

## HON. C. R. AYRE.

THE Conference desires to place on record its deep sense of the loss which the Methodism of Newfoundland has sustained by the death of the late Hon. C. R. Ayre.

Introduced in early manhood by a spiritual truth into this section of the Church of Christ, he found a home therein for nearly half a century, till the Master called him to the home above "to be a pillar in the temple of our God to go out no more."

As a Christian his Christianity ennobled him in the various walks of life. Successful in business, in which Christian principle was firmly maintained and manifested, he held his wealth as the Lord's Steward, and by gifts of striking liberality, as well as by gifts in which the left hand knew not what the right hand did, he diligently discharged the duties of the faithful steward.

As an official of the Church, what he did he did with all his might. Elected a member of the General Conference of 1882, he attended its Session in Hamilton and took a lively interest in the proceedings, especially that of Methodist Union.

On the introduction of laymen, into the Annual Conference, he was elected a member, and each succeeding year was honored by his brethren with a seat in the Annual Assembly. As a Methodist from choice and conviction he was true to his own Church and delighted in her prosperity; but in the Spirit of a true Catholicism with open hand and liberal heart he encouraged the evangelistic and philanthropic schemes of other denominations.

Our Educational work, both elementary and higher, found in him an active worker and a generous benefactor.

The fatherless were not forgotten and it was the holy ambition of his later years to erect an Orphanage where these bereaved ones might find a home, and obtain a training whereby they might be the better fitted for life's great battle.

He was not however permitted to carry out his noble purpose, but in the disposition of his property made ample provision for the accomplishment of what he would have done if his life had been prolonged. Ere long the institution will arise and many as they enjoy its privilege will bless the memory of the departed. We miss sorely his presence, his sympathy, his counsel and mourn his departure; but we thank God for the grace that was manifested in a life spared so long.

The Conference also desires to tender its respectful and Christian condolence to the widow and family of our departed friend, earnestly praying that the sharpness of the stroke may be lessened with the process of the years and that at last, in the Father's House, there may be a blessed re-union.

Entered  
Ministry.

1873

1871

1873

1828

1884

1856