

Obituary.

MRS. MARSHALL.

DIED, on Monday last, April 1st—Harriet, the beloved wife of the Rev. John Marshall—Wesleyan Missionary, Halifax, N. S. Aged, 43.

For a considerable period, sufferings of no ordinary character were borne by the deceased with the most exemplary patience and Christian resignation—Possessing a well grounded confidence in her Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ—she endured as seeing him who is invisible—having committed herself into the hands of Him, who is able to keep that which is committed to his charge; she patiently waited the issue of his will whether for life or death. A violent inflammation of the upper orifice of the stomach, caused for a lengthened period, the most distressing sickness, but it was borne without a murmur; as her bodily strength decreased, her spiritual strength was renewed day by day, until at length the progress of disease having failed to be arrested by the employment of medical agency, she sweetly fell asleep in Jesus—leaving behind her the well sustained hope of having obtained a part in the resurrection to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who shall change our vile bodies and make them like unto his own glorious body—according to the mighty working whereby he is able to subdue all things unto himself.

MR. WALTER WILLET.

DIED, in Aylesford, on the 1st day of March, 1839, Walter, the only son of Mr. Walter Willet of that place; aged 20 years, 11 months, and 21 days.

As the writer of this narrative was not personally acquainted with the deceased, until the summer of 1839, he is not prepared to say much respecting his life, previous to that time.

It appears, however, from a few observations which were made by the deceased when relating his experience, that he was convinced of sin at an early period of life; but instead of improving these convictions, he continued to make light of them, until the beginning of June, 1836, when he became very much alarmed, by a painful circumstance which occurred about that time. A young man nearly the age of Walter, and one who for some time had been his companion in the Sabbath-school, was out on the Bay in a fishing boat, and intending to go from the boat into a vessel, he missed his step, fell into the water and was drowned. This produced a very powerful effect in Walter, which led him to cry earnestly to God for mercy. But having no pious acquaintance at that time, to whom he could freely open his mind; and not obtaining any evidence of his acceptance with God, he soon relapsed into his former state, or nearly so. About this time (to adopt his own language) he would often pray in secret, and swear when he was in company.

His young companions were all very gay and trifling, and notwithstanding the painful feelings of which he was the subject, yet his company and the amusements to which they attended, prevented him

from giving his heart to God. He continued in this state until the latter end of October last; when a protracted meeting was held in the Methodist Chapel in West Aylesford. This meeting was rendered instrumental in the hand of God, in turning many from darkness to light, and in bringing them to a personal knowledge of their interest in Christ.

One evening after the congregation was dismissed, an individual asked of Walter, if he felt much concerned about the state of his soul: to this question he gave rather an indifferent answer, he was then earnestly exhorted to pray for himself. The exhortation was complied with, and the next day he was not ashamed to acknowledge himself an earnest seeker of salvation; and in this character he was found among the penitents, requesting an interest in the prayers of the people of God. A few days after this he attended a prayer-meeting, at which his mind was much relieved; and soon after at another prayer-meeting, the Lord was pleased to bless him with a satisfying evidence of his acceptance through Christ. He then stood up and related the dealings of God with his soul. From that time he took an active part in the prayer-meeting; in which his fervent prayers, connected with his deep piety, rendered his assistance very valuable.

On the 11th of December a new class was formed near the Chapel, and those persons who had recently experienced religion were invited to attend. At the close of the meeting, all those who intended to become members of the class were requested to give their names. Walter was present on the occasion, and spoke with great satisfaction of the good which he had received at our meetings, and of the happy state of his mind; he also expressed a desire to attend the class, but rather objected to having his name taken, fearing it might prevent him from attending the Sabbath-school, which was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Owen, and at which Walter had been in the habit of attending for several years. But on considering that he would not attend the school during the winter, and being informed that he was welcome to meet in the class for a few weeks without having his name taken, he determined to avail himself of the privilege, and from that time to the day of his death, he was never absent when the class was met. At the time when he objected to having his name taken, he lost his evidence of the Divine power; and remained in distress until the Friday evening: when, in the prayer-meeting he again obtained an evidence of pardon. He then stood up in the congregation and declared that he had been in distress from Tuesday night until that evening, and he again praised God for the privilege of meeting with us, and for the evidence which he enjoyed of his interest in Christ. From that time it may be truly said his life was a pattern of piety, and his profiting appeared to all. He felt an increasing interest both in the prayer-meetings and in the class-meetings; and in relating his experience, he often praised God for such opportunities of uniting with his brethren in the means of grace. He always related his experience with simplicity, and if any event had happened during to