

to be first and above all things a preacher. He may be a gentlemanly fellow, very courteous, sweet-tongued and all that—he may have executive ability and be somewhat of a scholar too, but he must be a preacher. Failing as preacher he fails utterly : and so we have good right to expect of a minister first, that he be a preacher. Bro. McLaurin must have done more preaching than any of us. In his Indian work, this was his daily business. In his Canadian work when home on furlough, and while Secretary of the Board every Sunday almost he preached somewhere. And during every tour among the churches preaching was his daily occupation. Every church in Canada—perhaps but few exceptions, has heard his voice, and can testify that as to the true thought of Christ's Gospel and great power in delivery Jno. McLaurin has few equals in our ministry. Bro. McLaurin has also the teaching instinct in large degree. Early associations and training strengthened his natural aptitude. He did us good service in Woodstock College during one of his furloughs, but in this direction his labor was principally in connection with the founding and maintenance of Samulcotta Seminary. Of this institution he was president, and bore its burdens unceasingly until Bro. Stillwell went to his relief. What that college means to the work of Canadian Baptists perhaps it is too early to predict. It certainly will have a value equal to that of Ramapatam established by our American friends, and in all probability the future of our foreign mission work will find in this institution the highway to substantial progress.

But Bro. McLaurin's life work has been and will be chiefly missionary. This is the thought with which he was seized early in life and in this thought he has been increasingly held ever since. Indeed early enthusiasm has deepened into mature passion ; and with him it is certainly " this one thing I do." In the year 1869, Bro. McLaurin offered himself for foreign service to the American Baptist Union and with Mary Bates his wife, began that career which so wonderfully aided Canadian Baptists to realize their obligation and opportunity, and which sent from India such a stream of blessing upon the home churches. He was not permitted to remain in the service of our American brethren very long. The going out of the beloved Timpany, and himself, together with the burning letters from them reaching