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I.—LITERATURE OF MISSIONS.

FALLEN ASLEEP—REV. JAMES M. SHERWOOD, D.D.

Like a winter avalanche in the Engadine—sudden, swift and inevitable—Death came to our beloved associate editor, on October 22d. He had been, as usual, at the weekly prayer service, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, the week previous, and had spoken—all unconsciously—his last public words. At the close of a brief, but earnest and impressive address, he faltered a little, said, "Let us pray," and sank back into his seat, speechless. He was tenderly borne to his home, and, after a few days of flickering flame, life's lamp went out so quietly that the exact moment was scarcely perceptible—let us not say "went out," but was transferred to another sphere to burn and shine forever.

This departure withdraws from earthly scenes a man who had a large circle of friends. He had been preacher, pastor, author, editor, and in every sphere of activity he touched nothing which he did not adorn. He was not cut off prematurely, for he was in his seventy-eighth year; and his years were packed with various and versatile endeavor.

Born in Fishkill, N. Y., in 1813, he had only a common-school education, and entered, as clerk, his father's store in Johnsville; until, feeling in him the resistless impulse toward the ministry of the Gospel, he, with his father's consent, turned his steps toward the pulpit, was taken under care of presbytery and studied theology with the pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Fishkill, Rev. Robert G. Armstrong. At the age of twenty-two, he was licensed to preach, and subsequently served churches in Mendon, N. Y., New Windsor, N. Y., and Bloomfield, N. J. In each of these churches he left his mark both as a preacher and a pastor. He also acted as evangelist for a term in Milford, Conn.

After his health seemed to demand a change of occupation he found a fitting sphere for his busy brain and ready pen in the great republic of letters. His work as editor of the *National Preacher*, *Biblical Repository*, *New York Evangelist*, *Eclectic Magazine*, *Princeton Review*, *Hours at Home*, *Homiletic Review*, and *MISSION-*