

WESLEYAN MISSIONARY NOTICES.

NOVEMBER 1st, 1856.

NEW CREDIT.

The respected writer of the subjoined statement has done well to give us an opportunity of placing it on permanent record; and the facts and names it contains are unusually interesting, as being associated with the first happy attempts of our Church to establish Indian Missions in Canada.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. L. Whiting, dated September 5th, 1856.

At the New Credit Mission, and on the first day of June last, Thomas McGee died, the subject of this brief notice; who was born at, or near Lake Simcoe, in the year of our Lord 1799. He was "born again" at the mouth of the Credit River shortly after the Wesleyan Mission was established among the Indians of that place. He was baptized by the late Rev. William Case some time during the winter of 1826, and received into the Wesleyan Methodist Church; and from the commencement of his religious career, I am informed he was "a burning and a shining light" among his people. For many years he officiated in the capacity of a local preacher. He came to this place about a year ago from St. Clair mission, having buried his wife some time previous to his leaving; and about the first of November he was married to the widow Hopkins of this place, with whom he spent the rest of his days. He was very unwell during the winter; in the spring he appeared much better, and hopes were entertained that he would recover his health, but these hopes were groundless: he was taken suddenly worse and sank rapidly into the arms of death. I visited him a short time before he died, and he expressed an unwavering confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ. He said that he was perfectly free from the fear of death; he could confidently say in the language of holy writ, "O death, where is thy sting; O grave, where is thy victory; the sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law; but thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." In this happy state of mind he continued until he took his departure from this world. His little daughter, a girl about thirteen years old,

who was in a declining state of health when her father died, has since "gone the way of all the earth." I conversed with her on the subject of health, and urged the necessity of our being regenerated or born again in order to our being admitted into the kingdom of glory. She appeared to be very much affected, especially while we were engaged in prayer. We appointed a prayer meeting at the place where she was, for her benefit. Suffice it to say those efforts were not in vain; the Lord who has in all ages of the world manifested a willingness to hear the prayers of his people,—heard our united supplications and intercessions to the joy of her youthful heart; so that she was enabled through grace to triumph over death. "O that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!"

We have to record the death of another of our distinguished members, the wife of Father Sawyer, (the only surviving chief of this band of Indians since the death of the late Rev. Peter Jones). Sister Sawyer experienced religion on the Grand River, to which place she and several others of the tribe had repaired in order to witness the power of God. They had heard of the reformation that was then going on among the Grand River Indians through the instrumentality of the Wesleyan Missionaries, and they were anxious not only to see but to feel the power of divine grace. It is scarcely necessary for me to say they were not disappointed; the greater number, if not all of them, were made the happy partakers of the grace of life. Our departed sister, with many others then and there, joined that branch of the Christian church, of which she con-