

knowing all about the hardships, privations and trials of the ministry, as he had experienced them, yet for the joy of saving souls, and for the sake of the consolations of his last hours, he would choose the work of the ministry and cheerfully endure them all. Among his last words were, "The best of all is Jesus is with me."

"How beautiful it is for man to die
Upon the walls of Zion! to be called
Like a watch-worn and weary sentinel,
To put his armor off and rest in heaven."

ERASTUS HURLBURT.

Died suddenly at Burford, after a few hours' illness, on Tuesday evening, August 25th, 1891, the Rev. Erastus Hurlburt, in the 73rd year of his age.

Heman Hurlburt, the father of the subject of this memoir, came into this country from Vermont in the year 1785. He was one of the sturdy United Empire Loyalists, the worthy sire of eleven sons, five of whom were ordained to the Methodist ministry, and two were local preachers. Erastus, the youngest of the sons, was savingly converted to God in early life. So decisive was the change that he was never known to falter in allegiance to Christ, or in loyalty and devotion to the Church of his choice and all its institutions. He was emphatically and worthily one of the old school. He regarded his beloved Methodism as approaching perfection, hence, the strictly conservative views he entertained as to its principles and polity.

Brother Hurlburt was ordained to the full work of the ministry at Belleville Conference on June 11th, 1848, and spent 47 years as one of God's ambassadors, of which 41 were in the active work. During his long ministerial life, he was stationed at Gananoque, Onslow, Gatineau, Bath, Elizabethtown, Perth, St. Andrews, Merrickville, Rawdon, Winchester, Innisfil and Meaford. At the latter place his health failed from overwork, and he was compelled temporarily to retire. After four years' rest, his health was so far restored he entered upon the Indian work, in which for 25 years he labored acceptably and successfully on the reserves at St. Clair, Christian Island, Grand River and Oneida.

Brother Hurlburt was an affectionate husband and father, and leaves a widow and two children to mourn their loss. He was a man of ripe experience, sound judgment, clear perception and extensive range of reading. Modest and unobtrusive, he was easy of access to those who sought his sympathy and advice, and many a young minister received wise and fatherly counsel from his lips. As a writer he was a frequent contributor to the *Guardian*, and had just prepared, a week or two before his own decease, an article for the *Magazine*, on "The pioneer mission work" of his late brother Thomas.

He loved the Lord's House, and was never absent from the public means of grace, when his health permitted. During the last year of his life, it was evident to his friends that he had passed the summit of the hill of life and was going down apace. Memory was becoming considerably impaired, but his quotations of Scripture were always apt and correct, and the mention of Christ's name filled his heart with holy joy. At the last quarterly meeting he attended, held at Fairfield three weeks before his death, he begged the opportunity at the close of the service, as an old man, to exhort the membership to a higher and holier life, stating his intention to present a copy of "Wesley's Christian Perfection" to each one of the leaders. On the Sabbath, two days before his death, he spoke with such singular fervor that a deep impression was made upon the members of the class in which he met. At the close of the service he spoke again on the subject so near his heart, viz., consecration to a holy life. Little did he or his hearers think that he was standing so near the borders of the better land.

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