

OBITUARIES.

THOMAS CLEWORTH

Was born at Bedford, in Lancashire, England, November 24th, 1827. In early life he was savingly converted to God, and under the constraining influence of the love of Christ, at the age of nineteen he began to call sinners to repentance; and his name appeared on the plan of the Leigh Circuit, where, for eight years, he exercised his gifts as a local preacher with great approval and success. In the year 1855 he was induced to cross the Atlantic and offer himself as a candidate for our work in this country, where he was accepted and received on trial in 1856, and where he continued to exercise his ministry until the Conference of 1894, when he requested a superannuated relation, and took up his abode in the town of Napanee. During his ten months' residence in that place he greatly endeared himself to the people at large, and numerous were the expressions of regard for his memory, and sympathy with his sorrowing widow and children. Our departed brother was a man of strict integrity and of unblemished reputation. He never compromised principle, and no one could ever see anything in him that savored of duplicity. His general intelligence, his uniform piety, his godly simplicity and his peaceable disposition recommended him to the respect of all who were closely acquainted with him. He had an ardent thirst for knowledge, and by the diligent cultivation of his mind became a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. He had a mind capable of embracing the whole analogy of fath, and at the same time of accurately analyzing it. He readily discerned where truth, pushed beyond its proper limits, verged on error; and hence his expositions of Scripture were clear, distinct and full. His ministry was soundly evangelical, not metaphysically subtle nor modishly sentimental. He never substituted the chaff for the wheat, the tinsel for the gold, the miserable trappings of an empty and artificial oratory for that scriptural truth which is, "when unadorned, adorned the most." In one sentence his ministry was instructive, orthodox and useful. In the gift and grace of intercession he greatly excelled, and his public prayers were nearly always remarkable for their richness, fervency and variety. His last illness was of short duration, and much of the time he was unconscious, but when gleams of consciousness came, he was full of immortal hope, and could say in the language of Charles Wesley—

"By death and hell pursued in vain,
To thee the ransomed seed shall come;
Shouting, their heavenly Zion gain,
And pass through death triumphant home."

He died in great peace, April 23rd, 1895, in the sixty-eighth year of his age, and the thirty-ninth of his ministry.