

DEATH OF DR. MACLAREN.

The Rev. William MacLaren, D.D., ex-principal of Knox College, died at 3 o'clock on the morning of the 4th inst. at the residence, 57 St. George St., Toronto.

The venerable clergyman, who had held the highest position in the gift of the Presbyterian Church in Canada was a few weeks ago arranging for a sojourn at the seaside. He was then in the best of spirits, and visiting the church offices at the Confederation Life Building. In speaking of his health at that time he said that the hot weather was affecting him, but despite his 82 years he hoped to be greatly benefited by a trip to the sea shore. Before he could complete his arrangements for the projected trip he was taken seriously ill.

The late ex-principal of Knox College had a distinguished career both as a minister of the Presbyterian Church and as an educationist. He was a native born Canadian, the town of Bolton, Carleton County, claiming him as its most illustrious son. He was born on Jan. 26, 1828. His parents, David and Elizabeth MacLaren, were natives of Perthshire, Scotland. He was the fifth son.

At the Ottawa Grammar School and Toronto Academy, William MacLaren gave early promise of distinction in the sphere of learning, and availed himself of the opportunity to take a theological and arts course. He was ordained to the Presbyterian Ministry in 1853, and inducted minister of the Presbyterian Church at Amherstburg, Ont., where he remained for four years. The young preacher's fame had become widely recognized by the people in Canada and the United States, and in 1857 he was induced to accept the pastorate of Knox Church, Boston, Mass. since known as Columbus Avenue Presbyterian Church. An invitation from the Belleville, Ont., Presbyterian Church to the pastorate there led to his return to Ontario, and he remained at Belleville for 11 years.

In 1870, Knox Church, Ottawa, succeeded in securing him as pastor, and he ministered there until his coming to Toronto as a member of the faculty of Knox College in the year 1873. During these three years he lectured in apologetics in the Montreal Presbyterian College.

For the past 36 years he has been closely identified with Knox College, and on the demise of the late Principal Caven in December, 1904, became acting principal and chairman of the senate of the college, which position he held with great acceptance until the appointment of Rev. Alfred Gandler, as principal in November, 1908.

His professional chair at Knox College was that of systematic theology, his best energies being devoted to a course of lectures on the gospels and the life of Christ. He received the degree of D.D., from Queen's College, Kingston in 1883, and of LL.D. from Toronto University in 1906.

Rev. Dr. MacLaren was a picturesque figure, and active member of the Presbyterian General Assembly. He was for 16 years convener of its foreign mission committee. In 1884 he was elected moderator of the General Assembly of Canada.

He was closely identified with the work of the Ewart Missionary Training Home on Charles street. He held the position of chairman of the board ever since the founding of the institution 12 years ago.

He was a member of the congregation of the Bloor street Presbyterian Church, and only last month assisted the pastor, Rev. Dr. Wallace, at the communion service.

In theology the late Dr. MacLaren was of the frankly conservative type, with a firm grasp of the fundamentals of reformation principles, according to the tenets of Geneva, to the elucidation of which he brought much penetrating insight and the resources of a broad and tolerant scholarship. Without any wavering from positions which he believed were bound up with the fundamental bases of the Christian faith, in controversy none could accuse him

of unfairness, or lack of the courtesy to an opponent which should mark a broad minded Christian gentleman. His relations with the other members of the college staff and with the staffs of the other theological colleges were always of the most amicable character, and none will miss him more than his former academic colleagues.

The Funeral.

The funeral on Friday afternoon was largely attended, not only by citizens of Toronto but by friends from many parts of Ontario and Quebec.

At 2.30 a private service was held in the house at 57 St. George st., among those present being the following relatives: Rev. David MacLaren, Sheriff Mowat, Mr. Mac. Mowat of Toronto, Rev. Alex. MacLaren of Hamilton, Mr. David MacLaren, Dr. Henry MacLaren, Messrs. John MacLaren, Charles MacLaren and J. P. MacLaren of Ottawa, Mr. Arthur Mowat of Edmonton, Mr. P. McL. Forin of Belleville, Mr. W. C. MacLaren and Rev. A. Cameron of Brockville, Mr. A. MacLaren of Buckingham, Messrs. Douglas MacLaren and Alex. MacLaren of Barrie.

The pallbearers were: Messrs. William Davidson, K.C., John Wanless, D. Fotheringham, G. C. Robb, William M. Riddell, John Harvie, Dr. Sommerville, and Dr. Duncan of Toronto.

In accordance with the wish of the family few flowers were sent, but among the floral tributes which lay on the casket were beautiful wreaths from the Chinese Christian Endeavor Society and the Session of Bloor street Presbyterian church, of which the Emeritus Principal was a member.

Service in Church.

With pulpit and organ draped in crepe and pews and galleries filled with mourners representative of the Presbytery, the church as a whole, and various public bodies, Bloor street Presbyterian church was the scene of a solemn and impressive service conducted by Rev. Dr. Wallace, the pastor of the church of which Dr. MacLaren was a member, and assisted by Professors Kilpatrick and Ballantyne, who were intimately associated with the late Emeritus Principal in his work in Knox College, and by Rev. Dr. R. P. MacKay, Secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee, and Rev. Dr. Fletcher of Hamilton.

