

Obituary.

At half-past four o'clock on Monday morning, Nov. 1st, 1886, a true mother in Israel departed this life, in the person of Mrs. Letitia Frear Miles, widow of the late Rev. Richard Miles. From data in the writer's possession the following facts are gleaned with respect to the life of the deceased.

Letitia Frear was born at Barton-on-Humber, Lincolnshire, England, on Feb. 10th, 1797. Experienced conversion at the age of 20. I have not the date of her marriage, but it must have been not more than two or three years after her conversion. The first settlement with her husband was in Brigg, Lincolnshire, for about two years. From Brigg they went as missionaries to South Africa, where they remained some eight years, when they returned to England where they remained a short time, and came to Canada in the summer of 1831 and settled in Montreal, where Rev. R. Miles organized and became the first pastor of Zion Congregational church in that city. In 1836 the family moved to Abbotsford where they established a mission church and where they remained some 15 years. In 1852 Mr. Miles received a call from the church of his first pastorate in Brigg, England; but the business prospects of a rising family were not so promising in the old land as in Canada; and after nearly two years they returned to the land of their adoption and settled in Cowansville, where after something less than a two years' pastorate, Mr. Miles was suddenly called to his rest. Cause of death, disease of the heart. Since that sad event, Mrs. Miles has, most of the time, resided in Granby with her son, Mr. E. T. Miles. Out of a family of 8 children only two survive. The youngest of her children, (the Rev. Thomas Miles,) is now laboring in the Lord's vineyard as pastor of a Congregational church in Mirrimac, Mass. The deceased lady possessed a masculine mind, and her sanctified intelligence was, from the time of her conversion consecrated to the service of the Master. A woman of large sympathies and broad Christian principles, she was ever alive to any movement which she thought would advance the Saviour's cause, both at home and in the Foreign Mission field. In the trials of pioneer mission work in Canada, her husband found her an able and worthy help-mate, who by her wise counsel and *living faith*, helped to sustain him under many discouragements. A faith that under vast strains at times, no mortal eye ever saw waver; no mortal ear ever heard a sound of distrust or mourning. She was a woman whose greatest characteristic might be said to be Christian **MOTHERHOOD**. She lived over 30 years in widowhood; during all the time manifesting the liveliest in-

terest in everything relating to the Church work Catholic in spirit, she rejoiced in the advancement of the cause in every evangelical denomination, and when extreme age and failing physical strength confined her to the house, she received every neighborly call with evident pleasure, the burden of her conversation always being the glorious gospel plan of redemption. And I believe none could leave her presence without feeling as if they had been attending a special means of grace. Her vivacity of temperament also made her a great favorite with the young people, the spriteliness of her conversation always being at once pleasant and edifying; and the name of grandma Miles was never mentioned but with the profoundest respect. A respect which was abundantly evidenced by the large concourse of people who assembled to pay their last tribute when the remains were committed to the dust. The funeral service was conducted by Rev. J. I. Hindley, assisted by other clergymen of the place: after which the funeral procession wended its way to the Congregational cemetery, and after committing the body to its native dust, the people slowly retired; leaving all that remained of this G. O. W. by the grace of God to sleep till the resurrection morn. "Many on three continents "will arise up and call her blessed."

J.

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