

A.—William Cooke, *Mis. Comm.*; Richard Paintin, *Walpole*.

Q.—5. *What Preachers have withdrawn from the Church?*

A.—David Gostelow, and Thomas Lawson.

Q.—6. *What Preachers have ceased to travel?*

A.—Thomas Fox.

Q.—7. *What Preachers have died this year?*

A.—1. *Matthew Nichols*. This afflictive dispensation transpired at Kingston, Aug. 17, 1854. Bro. Nichols was stationed for the above place by the Conference of 1854, with the most flattering expectations of extensive usefulness. He entered upon his work with prayerfulness of spirit, fixedness of purpose, and a settled trust in the God of Israel. He had just attained the zenith of his might, and never before was so well prepared to wield the "sword of the Spirit," and take the prey from the mighty. He had attained a spirituality of mind,—a nearness to God,—a deeper insight into the human heart,—a clearer perception of the simplicity of faith, and efficacy of the atonement, which in a very peculiar manner prepared him for the ennobling work of saving souls. But, alas! while the whole hemisphere of his future was bright, the fatal shaft descended and smote him,—

"A veteran slumbering on his arms,
Beneath his red-cross shield."

He was attacked by Asiatic cholera, Aug. 15, and died two days afterwards. He had travelled nearly 12 years in Canada, with marked success in every station. He left a wife and three children. His family and the Church have sustained and irreparable loss, while he has secured incalculable and eternal gain.

"Though to-night the seed be sown in gloom,
And darkness, and tears, and sorrow,
It shall spring from the tomb, in immortal bloom,
On the bright and glorious morrow.
The tears that we shed o'er holy dust,
Are the tribute of human sadness;
But the grave holds in trust the remains of the just,
Till the day of eternal gladness."