

Obituaries.

IN MEMORIAM.

[These touching letters which follow to our young friend's memory are gladly inserted. Being spontaneous, they manifest the esteem in which Mr. Pritchard was held, and the large place he had won in the affection of those with whom he came in contact. May his death stimulate us all. The time is short, let us work while the day lasts.—Ed.]

The following resolution was passed by the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, assembled at Keswick Ridge, July 5th:—

Whereas, the sorrowful tidings of the untimely death by drowning in the Ottawa river, of Mr. Thomas Pritchard, a promising student of the Congregational College of B. N. A. having reached us, —

Resolved, That this Union desires to express its tenderest sympathy with the stricken parents in their sore bereavement, and also with the professors and students of our college in their great loss.

And moreover, that a copy of this resolution be sent by the secretary to the bereaved parents, and also the C. I.

MELBOURNE AND ULVERTON, both congregations, especially the latter, seek to express their sorrow on hearing the account of the sad and untimely death of the late Mr. Thomas Pritchard, student of the Congregational College of British North America. About a year ago his ministry began with us. He came with a young life, and like all humble students at first, with a trembling, half-feverish hope. As a student, he soon developed promise, was popular and beloved. All marked his bright, cheerful nature and felt the inspiration of his earnest, consecrated life. One brief summer and then the preacher's crown. He who lives for Christ and mankind lives long though brief be his life. A christian lady felt his death to be somewhat like Enoch's—"He was not, for God took him." Being beloved by the old as well as the young, his faith and christian fortitude gave him growing power. One incident in his last year's missionary vacation may illustrate this. A certain person requested him to abandon a position which he had taken in respect to Divine worship and the sacredness of the Lord's Day. The deceased felt to retreat would be to do violence to his conscience and dishonor truth. Placing his foot firmly on the ground, Mr. Pritchard said, "my dear sir, do you observe that foot?" "Yes," replied the Universalist. Then, *all that foot knows is to go forward.*—With a firmness tempered with gentleness he went forward and his courage was rewarded of God.

Our College has lost a worthy student and our churches a promising minister. His heart and mind pointed toward mission work in West-Central Africa. The news will, therefore, sadden the heart of our little band far across the seas.

A resolution of sympathy was unanimously adopted by the Ulverton church, and forwarded to the bereaved parents, Mr. and Mrs. Pritchard, of Howick, Ontario.

A bishop Hannington falls at Uganda, Africa, and fifty-three offer themselves to carry on the work. May we trust another is ready to pick up our young brother's mantle. We can but hope soon our college will be

gladdened by another, who will fill up the rank broken by the departure of him who hath so soon gone to join the alumni on high.

How true! "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle." We may look across the river to yonder city, though brief the ministry.

"Life's race well-run,
Life's work well-done,
Life's crown well-won;
Now comes rest."

G. R.

Melbourne, June 28th, 1886.

MR. EDITOR,—

Permit me to add a word to what has already been said regarding our esteemed and greatly beloved friend, the late Mr. Thomas Pritchard.

In the fall of 1880, during a season of general awakening in the Howick Congregational churches, he together with three of his brothers, was brought to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus.

He soon became an active christian worker, and afterwards was easily persuaded to give up the farm for the class-room work, with a view to preparing himself for the christian ministry.

In September, 1884, he entered McGill University, and the Congregational College of British North America.

He now longed to become a missionary, and finally decided, if spared, to make the foreign field the sphere of his labors. In this work he hoped to be joined by one of his brothers. In the meantime he lost no opportunity of working for Christ and the welfare of his fellow men.

He was blessed with a large amount of "common sense," and possessed rare gifts for winning the esteem and confidence of all who knew him.

In Sunday School work he was more than popular with his class, and exercised great influence over them.

He began this good work with us in Howick and continued it in Zion church, of this city, where he made himself many friends, by his genial disposition and christian zeal.

As a bible teacher, he was very practical. His private counsels can never be forgotten by the boys of his class, to whose homes he was frequently invited by the parents, who say that they and their children have lost not only a friend but a real benefactor. His last prayer meeting address to us terminated with an earnest request for the prayers of the church, that the blessing of God might rest upon his own labors, and that of his fellow students as they went forth to preach during the summer months.

In McGill University he commanded the admiration of all classes, and was honored by his fellow students. He was sent as their representative to the inter-collegiate Y. M. C. A., which met in the city of Hamilton last winter.

While we mourn our loss, yet we rejoice for "the memory of the just is blessed." Our young friend entered college desirous of knowing more of truth and the ways of God. He istaken while others are left to pursue the noble work. Like the disciples of our Lord who walked the earth with him,—some he early called to himself.

Others were spared to see more of the glory and development of His kingdom in the earth. Yet those