The members of the Toronto Presbytery assembled in the lecture hall and entered the church in a body.

Among the outside ministers present were: Rev. W. A. J. Martin, Brantford; Rev. J. G. Potter, Peterborough; Rev. D. A. Thompson, Hastings; Rev. E. Scott, England; Rev. A. A. Scott, Carleton Place; Rev. T. E. Dunn, Ridgeway; Rev. W. Amos, Aurora; Rev. Jonathan Goforth, China; Rev. Dr. Gordon Quigg, Renton, Scotland; Rev. A. G. Cameron, Brockville; Right Rev. Bishop W. D. Reeve, Toronto; Rev. J. McL. Forin, Belleville; Rev. A. R. Barron, Highland Falls, N. Y.

Professor Ballantyne's Tribute.

The casket having been carried into the church and placed on trestles in front of the choir, the congregation sang Dr. MacLaren's favorite hymn, "Fight the good fight," and Professor Kilpatrick read from the Scriptures, after which Professor Ballantyne paid a loving tribute to the work and worth of the deceased. To attempt to sketch the life of Dr. MacLaren, he said, would be to tell the story of a large part of the history of the Presbyterian Church. He lived in a time of expansion, a time when great responsibilities were undertaken, when many new movements were initiated, and in all these he bore a conspicuous part. Speaking more particularly of his work in connection with Knox College, Professor Ballantyne said Dr. MacLaren firmly adhered to the Reformation type of doctrine. It never occurred to him to invent a new doctrine, He was free from the tendency to which some professors were exposed, of striving after the novel. He believed what he found in the Bible. A great deal could be said of the service Dr. MacLaren rendered in the more general work of the Church.

They all knew what he had done for the cause of foreign missions. His active life was cast in a time before the specialization that had taken place in more recent days, and no man's work was heard more gladly than his, not because he could debate or could see to the heart of question as few men could, but because all recognized his honesty and thorough integrity. His character was transparent and clear as the mountain air. He had no policy, no concealments, no evasions no duplicity. He could read, intuitively almost, the thoughts of his mind and heart. Those who had worked beside him knew him as a man of prayer, as one who by prayer adjusted himself to all the affairs, great and little of each day's work, and as a man of sympathy, upon whose heart was the burden of a sinful, suffering world. He had no eccentricities. There was a marvellous unity in his character. Above all, they felt that the man himself was greater than anything he said or did.

What the Church Has Lost.

"All that Dr. MacLaren meant to the Church, College and country," said Rev. Dr. Wallace, "it is not yet possible for us to fully estimate, but I venture to say that of all the great men which the Presbyterian Church in Canada has had, none was really greater than Dr. MacLaren." It might be that there were others of greater parts, of wider scholarship, yet, for high, Christian courtesy, for unabashed honesty, for utter goodness of life he has had no superior. With the strongest Calvinism, perhaps because of it, there beat in him a heart of the greatest tenderness and warmest love. He simply overflowed with genuine kindness and good feeling. It was foreign to his very nature to dissemble or to resort to subterfuge. He was honest and lead-hearted as the day, and if tenderness and principle and self-sacrifice characterized Dr. MacLaren, so also did a high sense of duty. To know God's will and to do it was his supreme aim. Dr. Wallace closed with a sympathetic tribute to Mrs. MacLaren.

Rev. Dr. R. P. MacKay led in prayer, and the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Dr. Fletcher of Hamilton.

At the grave-side a short service was conducted by Rev. Dr. Wallace and Rev. Dr. Gilray.

Attention is directed to the advertisement of the Ottawa Valley Motor Transit Co. appearing in another column. This company affords a speedy and comfortable mode of reaching many points within twenty-five miles of the capital—Such as Richmond, Metcalfe and Kenmore. The service is good—a vast improvement on the old stage conveyance which it supercedes. This new enterprise is under the energetic and able management of Mr. John Macdonald, who is rapidly making it a great success.

BOWLER'S SEPTEMBER TOUR.

To the Pacific Coast via Grand Trunk Railway System.

Mr. E. C. Bowler of Bethel, Me., has arranged another Pacific Coast tour via the Grand Trunk Railway to start from Portland, Me., and Boston, Mass., on Tuesday, September 7. This tour has been arranged to answer a demand for a low price tour to Seattle. It will be via the Grand Trunk system to Chicago, C. M. & St. P. to Minneapolis, with a stop of one day, the N. P. to Seattle, stopping six days, boat across Puget Sound to Tacoma, N.P., to Portland, Ore., the Oregon Short Line to Salt Lake City, stopping one day, the D. & R. G. to Denver, stopping several hours at Glenwood Springs, a day at Colorado Springs and a day at Denver, the C. R. I. & P. system to Chicago with a day's stop, thence the G. T. to original starting point with a day at Niagara Falls. A provision has been made whereby any who desire to include San Francisco and Los Angeles in the itinerary may do so. For information, address E. C. BOWLER, Bethel, Me.