
DEATH OF THE REV. W. W. ROSS.

It is with deep sorrow of heart that we record the death of one of the most enthusiastic friends of the Bible cause that we have ever known, the Rev. W. W. Ross, formerly Permanent Agent of the Society, who died at the Methodist Parsonage, Ingersoll, on Friday last, March 28th. Although his official connexion with the Society as its Permanent Agent ceased in 1879, he continued to be its permanent and earnest friend to the last, and it is only a year ago that we published his interesting report of his visitation of the Branches in Manitoba. This work, which he did gratuitously, has proved of very great benefit to the interests of the Society in that Province, and the Board, in recognition of his services, elected him a life-member of the Society. This he accepted as an honour in the most cordial and appreciative terms, and truly no man was more worthy of honour at the hands of the Bible Society. Alas, that his life membership should have been cut so short. But we must not murmur. Our Heavenly Father knows what is best. He knows when each man's work here is done, and where He wants His servants; and we know that He maketh all things work together for good to them that love Him, even for us who, are left behind, and who feeling the separation, cannot help speaking of our loss, even though there may be an apparent contradiction between our speech and our knowledge.

Mr. Ross was born in the County of Hastings, in the year 1837, and like so many good men, was the son of a pious mother. Whilst still quite a youth he was engaged in the dry-goods shop of Mr. Nathan Jones, of Belleville, and when the Rev. Dr. Carroll was sent to that town in 1855, he found him among the gifted praying members of the Methodist Church there. In the winter of 1855-56, there was a great revival, during which he became earnestly anxious for the salvation of others, and pressed in the spirit to preach. Being wisely encouraged and drawn out by Dr. Carroll, his pastor, he proved to be a young man of much more than ordinary earnestness in seeking and receiving the teaching of the Holy Spirit in the Holy Scriptures, and of uttering what he had learned to others. He was therefore sent to Victoria College, and in 1857, was received on probation for the ministry, but allowed to continue his studies at Cobourg. From that year to 1873, he was constantly at work in the ministry, and of course, in accordance with the itinerant system of his Church, he was in many places, among which we find such important stations as Three Rivers, Kingston, Hamilton, Toronto, and Montreal. In 1873, his health required him to cease pastoral work for a time, and his physicians peremptorily ordered him to travel. Whether to go East or West was the question; and this he considered in the same methodical, but earnest fashion in which he did everything. Having decided to go West, he went to California by land and returned by sea. On his return he published a little book entitled, "Ten Thousand Miles by Land and Sea," in which he gave a most interesting, pithy, and racy account of his visit to the Mormon Temple, the Yosemite Valley, and other places. In 1875, he was appointed the Per-