

## CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON.

It is eminently fitting that our MONTHLY should refer to the life and work of C. H. Spurgeon, and lay its tribute of love and respect upon his new-made grave. He was the most distinguished and honored member of the Baptist denomination; his character was of the noblest quality, and his life is richly freighted with lessons and inspirations for all earnest souls, but especially for ministers.

Many are familiar with the *outline of his life*. His indebtedness to a God-fearing ancestry; his early struggle for an education; his victorious conflict with doubt, his sudden conversion; the small beginning of his work at the early age of sixteen as a lay preacher; his first pastorate of the little Baptist church at Waterbeach: his call to the New Park Street church, London, shepherded in the past by a Benj. Keach, a Dr. Gill, and a Dr. Rippon, but then small and weak; the sensation caused by the strong, fearless preaching of the youth of nineteen: the sneering criticism of the press, and the general expectation that his career would be meteoric; his increasing popularity and power with the masses; the growth of his congregation until it overflowed the enlarged Park Street chapel and flooded Exeter and Surrey Halls to the full; the erection of the Metropolitan Tabernacle as the permanent centre of his life's work: the rapt throngs of 6,000 souls that have crowded its spacious accommodations for thirty long years, as the pure, rich streams of Gospel truth continued to pour from his lips with undiminished flow; his growing weakness under the pressure of overwork and disease, and the last long struggle, until the sad news was flashed to the ends of the earth that the prince of preachers was dead:—all this can be but mentioned. And now, perhaps, there could be no finer tribute to his work and worth than the grief of all creeds and classes of evangelical Christendom, that his ringing voice is still, his pen of power laid aside, and his grand living personality lost to the world.

Mr. Spurgeon was so pre-eminent as a preacher, that comparatively few are aware how *many sided* were his *genius and work*. As an author he has just claim to the grateful remem-