

tian ministry, for which I perceived in him many important qualifications. Mr. Burpee received his theological education at the Theological Institute, Toronto, under Rev. Dr. Lillie, and completed his course in 1855. He was married to Miss Julia Masters, an excellent lady of St. John, New Brunswick, and was ordained and entered on his first charge, that of the Gosford Street Church, in Montreal, as successor to the Rev. F. H. Marling, who had then removed to Toronto. The length of Mr. Burpee's stay at Montreal, I cannot state, nor the causes of his removal, first to Cobourg, and afterwards to Yarmouth, N. S., and finally to the United States. These matters lay altogether between his Divine Master and himself. Mr. Burpee accepted ministerial engagements first at Abington, and then at Housatonic, both in Massachusetts. It was at the latter place that he died on the 1st December, 1873. It was occasion of intense and painful interest, when, last fall, I unexpectedly heard that my poor friend had been prostrated by sickness for some fifteen months, but a cause of great satisfaction to be assured by his own pen that his only anxiety was that the will of the Lord be done; and afterwards to learn from Mrs. Burpee and her sister that not one murmur, but that continual expressions of submission, confidence and thankfulness passed his lips. Mrs. Burpee's name is now registered in God's book of widows. Her orphans are God's orphans. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labours and their works do follow them." We shall all stand before the judgement seat of Christ. Only righteous, merciful, glorious Judge, be it so. Amen

J. P.

TORONTO, Décembre 18th, 1873.

## REV. JAMES MIDDLETON.

The subject of this notice was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, on the 28th of March, 1788; and died, of bronchitis, at Salem, near Elora, Ont., on the 28th of November, 1873. He had therefore lived nearly 86 years, about thirty-five of which were spent in Canada. Not

having held the pastorate of any of our churches, nor having connected himself with our Union (of which, however, as well as of all our denominational societies, he was a devoted friend), he was not generally known to the body; yet he was both loved and honoured in the circle in which he moved, as was testified by the large attendance at his funeral.

Even at the age of fourteen, Mr. M. strove with deep religious convictions, which continued with varying intensity till his 30th year, when his feet were first planted on the "rock of his salvation." During this long interval, he was very zealous in seeking to establish his own righteousness, trying to conform to the "law," and to work himself up into those frames of feeling indicated by Thomas a' Kempis as appertaining to true Christian life. At twenty-four, he was induced to unite with the church of his fathers, and to partake of the "communion." Though he hesitated under a sense of unfitness, he was constrained to the step as a duty. His own words will best describe the preliminary examination through which he was required to pass:—

"When I entered the room, I found some fifteen or twenty persons standing in a circle, with the minister in the centre. He received me kindly, enquired about my health, then how business was prospering, and in nearly the same breath said, 'What is effectual calling?' I had prepared myself for this by committing to memory the principal questions in the Shorter Catechism. He then made some short remark, to which I responded. We all got our tokens, fully warranted to take our places at the Lord's table!"

At this time, and for years after, he was—to use his own language—"as ignorant of the glorious gospel of God as the untutored Hottentot." He felt uneasy, hungering for something—he knew not what, nor how to get it. At last, in the good Providence of God, he was led to hear Dr. Philip, who was just on the eve of entering his missionary service in South Africa; and from his lips, Mr. M. first heard the gospel of liberty, which to him, was as life from the dead. Henceforward Christ was all to him; he found in the Redeemer what his soul had been longing