

seven years ago, the late Charles Julius Mickle, Esq., one of the best Classical and Oriental scholars of his day in Canada, was called away from this life, Mr. Sandilands was unanimously chosen to be his successor in the Presidency of the Branch, an office which he was most unwilling, from his retiring disposition, to accept. His addresses at the annual meetings, which he read, for he could not trust himself to speak *memoriter*, were uniformly heard with pleasure, we hope with edification, by the audience, and some of his friends speak of the evidence which they afforded of his ripening in piety.

For some months before the final issue, symptoms had been presenting themselves that Mr. Sandilands had been labouring under an affection of the heart. About the fall of the year, these assumed such a form as to alarm his friends, but he endeavoured to dissipate their fears, and refused any medical advice but that of his own son-in-law, Dr. Hood. He was now under the necessity of withdrawing from the Sabbath School, and he felt it to be a painful one, for he loved his scholars. Towards the close of April he had joined with the congregation in celebrating the ordinance of the Supper, and his manner, both during the action Sermon and at the Table, was characterized by more than usual seriousness and reverence. On the following Sabbath he was again in his pew, but was so weak that he was unable to walk home after the services. On Saturday, 6th May, he was taken much worse and spent a sleepless night. He had taken his bed for the last time. He lingered on, sometimes suffering violent pain, till the forenoon of the 22nd, when, awaking out of his sleep and looking up to those who were at his bed-side, he breathed his last without a sigh or struggle.

In his life, Mr. Sandilands adorned the doctrine of God his Saviour, and in his death he was sustained by the faith which is the substance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things not seen. Soon after he was laid down for the last time his pastor was conversing with him on the state of his soul and his prospects for eternity, when he replied to a question that had been put, with a humility and a most impressive sincerity, "I can truly say that my love to the Lord Jesus Christ has been waxing stronger and stronger for some time." Frequent were his petitions that God would not withdraw his love from him nor leave him, and that he would speedily release him from the body, and take him to be with himself in glory. When his pain was severe, his remedy was in prayer and it was a noticeable fact that he got relief after the exercise. On two occasions he complained that God had departed from him, and those around his bed will long remember the vehemence with which he gave expression to the grief of his heart. In one of his paroxysms the passage was quoted to him "What time I am afraid I will trust in thee," and he answered, "Well may I fear when I consider my short-comings, but have I not a gracious and infinite Saviour?" His knowledge of the Scriptures was of eminent service to him in the deep waters of affliction; and that knowledge was both extensive and accurate, so that he was able to call up the promises which were adapted to his circumstances or take up those which were mentioned to him and follow them out in the very words of the Bible. He remarked to a friend that often had the bedroom in which he was then confined been to him as a little Galilee, for it had been his practice of nights when he could not sleep, to meditate upon the love of Christ and ever with comfort to his soul. He anticipated death, and was prepared for it, and among the last words that we heard him uttering were "I have never prayed for restoration, I have often prayed that my sufferings might be lightened," and he was sometimes troubled with the fear that his sufferings were a token of God's anger against him.

Among the most solemnly interesting scenes of his death-bed was his conversation with his children and with a grandson. As a father he had been most attentive to the duty of household religion, and we understand that throughout the whole period of his married life the members of his family were regularly called together at three o'clock on Sabbath afternoon to read the Scriptures and receive instruction, and we heard him say in the beginning of his trouble