

The Christian Helper.

A BAPTIST MONTHLY JOURNAL.

"Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy." II. Cor. 1: 26.

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THE LATE DAVID BUCHAN, Esq.

Died.—At his residence Halcyon House, Yorkville, on the morning of Wednesday October 17th, DAVID BUCHAN, in the 71st year of his age.

Among the chief promoters and warmest friends of this JOURNAL was the late David Buchan, Esq.

A month ago he informed us of the death of his friend Dr. Henry C. Fish, of Newark, N. J., and requested that some brief notice of his life might appear in the October HELPER. Little did we dream in fulfilling that wish that so very soon—in our very next issue—we should record the fact that he too had been summoned—another "strong heroic soul"—into the immediate presence of the Saviour he so much adored and so long and faithfully served here on earth.

He "walked with God; and he was not; for God took him—"

"—to join with the ransomed.
Singing upon the other side."

The manner and circumstances of Mr. Buchan's decease were made familiar at the time through the daily papers, and also in the columns of our own denominational newspaper, the *Canadian Baptist*, and we need not therefore refer to them now. The funeral sermon preached by his beloved pastor, containing a brief sketch of his life and Christian labours, will be found in full in our columns.

Among the many, very many kind and consoling letters of Christian sympathy forwarded to the bereaved family the following are of a somewhat public character and interest.

RESOLUTION OF THE PARIS BAPTIST CHURCH.

The above church was organized the 1st day of January, 1843, with a constituent membership of five persons:—Mrs. Buchan, Senr., David Buchan, Mrs. David Buchan, Mrs. John Evans, Senr., and Mrs. Chittenden, (mother of George Chittenden of Brantford). All these have been removed to the church above except Mrs.

Evans, at present a very active and much esteemed member of Alexander Street church, Toronto.

The following address of sympathy has been sent by the Paris church.

To the members of the family of the late David Buchan, Esq.

We the members of the Baptist church at Paris having heard of the death of your honoured and lamented father, beg to convey to you the assurance of our deep and sincere sorrow and sympathy with you in this your most sudden bereavement,

We cannot but remember that our departed friend was one of the constituent members of the Baptist church in this town, where he lived for many years; and that to his heroic and unwearying love, when friends were few, and difficulties all but insurmountable, much of its present prosperity is to be traced; and also that through him we possess the beautiful and substantial edifice in which we now worship.

God has taken him, but his name will ever remain among us as a sacred memory and stimulus to every good work.

Permit us to assure you of our high esteem of him, as a frank, generous, open-hearted Christian brother, and one whose chief thought was the welfare of his fellow men, and the extension of our beloved denomination.

Commanding you to the tender mercies of the God of Israel, "the God who healeth the broken hearted," and praying that you may be an unbroken family where there is "no more death." We are, in much sorrow, Yours on behalf of the church.

JAMES GRANT, *Pastor.*

HENRY MOYLE,
WILLIAM MOYLE,
STEPHEN DADSON, *Deacons.*

Paris, Oct. 31st, 1877.

RESOLUTION OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF ONTARIO.

The following tribute to the memory and worth of its late President, included in the report of the Committee on Obituaries, was unanimously adopted at the recent meeting of the Convention:

"In the midst of life we are in death."

"Our late honoured President, D. Buchan, Esq., anticipated this session of the Convention with great pleasure, and prepared for the meeting with assiduous care. We were happy to see his genial face and receive his warm and honest grasp of welcome, during the Conference which immediately preceded this Convention. On the afternoon of Tuesday he was among us. Though he had reached his three score and ten years, "his eyes were not dim, nor his natural force abated." That evening he entertained his guests with genial hospitality, and then was starting with them for the meeting of the Board over which he was to preside. But e'er he had crossed the threshold of his own door, he was smitten down with apoplexy, and in the early dawn of Wednesday "he

was not, for God had taken him." Only the brief hours of a single night intervened between his strong, vigorous and cheerful work for Christ on earth, and his "being with Christ in heaven."

From the establishment of the Convention Bro. David Buchan was a firm and generous friend of Home missions. But his interest grew with his years. We owe him our deepest gratitude for his enthusiastic absorption in the duties of his office the past year. The Convention never had a President who bestowed on its work more thought, or attended its Board meetings with more regularity. Whatever he did for the cause of Christ he did well. We feel his removal as a loss to the denomination in all its works and counsels. In submitting to the mysterious but wise and loving decree of our Heavenly Father, we thank Him for giving us a brother so strong in principle, so intelligent in conviction, so prompt in action, so generous and systematic in giving, so honourable in purpose and so warm in heart."

CHURCH ETIQUETTE.

There are certain rules governing society the breaking of which is invariably considered a breach of good manners, and a matter to be avoided by all those who wish to be considered respectable.

As a rule these undefined though well understood laws are faithfully carried out, although in many cases we fear that habit and fashion have more to do with their fulfillment, than any real love of politeness itself. The proof of this is to be found in the fact that in many cases where this unwritten code is not so strictly defined, people will not scruple to do things that they would hesitate to do under other circumstances, and in less public places. Thus the young gentleman who would never for a moment think, when visiting a private house, of violating any of the common rules of etiquette, has no hesitation whatever in coming into God's house when convenient (even though late), accepting the seat some kind hearted member has inconvenienced himself to provide him, and then, in the middle of the service, deliberately insulting both minister and congregation by abruptly, and in many cases noisily stalking out of the church.

This gross breach of church etiquette we are sorry to say is visibly on the increase. Whether it arises from want of power on the part of the preacher, or capacity on the part of the listener, we cannot tell, the result however is, beyond question, interruptive to the speaker, annoying to