

city and earnestness these children pray. The prayer meetings in our several churches have also been multiplied, and they continue to be attended by a largely increased number of devout and attentive hearers. The Sabbath services have also been better attended than before, and both ministers and people have been stirred up to greater earnestness and faithfulness in the service of God. The Spirit is manifestly with us in a special way: God is blessing us. The influence of what is being done here is extending to the country around. Our prayers have been graciously answered. Let the church pray that God would give the promised grace of this Spirit to every part of his vineyard.

Yours, &c.,

Montreal, 12th February, 1863.

A. F. K.

OBITUARY NOTICE—MR. WILLIAM MATTHEWSON.

William Matthewson, on aged and worthy elder of the Canada Presbyterian Church, died on the 11th of January, at his residence near Brooklin. Though his life had exceeded by some months the four-score years of the Psalmist, he was, till within a day or two of his death, hale and vigorous. On the Sabbath immediately preceding that on which he died, he was present and assisted at the administration of the Lord's Supper at Columbus, in his usual health. Towards the end of the week, symptoms of inflammation of the lungs shewed themselves, and by Sabbath morning the disease had assumed such a form as to leave little hope of recovery. After some hours of severe suffering, patiently borne, he departed this life towards midnight.

The deceased was a man of large physical frame; of great vigor of mind; and of unusual force of character. His intellect, naturally powerful, had been much improved by extensive reading and keen observation. His religious principles were in perfect keeping with his physical and intellectual conformation. They were strong and unbending; rendering him reliable in the last degree; one whom no pressure could turn from what his conscience indicated as the path of duty. He was a shrewd observer of human nature—not easily deceived and incapable of deceiving others; for, with all his strength of intellect and force of will, he was in heart a child—concealing under a manner somewhat rough a rare warmth and tenderness of affection. Naturally unobtrusive and retiring, it was not often that he gave expression to his own religious feelings. When he did break the wonted reserve, it was pleasing to see with what simple faith the strong man leaned on the broad foundation of the sinner's hope.

Mr. Matthewson spent his youth and the earlier days of his manhood in the district of Midcalder. There he sat under the ministry and enjoyed the friendship of Professor Duncan—a man of whom he spake with affectionate veneration to the last. He was first called to the office of a ruling elder during this period of his life, and must have acted in this capacity for twenty years at least before leaving Scotland. On coming to Canada, twenty-eight years ago, he settled in the neighborhood of what is now the village of Brooklin—then an almost unbroken forest—and continued to reside in the same place till his death. He was, soon after his settlement in Canada, chosen to the eldership of the then recently erected congregation of Whitby, under the ministry of his brother-in-law, Dr. Thornton, and continued to be a member of that session till, seven years ago, when Columbus and Brooklin were erected into an independent congregation. Thenceforth he gave himself with great and untiring zeal to the work of consolidating and enlarging the newly-formed church, the minister and members of which looked up to him as to a father in Israel. He lived to see its membership more than doubled from the time of the separation, and to witness the erection of a large and commodious Presbyterian church in