

successful and earnest efforts in evangelistic work he was the means of bringing large numbers into her membership. Among them were several who became ministers of marked ability and usefulness.

In looking back over more than half a century of acquaintance with our departed father, and at the result of his labors, we are led to the conviction that he had but few equals and not any superiors in that branch of the Methodist Church in which he spent his active life. In him the power of language and the gift of song were very largely developed. He had the faculty of clothing his ideas with a language peculiar to himself. He was one of the masters in exhortation which seems now to be one of the lost arts. With powerful appeals and burning eloquence he often aroused the conscience and captivated the intellect of his hearers, and by his sweet voice and melting pathos in song, he often seemed to bear them into Beulah land on the soft pinions of sanctified poesy.

The following circuits have largely profited, and some of them were created under God by this brother: Yonge Street, Nelson, Flamboro', Beverley, Troy, Brant, Ancaster, Barton, Saltfleet, Smithville, Canboro' and Welland. He filled up the latter end of his ministry by occupying the office of presiding elder for the period of twenty-five years, the longest term of service in that office that any man ever put in, so far as this country is concerned. It was during the time that he labored in this department of the work that he became more particularly known and distinguished as a leader among his brethren. His long experience and mature judgment made his services very acceptable and helpful to the weaker circuits and the younger men. His liberality and brotherly sympathies increased with the years, so that at eighty he was a broader and more benevolent and expansive man than he was at fifty. The various enterprises of the Church shared his sympathies, his prayers, his influence and his money. Twelve years ago his wife became so sadly and hopelessly helpless that he felt it his duty to retire from active public service and devote himself to the care of her, that her last days might be made as sunny as possible. He did the best he could for her comfort until her end, which came a few years before his own. He preached occasionally and did what he could to help the ministers in their work.

Our venerated brother closed an active, useful life by a triumphant death, on the 9th of July, 1895, and then went home to hand in his reports to the Bishop of Souls, and receive his station in the Jerusalem above.

SAMUEL FEAR.

At the time of his death the Rev. Samuel Fear was the oldest minister of our Church in Canada. He was born in the town of Shepton Mallet, Somersetshire, England, September 15th, 1802, and died in Elora, Saturday, March 21st, 1896, aged 93 years and 6 months. His parents and grandparents were Wesleyan Methodists, his grandfather being a class-leader in the days of John Wesley. At twenty-one years of age he was converted, and joining the Methodist Church maintained an unbroken connection with it for nearly seventy-three years. He commenced to preach a year or two after his conversion, and for more than seventy years was a useful and acceptable preacher of "the everlasting Gospel."