

## DEATH OF REV. DR. GRANT.

On the 19th of July, 1882, began the long pastorate which was terminated only by death, and of which the twenty-fifth anniversary was celebrated with much rejoicing in 1907. The story of that pastorate is too familiar to most of our readers to need recital. It is one of solid accomplishment and steady growth. The congregation, which had 235 communicants when Dr. Grant entered upon his pastorate, has now nearly 1,000 on its communion roll, while it now gives more to the missions of the Church than its total income then amounted to. Up to within the last two years, Dr. Grant has with high courage and rare industry borne the growing burden alone, in spite of frequent physical weakening and increasing years.

Of Dr. Grant's literary labors, the most pretentious and permanent was his sympathetic biography of his friend, the Rev. Wm. Cochrane, D.D., of Brantford, which he undertook at the request of Mrs. Cochrane. In his early days he was a frequent contributor to *The Globe*; but it was by contributions to various Presbyterian publications over the non-de plume of "Knoxonian" that he was most widely known. These bright comments on current events were continued almost to the last, in the pages of the Dominion Presbyterian. His lectures also were very popular, by reason of their raciness and humor. He prepared them, as a rule, for the benefit of some of the organizations in connection with his own church, but was frequently called upon to repeat them abroad. A lecture by Dr. Grant was always certain to draw an audience wherever he was known.

He was a loyal son of Knox College. It was principally due to his efforts that his alma mater secured the right to confer degrees in divinity, and it was secularly appropriate that some years later the degree of doctor of divinity should be conferred on him.

On the 9th of May, 1868, Dr. Grant was married to Miss Marianne McMullen, third daughter of the late A. McMullen, of Fergus, and sister of the Rev. Dr. McMullen, of Woodstock, and of Senator McMullen, of Mount Forest, who has been to him a faithful helpmate, in every sense of the word, and who survives him with five of their six sons: George, Inglis, and Gordon, of Orillia; William, of Walkerville, and Fred, of Midland; and one daughter, Edith, at home. A sister also survives him, Mrs. Hislop, of Stratford. His eldest son, the late Robert A. Grant, died in April, 1906.

## The Sunday Services.

Sunday services were tinged with the great sorrow which had fallen upon the congregation. The Rev. Dr. McLeod, of Barrie, occupied the pulpit both morning and evening, and preached appropriate and impressive sermons. He alluded to the remarkable fact that it was the first time in its history of nearly sixty years that the Orillia congregation had been called upon to mourn the death of a pastor. In his morning sermon, after some more general remarks, based on the text "They rest from their labors, and their works do follow them," Dr. McLeod paid a fitting tribute to Dr. Grant's memory. He said he believed that the first aim of his dead friend's life had been fidelity to his duty as a pastor. He then touched upon Dr. Grant's chief characteristics, as a large-hearted man, endowed with high intellectual gifts; as a humble and exemplary Christian, following the footsteps of his Master; as a diligent preacher, filled with a scorn for those who were indifferent to the great responsibilities of the position; as a sympathetic and industrious pastor; and as a judicious counsellor, whose advice always carried weight in the Church

courts. He referred to his rare gift of humor, that quality ordinarily so difficult to control, but which Dr. Grant seemed to use with unerring skill. It was, he knew, the chief joy of the departed that God had made use of his ministry to draw many into the way of life. And he also knew that the kindness of his congregation had made sweet Dr. Grant's last days.

In the evening Dr. McLeod preached from "In my Father's house are many mansions; I go to prepare a place for you." The prayers and hymns through out the services of the day were appropriate to the circumstances. The pulpit was draped in black.

## The Funeral.

The funeral on Tuesday was one of the largest seen in Orillia. Many friends were in attendance from various parts of Ontario.

After the singing of a portion of scripture, and prayer, Dr. McLeod, who presided, called upon the Rev. Dr. McKay to address the congregation. Dr. McKay said that in going over the beauties he had thought that all might be applied to Dr. Grant; but one was particularly appropriate—"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." In the Church courts, while Dr. Grant did not speak often, when he did, he always contributed something to the debate and nearly always rose to pour oil upon troubled waters. But it was as a preacher that Dr. Grant stood pre-eminent, and for this he had had a number of special qualities. First he had had the anointing of the Holy Ghost, which was a prime essential to successful preaching. With this gift, it became not so much a question of what a man said, as the man himself. To the end, Dr. Grant had cultivated close fellowship with God. A second quality was that he put a high estimate on man—not so much on what a man was but on a possibility of what he might become. In the third place, Dr. Grant always came to his congregation with a supernatural message for the betterment of their lives. He recognized that the natural would not save men. Then there was in his preaching always the note of eternity. Man's thoughts should be directed to the other world, as Christ had done, not to satisfy curiosity, or to induce a wish to get out of this life, but as a motive for the performance of present duty. These had been some of the chief characteristics of Christ's preaching, and the speaker asked for no further qualifications in any man. He congratulated the congregation on such a ministry. Rather than mourn, he would rejoice with the friends on such a life to look back upon. Might all strive to follow him as he had followed the Master.

