

B. P. SHAFNER, A. B., was the son of William C. and Azubah Shafner, of Williamston, Annapolis County, N. S. He died on the 28th of July, in the 26th year of his age, "in the first vigor of his manhood." He possessed a fine physique; none thought he would die so soon. If the youth foreshadowed the man, a career of great usefulness seemed opening before him. He was regarded as one of our most promising young men. That he should be thus cut down in the beginning of life seems a mysterious providence. We cannot understand it. We are as children walking in the dark; of yesterday and know nothing. But we are in the hands of our Heavenly Father, and we believe that he is too wise to err and too good to be unkind. The Judge of all the earth cannot do but right. God's ways are not our ways. He doeth all things well.

From a child Bernard's life was beautiful. When very young the Holy Spirit took possession of his heart, and his character was fashioned by its heavenly influence. He did not publicly acknowledge his religious convictions till he was 16 years of age. He was then baptized by Rev. W. G. Parker into the fellowship of the Nictaux Church. From boyhood he often desired to become a Christian minister, and his aim was to fit himself in the most thorough manner for that sacred calling. No other profession had any allurements for him; he could not be diverted from the ministry. He entered upon a course of study, and was graduated from Acadia College in June, 1877. During his vacations he had preached the glorious gospel that he so much loved, and through his instrumentality sinners had been converted and souls saved. His preaching was always acceptable; the place that had him one vacation wished him the next. It was not his eloquence nor the wisdom of his words that gave him success, but the Spirit that was in him—the Spirit of his Master.

After graduation, he did not at once enter upon a course of Theological training, but accepted a position as teacher in Horton Academy, which position he filled with great credit to himself and benefit to the Institution. After the term closed, he went to Yarmouth to supply the Milton Church during the vacation. He arrived there on Friday, June 28th, preached the following Sabbath, and during the next week was taken sick; and, after a few weeks of intense suffering, died on Sabbath morning, July 28th. His father and mother were with him during the last part of his sickness. The people of Yarmouth were very kind to him—of this he frequently spoke, and in consequence of it many an hour of weariness and pain was passed more comfortably. His body was brought home and buried in the cemetery at Nictaux, on Tuesday, July 30th. The attendance at the funeral was large, though no public announcement of it could be made previously. It was a sad occasion.

The funeral sermon was preached by Rev. W. A. Bleakney, from the words: "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter."

As a student he was diligent, patient, unassuming, manifesting a teachable disposition, never vaunting his own knowledge, but with humility always reaching forward to higher attainments.

As a teacher he was apt. He gave dignity to the profession. His downright honesty, his sturdy Christian manliness, his large and generous spirit, his genial nature, his kind heart, gave him a mighty power over students. He recognized the great fact that to a large extent the teacher as well as the preacher reproduced his own likeness in those he instructed. Hence he strove to shun even the appearance

of an
great.
was n
As a
one of
As a
movable
good
Him v
life an
As a
minist
the b
minist
conver
burden
never
was ex
than t
By h
lost a
church
honor
who w
was in
sympa
hopes
gain.
high e
the jus
of rela
ministe
sugges
than to

REV.
of July
March
baptize
Church
County
Victori
were b
unshak
ministr
was gai
mourn

REV.
this life
was bri
week.
Broth