

of building yourselves up in faith and charity, till now, as a people, you can look forward to the future without fear of disorganization, and as individual believers, the blessed hope, and to the glorious appearing of the great God, our Saviour. He has done a good work among you, and it is known to myself how dear that work was to him—how much his mind ran upon you, even in the mortal struggle; how often he bore you upon his heart at the throne of the heavenly grace, and what a deep interest he took in you all—in the mission schemes, in the sabbath schools, in every family, in every individual pertaining to the congregation. I am sure you can never forget his pastoral visits; his going out and coming in; his words of counsel and comfort which he spake while he was yet with you; his growing earnestness in the work, as he hastened on to the close; how much he longed for more spiritual life in the church; how grieved he was when he heard of anything like backsliding among the members; and how faithfully he warned you from this place, and preached to you the gospel of the kingdom.

His ministry has now closed; his voice is silent; his right hand has forgotten cunning; all that is earthly has been committed to the quiet grave, and his spirit is gone to God who gave it. He could truly say: "I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." It is pleasant to me to think of his earnest peaceful close; of his gentle surrender of his spirit to God; of the words of faith and hope that fell from his lips during the mortal agony; of the tender concern which he felt, not only for his little family—ever so dear to him, but for you—for the little flock over which the Holy Ghost made him the overseer. He has gone to his Father and his God; but though he is gone into the region of the unseen and eternal—though dead, he yet, like righteous Abel, speaketh. By this church, which he was the means of building, he speaketh; by these silent graves around us, over which he stood in the solemn hour when the dust was committed to the dust, he speaketh; by the Sabbath schools which he established and watched over with such tender solicitude, he speaketh; by the souls he has been the means of converting and quickening, he speaketh; by the holy memories of his quiet and beautiful life—his going out and coming in for the five years, he speaketh; by his own silent grave, where he lies with some of his loved people around him, he speaketh;—from all these memorials of the past comes that long, earnest, pleading voice: *Prepare, O Israel, to meet thy God!*