Dr. McLeod then called upon the Rev. Dr. McLaren, who represented Knox College, and who paid a touching tribute, made more impressive by his venerable appearance. Dr. Grant, he said, was not only a faithful preacher, but held clear and distinct views on religious truth. While not a doctrinal preacher in the ordinary acceptance of the term, the doctrine of salvation lay back of all his preaching. He was not a man who put on the outward semblance of piety, but no one who knew his life could doubt his soundness or sincerity. He was a great and good citizen as well as a faithful preacher. He lived the truth as well as preached it, and was influenced by the truth in every department of life. Yet even in such a case if there was no hope beyond this life, what sort of outlook would there be—could we conceive what a funeral would mean. "Thank God we know death does not end all, and thank God for the Gospel of His Son."

The Rev. Canon Greene followed in a sympathetic address, as the representative of the local clergy; and the venerable pastor emeritus, the Rev. Dr. Gray, closed the service with the benediction.

After an opportunity had been afforded the large concourse of friends to take a last look at the familiar features, the funeral procession proceeded to the Presbyterian cemetery, where interment took place. The funeral cortege was a long one, notwithstanding that a cold and disagreeable rain was falling. The pallbearers were Dr. Beaton and Mr. C. J. Miller, representing the Session; Messrs. Wm. Thompson and J. B. Tudhope, M.P.P., representing the Board of Managers; and Dr. McLean and Mr. T. A. Main, representing the congregation. The chief mourners were the five sons, with Senator James McMullen, of Mount Forest; his son, Mr. William McMullen; and Mr. W. M. McMullen, of Woodstock son of the Rev. Dr. McMullen. The last named was unable to attend, owing to feebleness due to advanced years. Barrie Presbytery was represented by the following ministers: The Rev. W. A. Amos, Allandale; the Rev. J. J. Elliott, Midland; the Rev. A. McD. Haig, Jarratt; the Rev. C. H. Cook, Bradford; the Rev. A. W. Cray, Bracebridge; the Rev. G. I. Cray, Thornton; the Rev. W. H. Smith, Ontonagon; the Rev. Neil Campbell, Ore; the Rev. W. W. McRae, Beaverton.

## WINNIPEG AND WEST.

Rev. J. A. Caldwell, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Pilot Mound, has been visiting in the city.

Rev. Dr. John Mackey, principal of the new theological college, Westminster hall, at Vancouver, will open Knox church, Vancouver, March 7.

The Rev. David Fleming, B.A., for the past eight years pastor of Knox church, Strathcona, Alta., has accepted a call to the pastorate of the church at Dauphin, Man., where his induction is expected to take place early in March.

Rev. D. H. Jacobs, formerly of Emerson, Man., but who has been pastor of the Carlyle church for nearly three years past, has tendered his resignation to the Presbytery, the resignation to take effect April 1. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs purpose going on a six months' trip to England. Mr. Jacobs is one of the ablest ministers in the Presbyterian church in western Canada, and the announcement of his resignation is received with regret by friends in the Arcola Presbytery.

Says the Winnipeg Free Press: A very charming woman, Mrs. McEwen, of Brandon, vice-president of the National Council of Women, was the guest of honor at the Canadian Women's Press Club luncheon at the Angelus on Saturday. Around the table, decorated with hyacinths, were gathered Mrs. McEwen, Miss Hind, Miss Beynon, Miss F. Beynon, Miss Lipsett, Mrs. Hamilton, Miss Lediard, Miss Moulton, Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Stead, Mrs. Livesay, and Miss Cornell. Mrs. R. C. Osborne and Mrs. C. P. Walker, who were much missed, had sent notes regretting their absence. After luncheon Mrs. McEwen gave a most delightful talk on western women and of their responsibility for forming ideals and opinions in this prairie country, saying that there should be nothing narrow about those who live on the prairie. She also touched on the question of domestic science, saying what splendid opportunities the girls of today had of learning something about homemaking on the prairie, and urging upon them the necessity of taking advantage of these opportunities. The club hopes that it will not be long before they again have the honor of having Mrs. McEwen as their guest.

A theology that is not missionary is of no use in this world of ours