

8. *What Preacher has died during the year?*—Wm. Jolley, Sr.

THE REV. WILLIAM JOLLEY, of Albion, was born at Kilton, Yorkshire, England, in September, 1789. He lost his parents when he was only five years old; but the orphan found friends in an uncle and aunt, who were members of the Wesleyan Church, who had private and public means of grace in their house, and who watched over both his body and soul. Hence, he was brought up amidst religious influences and associations, and they exercised a salutary restraint over his heart and conduct. But when merging into manhood, he for a few years was insubordinate to God's will, and lived after the course of this world. At twenty-five years of age he was brought to God, through the agency of a Wesleyan Minister; and from that period to his departure from earth and time, he persevered in "the path of life." After laboring acceptably for some time as a local preacher among the Wesleyans, he identified himself with our Church in 1823; entered the regular ministry; and labored fourteen years in England, and six in this country with great success. Hundreds were brought to God under his ministrations, on the Brampton, Markham, and other Stations where he travelled from time to time. In the autumn of 1838 he married the widow of Mr. Joseph Stonehouse, who now mourns her loss—with his two sons, and a daughter by her first partner. The union was a suitable one, and the results were peace, comfort, and happiness in the domestic circle. About twenty-six years ago he retired from the active work, but continued to labor for souls as leisure and circumstances warranted him. He was favored with a hardy and wiry constitution, and more than ordinary mental power; and, best of all, was the subject of uniform and consistent piety. The following extracts from some of his letters to his son William will unveil his real character. In one, dated 12th February, 1860, we have the following paragraph:—"And now, what shall I say in regard to religion? I often feel my soul very happy. I have given my soul into Christ's hands; yes, and my body too; and everything I have; and I may say, in the words of Mr. Cheyne, 'If any man say, How darrest thou say the Lord is thy Saviour? the answer is, I am His. He shed His blood for me; else I should never have shed a tear for Him. He cried after me; else I should never have breathed after Him. He sought me; else I should never have sought after Him. He hath loved me; therefore I love Him. He hath chosen me; therefore I evermore choose Him. My beloved is mine, and I am His.' * * * "My dear son, let me beseech you, as you are a gospel minister, to preach Christ—a full Saviour; that can and will pardon all and every penitent sinner, and sanctify every believer," etc. In another letter, dated 31st December, 1868, we have the following reflections and experience:—"This is the last day of another year. I do not expect to live much longer; and I thank the Lord I am willing either to live or die. * * * Jesus Christ is my Saviour. I sometimes have sweet communion with Him; then I am happy; thank His holy name. Thank God, I have confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ; hence I can exercise humble faith in His merits for my acceptance with the Father," etc. In letters, dated March 9th and April 15th, of the present year, I find him giving his son useful instructions in relation to the great work of the ministry; breathing an increased devotional spirit; manifesting very great anxiety for the salvation of his son John, and his step-daughter Martha; showing an impatient solicitude to do something for the spiritual good of the masses of the unconverted by which he was surrounded; and evincing a growth in grace, and a ripening for heaven. He seemed conscious of his approaching dissolution; and spoke freely and fearlessly about the same; knowing that God's presence and protection would be granted him when passing from the seen to the unseen world: I was acquainted with our departed friend for twenty-two years, and, as far as I could judge, he tried to serve his generation by the will of God. He may have had a mental identity peculiarly his own. He was firm and uncompromising in what he believed to be right; hence at times he appeared to great advantage; and at other times, to great disadvantage. And so it is with every man that dares have the manhood to think, speak, and act for himself. Possibly, like others, he erred in judgment at times; and consequent mistakes would be the result; but we are not aware of any man who pretends to Christian infallibility except the present Roman Pontiff. The last illness of our departed brother was general decay of the constitution, accompanied with chronic diarrhoea. His death took place on Thursday, 9th June, at half-past 10 o'clock p.m.; and the writer, assisted by the Rev. J. S. Boyes, improved his death the following Sabbath.—*Albion, 5th July 1870.*

JOHN GARNER.