

In Memoriam.

With sincere regret we record the sudden removal by death, on September 22nd, of the HON. WM. McMASTER, Senator, a Vice-President and Treasurer of this Society, and who has for the past fifty-one years been a faithful friend and liberal supporter of it.

His connection dates from 1836. In the interim he served as Minute Secretary from 1837 till 1854, when he was appointed a Vice-President. In 1853 his name was enrolled as a life member, and in 1856 he was elected Treasurer, which office he held during life. He was a most regular attendant at the Board meetings, and was a wise counsellor. His presence and influence will be much missed by his co-directors, a large number of whom paid a heartfelt tribute of respect by following his mortal remains to their last resting place.

We have also to record the death of MR. CHARLES HENRY DOAN, another life member, who died at Kansas city, U.S., on the 16th April last, after a short illness. Deceased was the youngest son of Charles Doan, Esq., of Aurora, Ont., an old and earnest friend of the Society.

CONTENTS OF THE BIBLE.

In a sense, the Bible is a plain and a simple book, which he that runneth may read. The language is that of ordinary life. The words are for the most part familiar, and the sentences brief, open, and clear. In another sense, it is one of the most difficult books to interpret. The subject is large, and lies mostly in the spiritual domain. The heavenly things can be seen only as reflected in a broken earthly mirror. To add to our difficulty, the Bible is given, not in systematic form, in ordered and philosophic phrase, but as a collection of fragments. Though clear in itself, each fragment is to be modified by all others. The single sentence, verse, or chapter is but a part of the whole, a single segment of the wide circle of the truth revealed to us in the word of God. As Milton has it, "There is scarce one saying in the gospel but must be read with limitations and distinctions to be rightly understood; for Christ gives no full comments or continued discourses, but speaks oft in monosyllables, like a master scattering the heavenly grain of His doctrine like pearls here and there, which requires a skilful and laborious gatherer, who must compare the words he finds with other precepts, with the end of every ordinance, and with the general analogy of evangelical doctrine; otherwise many particular sayings would be but strange, repugnant riddles." The itemizers have often been huge misinterpreters of the gospel. If single verses had contained the gospel, their interpretation would have been correct; but as these verses contain but a fragment of the truth, their statement of it is entirely incomplete. And an incomplete statement, a half truth, is often more deceptive than an entire untruth. The only reliable interpretation is that which takes account of the entire body of revealed truth, and this wide connection and relation of Bible truth is that which many positive people fail to grasp.—*Western Christian Advocate.*