

Mr Billington was born at Kirkham, and educated at Ushaw, where we believe he was also ordained by Dr Smith. His brother, the Rev Thomas Billington, holds the distinguished office of Vicar General of the Yorkshire district. Mr Billington did not lack means of preferment, for his judgment and knowledge gave value to his opinion, and secured for him regard and deference on the part of his brethren in the conference, and the esteem and personal friendship of the late, and present bishops, Drs Brigs and Sharples; but anxious solicitude for the spiritual welfare of others left little room in his thoughts for his own worldly advancement. He occupied an extensive sphere of usefulness, and a deep-seated humanity filled his heart which prompted him to deeds of mercy, which kept him always full handed. His first mission was in Yorkshire, previous to his removal in Mulberry-street, in this town, which took place about seventeen years ago. In the latter place he succeeded the Rev D Hearne (now of St Patrick's) with whom he had previously lived about four years. During his ministration in Mulberry-street, amongst other schemes for benefitting the community, he placed himself in conjunction with his coadjutor, the Rev. H. Gillow, the head of an educational society, whose exertions were the means of establishing on a useful and stable basis no less than ten Sunday and day schools, almost entirely on a charitable principle. About seven years ago occurred that startling catastrophe—the falling in of Mulberry-street chapel—which had so serious an effect upon the mind of Mr Gillow, notwithstanding the kind efforts of Mr Billington to rouse and cheer him. It will be remembered by many of our readers, that that accident occurred about the hour of eleven on Saturday evening. Twelve short hours after, and the congregation would have inevitably been buried in the ruins of their own sacred edifice. Mr Gillow died soon after; and Mr Billington continued to minister in Mulberry-street till he obtained his Salford appointment, about two years ago. It was the hope of his admiring communicants that he would one day have ministered in the handsome edifice, now in the course of erection in the last-mentioned borough; but Providence willed it otherwise. In April last his fatal malady became apparent, in symptoms of enlargement of the heart, which brought on consumption, and ended in death as above stated.

His body was removed from the house where he died on Monday, and placed in the middle aisle of St Augustine's, Granby Row, where it remained till it was interred. On Tuesday night, solemn lauds were said in the chapel. On Wednesday morning early, a great number of persons of all ranks, assembled in the chapel to pay the last tribute of respect to his body; and at a half past ten, a solemn high mass was offered by the Right Rev Dr Sharples, coadjutor to Dr Brown, V A, Lancashire District; the Right Rev Dr Briggs, V A, of the Yorkshire District, was also present, assisted by the Rev Dr

Hearn, Deacon, and the Rev Fielding Whittaker, Sub-deacon, presbyter assistant.

The following clergymen took part in the services at St Augustine's:—The Very Rev. W. Turner, Rev Messrs Rosskell, D D, Rimmer, D Hearne, McCormick, Peduzzi, Formby, Cantwell, Cruskell, Green, Sheean, J F Whittaker, and Baron, of Manchester; Newsham, Kenrick, Parker, Wilkinson, of Liverpool; Ward, Runcorn; Toole, Charley; Dauber, Mawdsley; Carr, Aighurth; Dowling, Rochdale; Dowdall, Bolton; John Hill, Southport; Peacock, Bury; Fauvell, Glossop; and several others.

The chief mourners were—Wm Billington, Esq, the Rev Thomas Billington, V G, Yorkshire District; John Leeming, Esq, J P, D Lee, Esq, J P, Wm Leeming, Esq, J Eager, Esq, M D, Charles Gibson, Esq, and the Rev C Peduzzi.

After the service was concluded, his body was removed to the vault at the south end of St Augustine's, in which are deposited the remains of the Revs R Broomhead, H Gillow, Patsons, Laythom, and Ward.

A sermon was delivered during the service by the Rev W Turner, V G, full of feeling and eloquence, to a crowded chapel; people having gathered together from the surrounding towns and county to pay the last tribute of respect to departed worth.

A few words more, and we have done. Mr Billington was the means of introducing from Ireland a class of educated men into this district called the 'Christian brothers,' who, whatever difference of opinion may be entertained as to their religious tenets, have proved themselves of great value in ameliorating the rude condition of their countrymen, who come here in hundreds from the wild and remote parts of their native land, and who, through the kind exertions of these individuals, aided by their generous patron, receive for themselves pecuniary assistance and goodly council, and for their children, at the nominal charge of 2d weekly, instruction in reading, writing, arithmetic, and every thing comprised in a good commercial education. Mr B was a great supporter of the benevolent societies, having the interests of the poor ever warmly at heart. He was, in fact, ceaselessly directing his exertions into those channels in which he could act in behalf of his humbler fellow-men. As a preacher he was ever plain spoken to all classes, never equivocating or succumbing to rank or station. More than one instance is well known, when he used the high privilege of a religious teacher—a privilege, alas! too much in obedience—to rebuke the follies and perversity of those whose education should have secured against such a liability. His delight was to establish the links and social union and feelings of Christian amity between high and low, and to this end he was a great promoter of, and frequently presided at congregational tea-parties, where his natural amiability displayed itself to