of welcome commendation, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Signed on behalf of the teachers and scholars of the Sabbath school, ANDREW CLIMIE, Superintendent. The pastor's Bible class also presented him with an appreciative address. The pastor in a few words acknowledged these kind gifts, and the rest of the evening was pleasantly passed.