

Purposely I have avoided saying much about this interesting feature in the history of this building, not wishing to forestall in any measure the "Sketch on Methodist Sunday Schools in Truro," which, it is understood, Miss F. D. Johnson is preparing to read at a Sunday School service in connection with the re-opening of Pleasant Street Church on the seventeenth of this month*. Suffice it to say that the late Dr. W. E. McRobert was the first person to preside over the Sunday School in this building, and he held the position of Superintendent with great acceptability, till he resigned in 1884, and was succeeded in the office by Mr. G. O. Fulton, the present incumbent.

Of the late Dr. McRobert, we would like to speak and appropriate as our own, the language of the resolution of the Liberal Conservative Association of Colchester, passed after his death in February, 1887, which was at once expressive of the sincere and heartfelt regret of every member for the great loss sustained in the death of Dr. McRobert, who for many years was President of the Association; and, at the same time marked their appreciation of the life of one who in several important respects had been a most useful citizen and a public spirited gentleman of whom any community might be proud. The members felt that it was only necessary to refer to the record the deceased made for himself in Nova Scotia, that the valuable lessons it imparts—showing what may be accomplished by industry, frugality and self reliance, coupled with a strict adherence to principles of temperance, morality and christian truth—may not be lost to the young men of our country. For over thirty years Dr. McRobert resided in this municipality, the former part of which period he was favorably known as a physician, and latterly as a manufacturer and dealer in a certain class of manufactured goods. In those years he endeared himself to a large body of people, by being a strong son of temperance, an active Church and Sunday School worker, a person whose political conduct was governed by conscientious convictions, and one, who was always courteous and gentlemanly in his dealings with his fellow men, by whom he was regarded as true and faithful in all the relations of life. During the political battle that waged over this country at the time of his death, there was but one feeling of universal regret—that the angel of death should flutter his dark wing over the habitation of a citizen so good and true, who had not reached the allotted period of human life.

When the time came for the funeral obsequies of our departed friend, the bugles of both parties sounded a truce, the asperities of political life were forgotten, and all classes and creeds vied with each other in doing honor to the memory of one—however much some might have differed with him in tenets of faith, or questions of political economy—whom all highly esteemed for sterling worth, uprightness of character, and a conscientious devotion to what he considered the strict line of duty—illustrating in his life the words of the Psalmist:

"Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright,
For the end of that man is peace."

The time has come when we must take our last, heartfelt, fond adieu to this old historic building; for the place that knows us now in its present condition will soon know us no more forever. There was some expectation that when this Hall was no longer needed for the uses of our Church, it might be moved to Prince Street West, in front of the Willows, under the shadows of Scrivelsby Manor, to meet for a time at least, the requirements of the lately organized Church of a different religious body; but, it soon appeared that it was futile to imagine that a building only one story high, 29½ feet wide by 63½ long, over forty years old, that had proved inadequate for a Town day school, and was not equal to the wants of the Pleasant Street Methodist Sunday School, would do to occupy the foundation of a Church likely to have as large a membership as Zion.

Fortunately Mr. Angus Murray came to the rescue, and offered as much for

*Miss Johnson's most interesting "Historical Sketch on Methodist Sunday Schools in Truro," was published in *The Colchester Sun* 20th October 1897."