

engaged as a teacher in several places—for some time at Preston, and afterwards at Galt, where he held the honourable and useful position of Head Master of the Central School. As a teacher, Mr. Baikie was very highly esteemed both by pupils and their parents. His own mind was well cultivated, and he was methodical, industrious, and energetic. While at Galt, he enjoyed the privilege of attending the ministry of the late Dr. Bayne, a privilege which he highly valued, and which no doubt was the means of confirming and maturing his religious and spiritual character.

His health having improved, he resolved to carry out his early-formed purpose of studying for the ministry, and accordingly entered Knox College in October, 1862. Having passed through the Theological curriculum, with credit to himself and satisfaction to his Professors, he was licensed by the Presbytery of Toronto to preach the gospel in the summer of 1865, and shortly afterwards received and accepted a very cordial call from the congregation of West Church, Toronto. He was settled as the first minister of that congregation on the 12th September, 1865. Immediately after his induction he began to cultivate, with the conscientiousness and assiduity characteristic of him, the new field committed to his care; and it soon became apparent that his labours were not in vain. The congregation, somewhat discouraged by disappointments previously experienced, soon increased, families were visited, a bible-class formed, and not a few were added to the membership of the church. Everything pointed to a long ministry of usefulness and happiness. He was highly esteemed as a Preacher. The people were contemplating the enlargement of the church. All the arrangements were made for a social meeting of the congregation, to celebrate the anniversary of his settlement among them. But God was pleased to cut short the work of his servant, and to break the tie between minister and people. In the month of September, shortly after returning from a visit to friends at Galt, and elsewhere, he began to suffer from dropsy. Everything was done that skill and kindness could do; but, although he was for most of the time cheerful and hopeful, there was no decided alleviation of his disease. He occasionally suffered severely, but was enabled patiently and believingly to look to the Saviour. He died on the evening of Sabbath, 9th Dec., and on the following Wednesday his remains were removed to Galt for burial, followed to the Railway station by the brethren in Toronto, the professors of Knox College, the students, and a large number of the congregation, and other friends. Appropriate sermons were preached on the following Sabbath, in the West Church, by Rev. Dr. Burns, and Rev. J. M. King. Mr. Baikie, who died at the early age of 37, left a widow (daughter of M. C. Lutz, Esquire, Galt) and one young daughter, who have lost in him a most affectionate husband and father. May God's promises be fulfilled in regard to them. May He be a husband to the widow, and a father to the fatherless.

Our brother's death speaks loudly to us all—to the old and to the young. "The judge standeth at the door." At such an hour as we think not, the Son of Man may come. Before we have well begun to carry out our plans, the call may come, "Give an account of thy stewardship." May we be all found earnestly and devotedly serving God in our day and generation.

We deeply sympathize with the congregation deprived so unexpectedly of an able, active, and affectionate pastor. We trust that they may experience the special care and oversight of the Chief Shepherd, and that, in His good time, they are long be blessed with another faithful servant of God, to break unto them the bread of life.