

PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF SPURGEON.

THE foremost preacher of the world went home to God when Charles Haddon Spurgeon was delivered from his conflict with excruciating pain, and ended the long struggle with infirmity and disease. Born in Kelvedon, Eng., June 19th, 1834, he went to heaven from Mentone, France, at the close of Sabbath, January 31st, 1892, aged 57 years, 6 months and 12 days.

In the corner stone of the Metropolitan Tabernacle is this statement, made by the deacons: "In December, 1853, Mr. Spurgeon, by a surprising providence, was first invited to occupy the pulpit of our chapel for one Sunday. Having been born on the 19th of June, 1834, he was then only in his twentieth year. His preaching at once gave signs of singular attraction, and on his repeating his visits to the metropolis, each occasion witnessed the increasing interest his ministry excited. In January, 1854, he accepted the invitation to supply the pulpit for six months, three months of which only had expired when he was unanimously chosen pastor."

From the day he commenced his labors in this church, which traces its commencement to 1652, it pleased the Lord to grant a revival which lasted until the present time. London was his sounding board, the whole world his parish, and uncounted thousands of redeemed souls the stars in his crown of rejoicing. A great Brother Man has left the earth. His departure takes out of this world a vital force, a loving influence, a fountain source of religious power, with which the world has been enriched and without which the world will be very poor to uncounted thousands.

HIS BUSY LIFE.

The wonderful thing about such a life as this of Spurgeon's is what it costs the individual to grow it. The sermons, books, editorials, letters, and witty utterances withdrawn from circulation is like subtracting one of the rivers of India, that supply moisture and fertility to vast plains on which, because of them, mighty harvests are grown. From an early period of his ministrations in the British metropolis the skill of the shorthand reporter was invoked to reproduce for the devout reading world a portion of the pleasure experienced by his auditors. It was found that, contrary to what might have been expected, the impromptu utterances of the gifted boy read exceedingly