

from the first with additions to its membership. The first year of its history it increased to thirteen; three years after it had reached the number of forty. Up to this date the Waterford church was not connected with the denomination; but in the year 1850, through the influence of its pastor, it was received into the Grand River Association, as a regular Baptist church. From this time the progress made was steady and gratifying; and when at the end of over thirty-five years the pastorate closed by the resignation of Mr. Slaght, the membership numbered three hundred and sixty. At the same time he had been the leading spirit in the erection of our pleasant and commodious house of worship, which was dedicated free from debt. This certainly was a remarkable work; especially when we remember that the young student, fresh from the Seminary, had nothing to begin with in the way of church or congregation; and that the work was done at his own home, and among his own neighbors.

In looking over the career of our departed brother, and in seeking to account for his success, the following points will, I think, impress themselves on those acquainted with him.

Mr. Slaght was, in the first place, endowed with intellectual powers of a high order. He had a mental grasp, an alertness of mind that would have borne him to the front anywhere. He was a clear and forcible speaker; and used, both in public discourse and in private conversation, exceptionally good English. Mr. Slaght possessed also a pleasing personality. He was friendly without that offensive familiarity which we sometimes see, and which only "breeds contempt." He never forgot that quiet dignity, that self-poise which befits a Christian gentleman, and is especially becoming in a minister of the gospel. And yet he was every body's friend; and sought every opportunity to show his sympathy for, and interest in young and old, rich and poor alike.

Mr. Slaght had wonderful faculty for getting hold of men, and bringing them into the church. He worked along this line: Every person in the community ought to be a Christian, and ought to belong to that particular Baptist church of which he was pastor; and he left no stone unturned to bring about these results. Here is one illustration. A young man came to the