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THE REV. DR. DOUGLAS.—A MEMORIAL SERMON.\*

BY THE REV. DR. POTTS.

“An eloquent man and mighty in the Scriptures.”—Acts xviii. 24.

“KNOW ye that a prince and a great man is fallen in Israel?” Yes, you know it, and it is sadly known to-day all over this North American continent, and far beyond its bounds. The prince and great man of our Methodist Israel has fallen, but fallen in harmony with his oft-repeated desire:

“My body with my charge lay down,  
And cease at once to work and live.”

A minister is a gift of Christ to His Church. A richly-endowed minister is God's greatest gift, if he be a true man, who is as good and consecrated as he is intellectually great. The ministry as an institution is for the Church, and it is for the Church in its individuality of character, of talent, and of influence. “Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, all are yours.” It is difficult for us to think of Canadian Methodism without the presence and power and leadership of George Douglas. He was our kingly preacher, our famous orator, and our sagacious ecclesiastical statesman, or, as Lord Dufferin put it, “the Bismarck of Canadian Methodism.”

The 10th of February of this year of our Lord 1894 was a sad day in our Israel, for it was flashed over the land that George Douglas was dead. We shall see his face no more, we shall hear no more that voice which was in itself a marvellous gift of God,

\* A deeply impressive memorial service was held in the St. James' Methodist Church, Montreal, in honour of the late Dr. Douglas. The admirable portrait which accompanies this memorial is borrowed from the “New History of Methodism,” by the Rev. Dr. Hyde and Rev. Dr. Johnston, published by William Briggs, Toronto.