

OBITUARIES.

REV. CHARLES SPURDEN, D. D.

Charles Spurdén was born in London, May 25th, 1812. He was deprived of a loving mother at an early age. This led to the conversion of his father, who was an Episcopalian. The family attended an Evangelical ministry, and Charles, the eldest son, became a Baptist from conviction. He was baptized at the age of 20, by Rev. E. Steane, and joined the Church in Cold Harbour Lane, Camberwell, a step soon after followed by his father and other members of the family. Subsequently he transferred his membership to the Church worshipping in Salter's Hall, whose pastor was Rev. I. E. Giles. His father became Deacon and he superintended the Sabbath school. Here he first seriously thought of the ministry. In his 25th year he entered the Bristol College, under the faithful care of Dr. Crisp. On the 13th day of April, 1841, he was ordained pastor of the Baptist Church, Hereford. In this sphere of labor he continued until the latter part of the year 1842, when in answer to an application from the Committee of the Baptist Education Society of New Brunswick, he was sent out by the Committee of the Baptist Missionary Society to take charge of the Seminary in Fredericton. He was married, during a brief visit to England, in the year 1843. In June, 1861, he received a diploma from the Governors of Acadia College, which was entirely unsought, though he appreciated this mark of respect. His first attack of illness occurred in 1866, and in 1867 he resigned his connection with the Seminary. He was one of the Examiners of the University and also of the Provincial Training School up to the time of his death. In 1874 illness again returned, but a brief visit to England so restored him that he was able to take the pastoral charge of the Church at Fredericton, during the illness and absence of its pastor, Rev. T. H. Porter. In October, 1875, symptoms of nervous debility again appeared, and a gradual decline of health followed, which no human means could arrest, until January 13th, 1876, when he gently breathed his last in the arms of his Saviour, in the sixty-fourth year of his age. Dr. Spurdén was a gentleman of good literary attainments, of fine sensibilities, prudent, wise and modest, and a devoted Christian. His memory is lovingly cherished by his students and by his brethren generally. His life and teachings have had a salutary influence, and though dead he yet speaketh.

REV. SAMUEL BANCROFT.

Samuel Bancroft was born at Annapolis, Nova Scotia, November 12th, 1789; was converted when 16 years of age, at Round Hill; was baptized by the late Rev. Thomas Ansley, and began to preach when he was 18 years old. He was ordained at Westport, Briar Island, on the 9th of July, 1828. The Ordaining Elders were Rev. Thomas Ansley of Wilmot, and Rev. Peter Crandal of Digby Neck. In the autumn of 1831, he moved to St. John, N. B., and subsequently became pastor of the Church at Hammond and Upham. He left Hammond by request of the Germain Street Baptist Church, City of St. John, and became their pastor. In 1840 he retired from the Germain Street Church and preached in St. George, Charlotte County,