

region, he sends a package containing dressing-gown, vest, hat, slippers, jack-knife, scissors, pins, neck-handkerchiefs, pantaloons, cloth for coat, History of Groton, lot of pamphlets, &c. * * In his daily drives, his carriage was well stored with useful volumes, which he scattered among persons of all classes and ages, as he had opportunity. * * He purchased largely, the very useful as well as tasteful volumes of the American Tract Society and the Sunday-school Union. An agent of the latter Society writes: 'I had almost felt intimately acquainted with him, as nearly every pleasant day he visited the depository, to fill the front seat of his coach with books for distribution.'

On the first of January, 1852, he notes in his memorandum book: "My life seems now more likely to be spared for a longer season than for many years past, and I never enjoyed myself more highly. Praise the Lord, O my soul! P.S.—The outgoes for all objects since January 1, 1842 (ten years), have been six hundred and four thousand dollars, more than five sixths of which have been applied in making other people happy; and it is no trouble to find objects for all I have to spare." According to his memoranda, the sum expended for like appropriations in the last twenty-three years of his life, was six hundred and thirty-nine thousand dollars.

The last entries of his gifts—the last records of his life, were those:

"Dec. 28th.—I sent a large bundle of clothing materials, books, and other items, with sixty dollars, by steamer for Bangor, to Professor Pond, of Bangor Theological seminary, for the students. Also gave a parcel, costing twenty-five dollars, to Mrs. —, who is a Groton girl, and now, having twins, making twenty children, is very poor."

"Dec. 30th.—To professor —, by dear S., one hundred dollars. Books, and items, to-day, five dollars."

These items, recorded on Dec. 30, 1852, closed the account current of his stewardship on earth. On the afternoon of that day, his son and biographer called upon him, and found him in excellent health and spirits apparently. "He seemed," says the son, "more than usually communicative; and, although always kind and affectionate, there was, on this occasion, an unusual softness of manner and tenderness of expression, which cannot be forgotten. The last topic touched upon was the character of a prominent statesman, just deceased, and the evidence he had given of preparation for an exchange of worlds. He spoke somewhat fully upon the nature of such preparation, and expressed a strong hope that, in the present instance, the exchange had been a happy one."

In the latter part of the evening, Mr. Lawrence addressed a rather long communication to Professor Packard, of Bowdoin College, in reply to some questions in regard to Bunker Hill Monument. This letter, full of interesting facts, genial thoughts, and happy expressions, was folded, directed, and left upon his table, and contains the last words he ever wrote. His life's work was done. His son thus describes his departure.

"After the usual family devotions, he retired at about ten o'clock, and before his attendant left the room, asked a few questions relating to the situation of a poor family which he had relieved a day or two before. Mrs. Lawrence had been in an adjoining room, and on returning found him lying quietly, and apparently engaged in silent prayer. She did not, therefore, disturb him, but retired for the night without speaking. In