

By the providence of God, I was trained among the Independents, and with them I remained. I agreed not in every iota of their system, but I approved of it in the main; and felt nothing in it that violated my conscience, or abridged my liberty. I found also in it many advantages and efficiencies. It allowed the people the privilege of choice, and the minister a sufficiency of authority. It secured church-purity, and maintained due discipline. It promoted Christian communion and edification. It befriended, urged, and employed means and exertions for the conversion of sinners; and presented a ready and unfettered medium for the extension of the Redeemer's cause, abroad and at home. But could it not be relieved of a little of its democracy, and of its great dependence on individual suffrage? Or would a change here, in its working (it is possible), introduce an agency more exceptionable and liable to abuse? Could there not be established some power of appeal, so that its ministers, in cases of accusation or complaint, should be heard and judged by their peers, and not be left to interested, prejudiced, and ignorant arbiters? Could nothing be done to render a number of churches of the same faith and order, within such a distance, constituent parts of the *whole*, with some delegated power for this purpose, without invading their independence?"—*Jay's Autobiography*.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

THE REV. DR. BEAUMONT.

This celebrated Wesleyan Divine, expired suddenly at Hull, England, on Sunday, the 21st, January, while in the pulpit of Waltham-street chapel. The effect upon the congregation who witnessed the solemn scene, may be imagined but cannot be described. A general shriek interrupted the opening song of praise; and the dying preacher, on being borne into the vestry was found to be dead. His expectant hearers slowly and sadly dispersed, save those who performed the melancholy office of bearing his lifeless body to the home which he had so lately left a living man. Dr. Beaumont was, (says the *Patriot*,) without doubt, after the late Dr. Newton, the most popular man in the Methodist ministry. With respect to the dissensions by which the Wesleyan body has of late years been so much agitated, he was more acceptable among the people than among his brethren in the ministry, from the generality of whom, he widely differed as to the manner in which their Connexion ought to be governed. Dr. Beaumont was in the 61st year of his age, and the 42nd of his ministry, the closing years of which have been darkened by the spirit and the acts of the Conference and their consequences. As superintendent of a London district, a few years since, he suffered outrage and insult from violent and vulgar-spirited men of the Conference, because he would not join in the unholy crusade against the people and play the part of a despot. He submitted to insult and humiliation rather than retire from the Conference, and the ruling clique which have dared almost everything shrunk from "expelling" one so beloved and honored by the people.—*Canadian Independent*.

MR. JOHN M. HARDY, SURGEON, TILSONBURG.

On Wednesday, the 24th January, Mr. Hardy departed this life, aged thirty-one years. He was born in the Township of Stamford, near Niagara Falls, and there spent the early part of his life. At the age of fourteen he went to an academy in Lewiston, where he remained for three years under the tuition of the Rev. R. H. Close. He next entered on the study of medicine in the village of Grimsby; afterwards studied under the Hon. John Rolph for nine months; and then successively attended lectures in Geneva, Buffalo, and Montreal. Having passed the board in Toronto, he immediately commenced the practice of medicine at the age of twenty-four. For one year he resided in the Village of Otterville. After this he removed to Tilsonburg, in the Township of Dereham, where he continued to follow his profession with great acceptance and a more than ordinary measure of success, until sickness put an end to his labours. In the fall of 1852 his strength began to fail, and from that time his health gradually declined. He never was entirely confined until the 22nd of November last. From that time all hopes of recovery were given up, both by himself and his friends. During the last eight weeks of his life, his