

life's duties, by its diligence, by its devotion to spiritual things, by its cultivation of the mind, and of the heart of the people, has made an impression on the life of the country which shall last through many generations. And in this age when man makes haste to be rich, when ministers like others are seeking, to be placed in positions of prominence, when men are disposed to look slightly on the silent continuous forces which do after all mould the character of a people, and to forget that the whole fabric of human society rests upon the lives and labours of those who are faithful in that which is least, it is our duty to reflect upon the life of the servant of God which has been of the character I have described and pay to his memory such a tribute of honour as is just.

I have made these remarks in view of the removal from our midst by death, of Rev. Dr. Wm. Fraser, for twelve years a member, and for seven years an elder in this congregation.

It is fitting that we should reflect on this event, not only because Dr. Fraser was a member of this congregation, but on other and broader grounds. Apart altogether from his ecclesiastical connections, his life is one which has been so useful in many relations, and marked by qualities so admirable, that it deserves to be spoken of.

My acquaintance with the deceased has been comparatively brief. At the same time it has during these few years, and particularly in the closing period, been intimate. So that although I cannot speak from personal knowledge of the work which he has done in this part of the country for more than half a century, my acquaintance with him enables me to speak with some appreciation of his character. Some months ago, when parting with him before going to attend the meeting of the General Assembly in Montreal, he spoke as if we might not meet again, and among other things said: If you are called upon to speak of me after I am taken away, see that you