

labour at Stebbing, until failing health compelled him, in 1865, to relinquish his charge. He removed to St. Leonards, from the balmy and pleasant scenery of which he seemed to derive much benefit. For a while he was able to take some part in scholastic duties, but during the last summer it became manifest that his remaining time was short. He was recommended to visit Scotland once more, and thither he went to the house of a beloved sister, only, however, to take a last look at the scenes of his youth, and of friends he had long known. He gradually grew weaker in body, yet continued calm and cheerful in mind, until at last a distressing cough and severe congestion of the lungs confined him to his bed, and made it evident that the end was very near. On the morning of Monday, October 7th, 1867, death came and gently released him from his weariness and weakness, and on the following Monday his remains were interred, according to his own wish, in the grave of his mother, at Aberdeen. Funeral sermons were preached on Lord's day, October 20th, at St. Leonard's, by Rev. A. Reed, B. A., and at Stebbing, to a very crowded congregation, by his friend the Rev. H. Gamidge. His removal has caused a blank to many loving hearts, and excited a deep sympathy towards his widow and little children in their great loss.

Mr. Duff was a man of rare excellence. To describe him negatively, he was one of the most unassuming, unselfish, unpretentious, and guileless of men. But his was by no means a negative character—the positive side was much more marked. Few who knew him intimately could fail to notice his high sense of rectitude; for the crooked and wrong he had the utmost abhorrence; his refined and delicate taste enabling him to appreciate beauties overlooked by many; his extreme sensitiveness, exposing him to many a wound from natures cast in a rougher mould; his great accuracy and order in all matters of business and in the general habits of his life; his faith and courage never causing him to shrink from any avowal of conviction, from any course of action which he saw to be right, or from any difficulties which he might have to encounter; above all, the depth, sincerity, and devoutness of his own Christian life. He carefully cultivated his own heart, and ever sought for himself a nearer communion with his Divine Master. The truth of Christ was first applied to his own necessities before he preached it to others. Christ was truly the Alpha and Omega of his life and of his ministry too, and hence he was a man of large views and of Catholic sympathies. As a pastor he was diligent, considerate, and kind, paying special attention to the afflicted and to the young. He had resources and attainments which, with greater physical strength, would have fitted him for a much wider sphere and for larger usefulness. But he worked hard and did what he could. Seldom does Christian hope venture more readily and certainly to anticipate for any one that loving welcome and high commendation of the Master, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.”

Gleanings.

WORTH REMEMBERING—The Rev. Mr. M'Cheyne, in writing to a youthful parishioner, used the following language: “You read your Bible regularly of course; but do try to understand it, and still more, to *feel* it. Read more parts than one at a time. For example, if you are reading Genesis, read a Psalm also. Turn the Bible into prayer. Thus, if you are reading the first Psalm, spread the Bible on the chair before you, and kneel and pray—‘O Lord, give me the blessedness of the man that walketh not in the counsels of the ungodly.’ ‘Let me not stand in the way of sinners.’ ‘Let me not sit in the seat of the scornful. This is the best way of learning the meaning of the Bible, and of learning to pray. ‘Search the scriptures.’”