

OBITUARY.

Donald Finlayson, sr., for many years a deacon in the Congregational church, Paris, Ont., died very suddenly Jan. 16th, while on a visit to his daughter at Chesley, in the 59th year of his age. His body was brought to Paris and buried on the 19th. On the following Sunday Mr. Hughes preached with special reference to the death of our friend, and from it we glean the following:

Our departed friend was born in Wick, Carthness, Scotland, on the fifth day of August, 1828. He came to Canada in 1850, residing in Wellington Square (Burlington), near Hamilton, for two years. In 1852 he came to Paris, Ont., and joined the Congregational church in that place on the 5th day of March, 1854. He was one of the oldest members, constant in attendance, steadfast in principle, consistent in demeanor. On Sept. 16th, 1857, more than 28 years ago, he was elected deacon, and member of the Trustee Board in December in the same year; in all his official relations he enjoyed the esteem and confidence of his brethren. For many years he taught in the Sabbath school; and held the important office of Superintendent for a long season with credit to himself and much practical benefit and blessing to others. He had sound common sense, practical views of life, buoyancy of spirit, an apt utterance and a loving heart. He had positive views of Christian living, clear spiritual insight, quick and correct apprehensions of Scripture, and a delightful habit of talking familiarly to his friends about spiritual things. As a husband and father he was firm, thoughtful and affectionate. "His children rise up and call him blessed." The comfort of his family was one of his chief studies. He did not reside merely but lived at home, the home circle presenting to him charms found nowhere else. As a friend he was true, firm and frank in his manner, with a simplicity and sincerity that made you feel safe to unbosom your heart to him. He was a manly man. He hated shams with the same intensity with which he loved truth and uprightness. For several years past he has been unable to manifest his wonted activity in connection with the various departments of church work owing to poor health. He was a splendid hearer. Whatsoever he did he did heartily as unto God and not unto men. For some time past he and his family have known that he might die suddenly owing to the nature of the disease from which he suffered. This knowledge neither disconcerted nor distressed him—"his house was set in order." The last time his pastor met him was on the eve of the New Year, (1886). He seemed to be more than usually cheerful, and was anticipating a pleasant New Year's trip to Chesley to visit his daughter, (Mrs. W. Halliday) hoping to return all the better for it to Paris, so soon as required by his business engagement. "Man proposes but God disposes," and so it came to pass that after spending about two weeks of very delightful association with his relatives and friends in the above place, that on Sunday morning, Jan. 16th, after a short walk he returned to the home of his daughter, sat himself down in an easy chair in the sitting room, and drawing one or two heavier breaths than usual, his spirit left its earthly house and "he was not for God took him." "The memory of the just is blessed." "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches." May God bless and comfort the bereaved wife

and family. We shall miss him much, but they will miss him vastly more. God makes no mistakes. He hath done all things wisely and well. Let us trust Him where we cannot trace His hand or see His foot-steps. "Behind a frowning providence He hides a smiling face." "We shall meet our loved ones again. "Have faith in God."

There is a world above
Where parting is unknown,
A whole eternity of love
Formed for the good alone;
And faith beholds the dying hero
Translated to that happier sphere.

Literary Notices.

THE HOMILETIC REVIEW. Funk & Wagnells, New York, lies on our table. Its review section has become a feature in the new departure of the past year, its sermonic section as well selected as ever.

Words and Weapons for Christian Workers, edited by Dr. G. Pentecost, Brooklyn, N. Y. The February number is before us with a bright new face, and what is better, full of words which are swords, balm, light and love. 28 pages monthly, \$1 per year.

WIDE AWAKE (D. Lothrop & Co., Boston,) for January is a superb number. "Through the heart of Paris" is the next best thing to being there; and "Mistress Margory's Pin Money" is a story of English life during the courtly days of the gallant Eighth Henry. Its cover is a study, and illustrations models.

We are glad to see announced the concluding volume of the TREASURY OF DAVID, which will be ready for delivery early in March. Several special advantages for securing standard works cheap are advertised in the January number of the Review and are worth looking over. This firm has conferred great benefits on our hard toiling, poorly paid clergy.

The Pulpit Treasury, E. B. Treat, New York. February number is on our table. There is an article on Hymn reading in the pulpit, we would commend to all slovenly readers; Dr. Schaff has a brief word on the confession of St. Augustine; the sermonic and prayer meeting departments are full and varied. The work is fulfilling its promise of freshness and power.

THE HOMILETIC REVIEW for February (Funk & Wagnalls, New York) presents a table of contents of great interest. Dr. D. S. Gregory contributes the second article to the Symposium on "Modern Criticism." Prof. B. B. Warfield gives a highly sensible paper on the topic, "What Should be the Attitude of the American Clergy toward the Revised Version of the Scriptures." Dr. Joseph Parker, the great preacher and commentator of London, furnishes a stirring and characteristic paper on "The Guarantees of a Successful Ministry," which every preacher should read and ponder. Dr. E. R. Craven, of Newark, N. J., opens the Symposium with "How may the Ministry increase its efficiency and usefulness," and strikes the key-note of a discussion of the utmost practical moment. The Sermonic department contains one "Old-Time Sermon" in full outline, which is both curious and instructive, with several briefer outlines. The Prayer-meeting service, and Editorial sections, will be found up to mark.