

frequently drives them to lead lives of sin and shame. Miss Parsons read a paper on, "The results of the Gospel on the French people," in which we were told of the conversion of a noted anarchist by reading the sermon on the Mount. Mrs. Howett offered up prayer, and the meeting was closed with the doxology.

## OBITUARY.

MR. DAVID GRAY, SR., SARNIA.

By the death of Mr. David Gray, October 31, Sarnia has lost one of her most respected citizens and St. Andrews Presbyterian Church her oldest and most revered member, and the Session her senior elder.

Mr. Gray was born at West Calder, Scotland, in February 1808, so that he had reached the good age of eighty-five years at the time of his death. He came to Canada when a young man in 1835, and settled in Perth, where he lived for five years. He came west along with so many others from that section of country and settled in Sarnia, then a small village, in 1840, and began business in the boot and shoe line, in which he continued till near the end of his life, so that he had been a citizen for the long period of fifty-two years and saw the place grow from small beginning till it reached the position of one of the most prosperous towns in Ontario. Mr. Gray was one of those men, invaluable in forming the character of a new place, who seek to adorn the doctrine of God their Saviour, by the way they do business, so that he was implicitly trusted by all classes, and he never ceased to preach the Gospel by the way he bought and sold.

Mr. Gray was among the first of a little band of Presbyterian pioneers who met to build the first church, that stood for many a day till displaced by the present building, and he was the last of that little faithful band that had inducted such men as Hon. Malcolm Cameron, Captain Vidal, R. N., Alexander Leys and Peter McGlashan. The old brick church, that spoke volumes for the liberality of these noble men, was erected in 1841-42; the congregation was organized in this latter year, and we find Mr. Gray's name stands second on the Communion Roll that was then formed. He was ordained an elder in the year 1855 and served till the time of his death, the long period of thirty-seven years. He was in his place at our last communion though unable to carry round the elements. He set the noble example of being punctual and regular at the house of God, whoever might be absent, Mr. Gray's seat was never empty. Being also a man of fine musical taste and a good singer he led the psalmody of the congregation from the beginning till 1862, and often since then he stood in the gap and "raised the tune," at our prayer meetings and other services.

Mr. Gray was of a quiet, retiring disposition, and never sought civic honours and neither was he ambitious for office in the congregation. He belonged to the best type of Scottish Christian character, that could live his religion better than talk about it and was trained in a school now deemed old-fashioned and fast fading away. As might be expected from a life that was chiefly an influence, he was honoured in his family and had the sweetest of all a father's joys in seeing all "his children walking in the truth."

Mr. Gray was a man who had enjoyed good health all his days and scarcely had an ailment till two years ago. But though weakened by this illness he was about till within a few days of the end. He was in church the Sabbath before he died, and listened with great earnestness to a discourse on the text, "Whether ye eat or drink or whatever ye do, do all to the glory of God." On the following Sabbath he rose about noon, dressed and took a little nourishment, but feeling very weak he lay down on a sofa and passed away without a struggle. To those who stood around him it

seemed as if he had just lain down for a quiet rest. Just before the end he opened his eyes and, seeing all his family around him, said in a feeble voice, yet with distinctness, "Help me to praise the Lord for all His goodness." And then in a few moments he was gone, but so quietly was he called away that it was impossible to tell when the end came.

A large number of our leading citizens attended the funeral services in St. Andrews Church, where he had worshipped so long, and all present felt it was the burial of a righteous man. The following minute was adopted by the Session:—

"It has pleased the Head of the Church in his all-wise Providence, to remove by death Mr. David Gray, Sr., an old and respected citizen and earnest Christian, who has been identified with the Presbyterian Church in Sarnia from its beginning, and who has for many years been the respected senior member of the Court. The Session desires to record its appreciation of his long and useful life, his many valued services in the cause of religion and welfare of the congregation, which he had so deeply at heart. We bear willing testimony to his sincere Christian character, his unmistakable witness on behalf of truth and righteousness, and further we desire to put on record our gratitude to God for his goodness to our departed brother in sparing him so long to serve the Church and Session in his many works of faith and labours of love. By his removal we desire to be admonished and led to work more earnestly in the Master's vineyard. We bow with all loyalty to this dispensation that has taken from us a brother beloved and a trusted counsellor, and we pray that the bereaved family may have ministered to them the rich consolations of divine grace in their hour of sorrow."

THE Toronto College of Music has issued a very neat Calendar for the session of 1892-3, giving full information concerning the talented and efficient staff of instructors, arrangements for study and examination papers. The announcement is made that Professor Shaw has been appointed principal of the Elocution department, for which he is qualified by ample and successful experience. This finely equipped institution is doing splendid work and is certain of extended appreciation.

## WISE AND OTHERWISE.

Nearly every shrewd and wise business man recognizes the importance of securing a satisfactory investment for his spare money, and many are the channels through which such investment can be made.

The medium of life insurance within the past few years has been wisely sought by a great number of people for the purpose of securing good investments for their money. An investment policy of insurance, combining the elements of protection to their dependents in case of death and a desirable investment for themselves if they lived a certain number of years, were the great inducements which led many of them to make such investment.

It is an exception (generally speaking) nowadays to find an active healthy man of whatever calling or profession, who does not carry a policy of insurance on his life: those who have not availed themselves of the advantages offered through such a medium would in a great many cases with a little forethought and consideration, save a great deal of poverty and trouble to their dependents. In case of their untimely death, by making provision for them under a policy of insurance.

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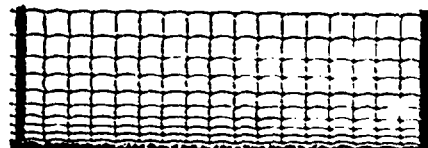
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