

those who, after long lives of service, have, by the hand of death, been stricken into knighthood "in this the lordlier chivalry." As a slight contribution in this direction, we present a brief record of one who has lately passed from among us, but who has left fragrant memories behind him among those who knew him best.

JAMES PATTON was born in the County of Monaghan, Ireland, on the 11th of January, 1796. Concerning his earlier years we have no information; but when about 21 years of age, he removed to the Town of Clones, a few miles distant, where he began business on his own account, and soon after was united in marriage to one who proved a true helpmeet. He resided in Clones till 1839, in which year he emigrated with his family to Canada, and began business in the City of Montreal, where he resided till his removal to Toronto in 1853. In the latter city he made his home (with the exception of short periods of residence in Great Britain and in Montreal) till the time of his decease, which took place very suddenly, on the 29th of October, 1872. Brother Patton was converted to God under the ministry of the celebrated Irish Evangelist, Gideon Ousely, and for a period of nearly 60 years his membership in the Methodist Church was steadily maintained. It is no small thing to be able to say that during all those years he maintained a blameless reputation, and that even his enemies (if he had such) could not point to a single stain upon his religious character. His official connexion with the church extended over a period of more than 50 years, during the greater portion of which he filled the office of Class Leader with rare fidelity and usefulness. With this brief reference to the leading events in the career of our departed brother, we proceed to review some of the salient points in his character, and to present those traits which we regard as worthy of commemoration.

We often have occasion to remark that physical conditions exert a strong influence upon mental moods, and that peculiarities of temperament tinge with their own hues not only our social but even our religious life. In these respects Brother Patton's experience formed no exception to the general rule. Of a somewhat reserved disposition, and with a temperament tending to melancholy, his views of life often took a sombre hue, while the same causes sometimes led him to conclusions concerning his own spiritual state far less favorable than the facts would justify. In this respect he was wont to judge himself by a severe standard, and hence he was more inclined to sit in judgment upon his own short-comings, than to take comfort from the abundant provisions of Divine grace. Still, in the sharp conflicts which grew out of these mental states, he neither cast away his confidence nor charged God foolishly.

In the maintenance of Christian principle our departed brother was unswerving. Indeed, the marked feature of his character was an undeviating adherence to what he considered the *right*. An instance of this inflexibility of principle occurred in the early part of his religious career. His removal to Clones, as mentioned above, occurred shortly after the division in the Irish