

which drown men in perdition." If there was less anxiety to "keep up with the age" in business, there would be less temptation to untruthfulness and dishonesty, and the Church would not so often have to bear the reproaches of those who have suffered financially by trusting too implicitly some who bore the Christian name. There is urgent need in Methodism for the enforcement of the rule which forbids either borrowing or buying "without a probability of paying."

As a friend and counsellor, Mr. Patton was highly and deservedly esteemed by those who knew him intimately. There are those still living in Toronto who, during many years, made it a practice to consult with him in all important matters pertaining either to business or domestic concerns; and we have heard these persons repeatedly testify that they ever found in Mr. Patton not only a sympathising friend, but an eminently safe and judicious counsellor. His kindness to the sick and suffering was also deserving of commendation. To visit the sick he regarded as a plain, scriptural duty; and in the fulfilment of it his fidelity was sometimes put to a severe test. During the fearful ravages of the cholera in Ireland, in 1832, he was unremitting in his attention to those who were attacked by that fell disease. When friends and even relations fled in consternation, Mr. Patton stood manfully at his post, waiting upon the sick and dying and helping to bury the dead; and although he had a young family dependent upon him, his devoted wife encouraged him to persevere in his dangerous but blessed work.

In the discharge of his duties as a Class Leader, Mr. Patton was a model of fidelity. He made it a point, unless prevented by sickness, "to see each member of his class once a week," not to converse on indifferent topics, "but to enquire how their souls prospered," and "to advise, reprove, comfort, or exhort," as occasion might require; and in case any were sick, he was unremitting in his attentions. In meeting his class he was conscientious and faithful. If any member expressed himself in general terms that meant nothing, he would not let the matter rest there, but, by plain, pointed questions, would press the matter home upon the conscience of the individual, and thus try to save him from resting upon a vague, uncertain foundation. His counsels to his class were always wise and scriptural, and are now remembered with gratitude by those who were under his care.

The foregoing is but an imperfect sketch of one who, with quiet, unostentatious fidelity, served his generation by the will of God. Such men are seldom appreciated here: their record and their reward is on high; and so we take farewell of our departed brother, inscribing to his memory the words of Nehemiah—"He was a faithful man, and feared God above many."