# Canabian Ingerengent. 

(N円W SERI耳S.)
TORONTO, DECEMBER $1,1886$.
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Dr. HENRY WILKES passed quietly away on the morning of Wednesday, November 17th, in the eighty-secund year of his age. For some time he has occupied an unique position among our churches and in our country. To a large extent the pioneer, with the late John Roar and Dr. A. Lillie of this city, of ('ongregationalism in the Canadas, he lived to see all his old companions gathered to their fathers, and to outlast very largely the generation which followed. Burn in Birmingham, England, A. D. 1805, he came with his parents, whose eldest son he was, to Canada in 1520, and entered into successful business in M ontreal. In 1828 he put into existence a long-cherished resolve and entered the Glasgow University where he graduated, studying also in the Independent Theological School under Dr. Wardlaw. For three years he was pastor of Albany-st. Independent church, Edinburgh, when the Colonial Missionary Society was formed in the old Weigh-House chapel, the late Thomas Binney being one of the ctiviv. promoters. Mr.Wilkes, in accordance with a previous understanding, accepted the invitation of the Society to proceed to Lower Canada, and on the 24th May, 1836, was solemnly designated to the work in these colonies in the above named chapel. It was for that occasion Mr. Josiah ('ondor composed Hymn 905 in the present Congregational hymn book, "Churches of ('hrist, by God's right hand," etc. This summer our venerable father visited again the old land at the Jubilee of the Society and spoke of his work. Ah, with what feelings, as he remembered that he alone was left of that early band. Yet be could and did bear testimony to the graciousness of (zod which had ever followed him, and which now has taken him home. In the fall of that year, 1836, the church, which four years previously had been formed under the pastoral care of Mr . Richard Miles and had built for the time a neat chapel in St. Maurice-st., called Mr

Wilkes to the pasturate, Mr. Miles having retired. The site un Beaver Hall was secured in 1844, and the commodious building, which, with enlargements and rebuiluing after tire held for many years one of the most intluential and true of the protestant churches in Muntr $\sim \Omega$ l, or even in the country, was in the fall of 1846 solemnly dedicated to the service of God, the foundations having been lain the previous year. In $1 \times 70$ one of those waves of restlessness, which sumetimes sweep over large and prosperous churches, was felt in Zion, and Dr. Wilkes was retired to the Principalship of the College, which, having been removed from Turunto, had for some time met in one of the rooms of the spacious editice of old Zion. The subsequent history of this church it will not edify to follow. Our venerable father retained his membership with the old church for several years, and then withdrew to Emmanuel church, where he rejoined many of his old friends under the kind pastorate of Dr. Stevenson. The remnant of Zion at length began woik on the old lines again, and Dr. Wilkes becane its honorary pastor till his death.

Without pretending to eloquence, Dr. Wilkes' pulpit ministrations and platform endeavours -we speak from experience, for we frequently heard him while he was pastur of Zion-always riveted attention. Earuest, loving, evangelical and practical, he was never dull, and to the last our friend preserved his wonted tire. For several years Dr. Wilkes, frou acute rheumatism, which eventualiy stiffened the hip joints, has been lame: but it was a touching sight to see the old mau with crutch and stick walk out of his carriage, munt church or college steps, and cheerily $t$, his privilege or to his task. His was the voice that real the words of peace over the cuffin of the writer's muther; no hand more warmly grasped a welcome to the Union, no voice more cheerily said as we often parted -God bless you, my hrother. He has gone we follow. He has outlived all the friends of

