

DEATH OF COLONEL MOFFATT.

The sudden death of Colonel Moffatt was a very great surprise and sorrow to the Directors of our Society, and to all who knew him, for to know him was to respect him. Not only was he one of the most constant attendants at the Board meetings : but at the February meeting he was in their midst apparently one of the halest and heartiest. He took much interest in the business of that meeting, and moved the important resolution appointing the Rev. Mr. Cameron to go to Kingston, to confer with the brethren there in reference to their uniting with our Society, and after the meeting he had a talk with the permanent Secretary about his taking a run up to Hamilton to promote the placing of Bibles in railway conductors' vans. But on Monday, March 10th, he was unable to go to his office from a bad cold affecting his throat. This was relieved and he seemed quite better and wrote to Mr. Allan on Tuesday that he would be back at his office in a few days. On Wednesday forenoon, however, he was taken away very suddenly by an affection of the heart. He was born in Montreal, on the 6th of November, 1823, being the fourth son of the Hon. George Moffatt, one of the leading men of that city. He was educated at Aberdeen, Scotland. In 1845, he started on a travelling tour in India and China, partly for pleasure, but also with a view to going into business, if a favourable opportunity presented itself. However, he was not intended for mercantile pursuits, and in 1847 he entered the army, joining the Royal Canadian Rifles at Niagara. Some of our readers will remember that this was a large regiment of the Queen's regular army, made up of picked men, who had served several years in other regiments. With the exception of two years, during which he served on General Rowan's staff, he was in the Canadian Rifles all his military life. In 1863 he took command of the Regiment as Lieut.-Colonel, and in 1868 he was promoted to the rank of full Colonel.

Being appointed Assistant Commissioner of the Canada Company in 1873, he settled in Toronto. From the beginning he shewed a deep interest in the Christian work going on in the city, and he was ever ready with deeds, more than words, to give a helping hand where he saw he could be of service. He became a member of the Board of Directors of our Society in 1875, and for several years has been a member of the very important standing Committee on Agency and Colportage, and also Chairman of the Committee on the distribution of Scriptures in Railways and Hotels. In this latter capacity he was ever ready to take any trouble that he thought likely to promote the objects of the committee, and it was in this connexion that he proposed going up to Hamilton as above stated. As before indicated he was a man of deeds rather than words, but the words he did use were good and forcible. A few years ago when the last contingent of the Mounted Police were collected at the Fort, several Directors were sent up by the Board to distribute Bibles and Testaments among the men. They naturally selected Colonel Moffatt as their spokesman. He was very unwilling to undertake to speak, for his genuine modesty was as marked as his naturally handsome and