

first four years previous to induction! It was then the day of small things with us, but those there are who can remember how that he, whose loss we mourn, threw himself into the breach and retrieved the fortunes of the Church, by his fair and conciliating policy gaining over the disaffected, and getting the timid and unwilling to join the Church; but it is not every one that knows how we found things in some parts of our Parish: baptized children that had been for years unchristened and some of whom were nearly able to answer for themselves; brought to ordinances men whose shadows had not for long years darkened the church door, and succeeded in reviving in dead hearts hope, love and reverence. Difficulties grew, but his faith increased with their growth, for he saw that it was a good cause in which he had embarked, that God was with the minister and the blessing came, and therefore he withheld neither pecuniary, nor moral, nor, I might say, *physical* support. He accepted of the Eldership when it was hard getting any to undertake office, and consented to act as Treasurer, all for the good of the Church. Personal considerations he waved, sacrificed time, means and inclination, and though actively engaged in business, yet on a moment's notice laid aside this to aid the struggling cause. It was conduct like this that made our Church take root, "the little one became a thousand," and mansees, after the example set here, were built in different parts of the country; while again a reflex benefit resulted from his generosity, for his health was established, his family prospered, and his life was spared to see the goodly plant which he had a principal hand in raising, expand and become a tree, under whose branches you and your children now shelter yourselves; but, then, should we forget whose hand laid the vessel's keel, and at what a period, too, who first entered the breach and rallied the scattered forces? My friends these 26 years, during which our congregation rose from being a nondescript body to occupy the position it now holds, present a record of unremitting generosity, of continuous labor, anxiety and toil undergone by one—and him not a strong man. Had he been, in 1849, when he began his labors, a retired merchant of affluent means, or had he been a vigorous and robust man to whom work was but play, it had been a different thing; but considering the weak state of his health all these years, and the amount of suffering under which he so frequently labored, you may judge of the sacrifice to which he had to submit: but it was his belief that no man was the loser by what he expends in Christ's cause, hence he never gruged,

never drew back, but seemed always to adopt the Scripture adage, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." But he, whose death we this day lament, maintained a character for liberality far exceeding his legacies to church and manse. When the eye saw him it blessed him, and when the ear heard him it testified to his worth, because he succoured the poor and fatherless and caused the widow's heart sing for joy. Mr. Gordon performed an amount of *secret* beneficence which will be fully known only on the day of account. Ministers, Widows, all shared in it; and then he was liberal to all schemes of philanthropy outside the Church,—to Bible Societies, Christian Associations, and to that latest effort for Pieton, "The Young Ladies College," (in which, however, unless something be done without delay, we are likely to be outstripped by another Church,) and then it was not only the amount, but the way he gave it—the *cheerful* giver appeared in all. Indeed, with him the warm shake of the hand, the sparkle of the eye, and the sympathy of the man told as eloquently as some other people's speeches, and I have had occasion to admire how that, in visiting the sick, his kindly enquiries and genuine sympathy exerted an almost magical effect in opening the heart. But I must, above all speak of him as a friend of peace. How he promoted peace in this congregation, and how he staved off many a contention and maintained harmony in all meetings, you yourselves know. In this respect his policy is worthy of imitation—a policy that serves to bind together all interests and make all parties unite for the common good; so long and so successfully maintained, it is now bequeathed to you as a legacy for all time coming. "Blessed are the peace makers, for they shall be called the children of God." So much for the public relations which he sustained to the Church and community, in which he showed himself a wise counsellor, a liberal benefactor, and a promoter of peace. But there are other relations of life in which we might view him. In his own house his light shone purely. Domestic witnessed it. The same unvarying kindness, the same consideration for others feelings and desire for their happiness characterized him. When was he ever known to speak evil of any one, or to talk disparagingly of the absent? On the contrary he gave credit for good qualities and excused deficiencies. Thus he made to himself no enemies, nor lost any friends. The esteem in which he was held by all classes was seen at his death, when poor and rich mourned him, and many an one gave vent to his sorrow in expressions as these "he befriended me