

ago last March. His first illness was two years ago last Christmas eve. He took a notion to walk down as far as his daughter's in the city. When nearly there, he was seized with a kind of fit, and fell speechless. He was taken to his daughter's by a friend, who chanced to be passing. The members of his family were all summoned, on the supposition that he was dying. When I went to him, he held my hand and said, 'Thank God, you are all here!' He rallied a little, and we brought him home; but his memory was gone, and never returned; nor was he able ever again to attend the public means of grace. Though suffering constantly with his head, he was one of the most patient Christian saints I ever knew: a murmur was never heard to escape his lips. He would say, looking up in my face, 'It is hard to bear, but thank God, my journey is almost ended!' His confinement to the bed covered the space of fourteen weeks. His last words, three days before his death, were addressed to our little boy, who is named after him, standing as he did by his bedside, 'God bless grandpa's sweet lovely boy!' The change

for death set in that midnight, Monday; and the following Wednesday, he passed away, like an infant going to sleep. His whole family, with the exception of one, were around his bed. The last seven years of his life were a continued course of patient Christian endurance, constantly awaiting the coming of the Lord, to join him to the loved one" (his wife) "gone before. He often spoke of her, and his loneliness without her."

He went to unite with the "Friends fondly cherished, who had passed on before," on the 24th of July, 1878. His funeral sermon was preached the 11th of August, by the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, who deeply esteemed him, and had enjoyed his acquaintance at least half a century. I had the mournful pleasure of taking part in the memorial service for my old friend, along with his pastor, Rev. Dr. Hunter, and another early friend of his, the Rev. Dr. Rose. The sermon, the number and circumstances of his family, and other interesting particulars, if gone into at all, will have to be relegated to some more permanent memorial of him than a place in a periodical.

CURRENT TOPICS AND EVENTS.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The subject of chief interest to Canadian Methodism during the month of September has been the meeting of the General Conference in the city of Montreal. The work of the first General Conference in Toronto was chiefly the organizing of the new Church formed by the union of three separate branches, and the formulating of its constitution. The work of the second General Conference is the consolidating of that organization and bringing into more harmonious action its va-

rious parts, with the revision of some portions of the constitution found by experience to be capable of improvement, and the general review of the several administrative departments. We write during the second week of the Conference, when much of this work has only been entered upon. The delegates have received a hospitable welcome to the homes and hearts of the kind friends of our Church in the noble city of Montreal. The day sessions of the Conference are held in the spacious and elegant Dorchester