

his best energies to the Society, which has for its object the diffusion of the Scriptures. He was a man of excellent understanding and clear judgment, of great zeal and catholicity of spirit, of strong convictions and firm principle, of intelligent piety and large experience; and his opinions always had weight with the Committee in their deliberations, and his duties as President were always discharged with dignity and godly sincerity. For some years past his health has been feeble, but he never lost his interest in the work of the Society, and never failed to be present at our Annual Meeting. He presided at our last anniversary though in much weakness, and his references to himself were prophetic, for after a few days he was seized with a fatal illness. His sufferings were intense, but his mind was calm, and his confidence in Christ unshaken, and without a ripple of doubt he passed in triumph to his heavenly home. So "He giveth His beloved sleep." Our loss is his gain.

We have also to deplore the loss we have sustained by the death of the late Edward Cartwright Thomas, Esq., Sheriff of Wentworth. He held office for thirty-one years in this Society. He was elected President in 1844, and remained in that position twelve years, and when he retired in 1856, he was chosen a Vice-President, and held that office up to the time of his death, which took place in the evening of the Lord's Day, May 16th, 1875. Perhaps no religious institution with which the late Sheriff was connected received more hearty sympathy from him than the Bible Society. Deeply conscious of the value of religious truth, and impressed with the conviction that it was to be sought for at the fountain-head, he was always anxious that its healing waters should flow to every soul of man, that all might find the refreshment which he knew they could give. He was sincerely attached to the Episcopal Communion, but his charity was too large to be confined within denominational limits, and his heart had room for the fullest sympathy with all who loved and served the Lord Jesus Christ, and no higher bond of union, and no better field of labour with fellow-believers could probably be found than the work of the Bible Society, and to this congenial employment of distributing the Word of God he gave his ready assistance. By intelligent counsel in Committee, by liberal subscriptions, and by hearty assistance on the platform, he gave ample proof that his heart was in the work which this Society performs. His illness was short, but his bereaved relations and friends had ample proof that he knew in whom he had believed, and they enjoy the happy consolation of knowing that his faith wrought with his works, and by works was made perfect. He entered calmly into his rest, and we have the assured hope that he is numbered among those of whom it is said: "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

LASKAY.—Feb. 3rd. Meeting well attended and addresses very good, but by whom delivered has not been reported to us. Free contributions \$58., being \$5 short of last year.

NIAGARA.—Oct. 21st. After the address of the President, R. N. Ball, Esq., the Rev. C. Campbell, Secretary, read a very encouraging report showing that although the good people of the old town were feeling the general depression they were not flagging in their interest in Bible circulation. The meeting was also addressed by the Rev. W. S. Ball, of Guelph, and the Rev. Mr. Sylvester.

NORTH DOVER or Lakefield Branch held their meeting on the 28th of December, Isaac Garbutt, Esq., President in the chair. After the Treasurer's or the Secretary's reports had been read, the meeting was addressed by the Revs. Messrs. Clark, Richards and Ratcliffe, and C. J. Bloomfield Esq., and Major C. A. Boulton. The Rev. Mr. Richards referred more particularly to the Colportage work, and urged the friends not only to support the Society with funds but to hold up the colporteurs in their prayers and with their sympathy. We beg to thank the Rev. gentleman for his timely and important reminder.