

pulpit orator—the eloquence of a uniform, steady, growing christian consistency in his whole character and deportment. We have known but few christians whose life and conversation presented a more beautiful exhibition of the graces especially the gentler graces of the christian life. His religious character, too, had evidently of late years become more fully developed. Christian friends who only saw him occasionally have remarked how much he had grown in grace. His path was truly like that of the shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

While very diligent in the performance of the more private duties of the ministerial office, Mr. Stark was regular in attending the meetings of Church Courts. He did not very often speak, but when he did speak, he was always listened to with the greatest respect and attention. Sound judgment, good common sense, and prudence always characterized the counsels and views which he expressed. For many years he was clerk of the Presbytery of Hamilton, and discharged all the duties of that office with the greatest precision, fidelity and exactness.

Personally Mr. Stark was greatly beloved by his brethren in the ministry, and indeed by all who had an opportunity of knowing him. He was so unselfish, or modest, so amiable, so thoughtful of the feelings of others, that it was impossible to be in his company and not to love him. He has gone from us, leaving the sweet fragrance of many graces. We mourn his removal; but our loss is his gain. May we be enabled to follow him as he followed Christ, and may the removal of so many of our ministers, one after another, lead those who remain, to be more and more earnest and diligent in their work. The time is short; the day of work is far spent, and the night is at hand. Let us be steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as we know that our labor shall not be in vain in the Lord.

THE LATE REV. J. MCKINNON.

More than a mere intimation of his death, who is the subject of this paper is looked for. He was well known and duly appreciated in a large circle of acquaintances and friends. The intelligence of his death had an unusually startling effect on those who had been long acquainted with him. It was not only unexpected, but it seemed to bring death nearer to them, and to give a more vivid view of the importance of life, and its relation to death, and eternity. It was a call to redeem time, and to work all the more diligently while it is day, before the night cometh when no one can work.

Mr. McKinnon's death took place at Carlton Place on December the 24th, 1865, after an illness of about four weeks. His age was about fifty years. He has left a widow to mourn his loss, and six surviving children. He had three pastoral charges—the first at St. Thomas, the second at Owen Sound, and the last at Beckwith. He passed his early years in Esquesing, and attended then the ministrations of the late Rev. Peter Ferguson. While very young he appears to have had his mind seriously impressed with the importance of divine things,—and the feeling was not temporary. Having resolved to give himself to the ministry of the word, he devoted himself to the preliminary studies with great diligence and perseverance. In 1837, he passed his time in Oneida Institute N.Y. In 1838 he came to Hamilton, and put himself under the tuition of Dr. Rae, whose reputation was great, not only as a Teacher, but for the variety and extent of his attainments. Two of his fellow-students died while there, viz., Stephen Balmer and James Durno. Three or four others (his fellow students in Hamilton) entered with him Queen's College, which opened in February 1842, under Principal Liddell.