

Obituaries.

BURKE—"She did what she could." As I believe there are not a few of the readers of the DISCIPLE who have known my mother, Sophronia Burke (a life long member of the church, relict of Asa Burke), many of whom were regarded by her as special friends, I would ask for space in your columns to give some information respecting her and her recent death.

She departed this life, April 21, 1895, aged 78 years, 11 months and 16 days. She died at her home in the city of Hamilton, of what the attending physician termed heart failure. Her last illness was of short duration, being less than three days, although her general health and strength had been failing perceptibly for the past two years.

Thus another soul has passed from earth into eternity, that great eternity, so incomprehensible to the human mind and so impenetrable to the human vision except through the eye of faith. But with her faith in Christ as her Saviour, His promises and His power, there was no uncertainty respecting her future.

She was born in the year 1816 in the township of Whitby, and in the vicinity of the present town of Oshawa, but before that town had a name or a place, even as a village. She was the youngest daughter of Richard and Rebecca Demeray, who came from Brone Co., Quebec, to that part of Ontario when it was little more than an unbroken wilderness. She had six sisters and three brothers, all of whom lived to a good age, but who have now all passed from earth except two of her sisters—Electa (Mrs. Rogers), 87 years, residing in Whitby township, and Margaret (Mrs. Martin), 83 years, residing in Hart, Mich. Her mother died when she was but five years of age, and four or five years afterward her sisters were married or living away from home, leaving her as housekeeper for her father and younger brother. About three years after that her father died, from which time she lived with her sister Asenath (Mrs. Joseph Burke) until she herself married. There were public schools in those times, which she attended, but they were very different institutions from those of the present day. They were, however, vastly better than none at all, and her education, although comparatively limited, was not so much so as might have been expected when considering the circumstances and opportunities of her time.

Before reaching her 17th year she married and assumed cares of which before that time she had not known.

She has had a family of eleven children, of whom one, Ozias, died in infancy, and three in later life—Clarinda Decima at the age of 18, Ida Jane, at the age of 12, and Cynthia Elizabeth (Mrs. Wallace), at the age of 35. Those still living are Harriet, Milab, Asenath (Mrs. Boomer), Anthony W., and Asa Leroy, all residing in Hamilton, Ont., George Arba, residing in London, Ont., Salathiel, residing in Brazil, Ind., and Cleophas S., residing in Albion, N.Y. She has lived to have 41 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, and has been a widow since 1883.

In the rearing of her children she always exhibited a strong parental love and an anxiety to guide each in the path of duty and in the ways of goodness. Her example as well as her advice and teaching was always good. I cannot recall even one instance in which she encouraged or consented to any evil or wrong doing, even to the smallest extent, in her own family or elsewhere, and not one instance in which her example has not been above reproach.

Shortly after her marriage she was immersed into the Church of Christ, and throughout her life she remained a faithful disciple of the Great Teacher. She had perfect faith in the doctrine that the Scriptures are an infallible rule of faith and practice. She accepted the Scriptures as the Word of God, and her Bible has ever been to her a precious book. She never appeared tired of reading it, particularly the New Testament. Often, very often indeed, have I seen her, when overtaken with sorrow or trouble, go to the Scriptures for consolation and relief, and as often found comfort and strength in their perusal. Those who read the Scriptures a good deal and in faith, can understand how they give consolation and strength to the mind; but those who do not read them cannot understand this, and in consequence have doubts respecting it. Respecting this subject, my dear mother believed that it is only those who do not read the Scriptures much who favor atheism, skepticism, or even sectarianism. The teaching in the Scriptures was to her very plain and easily understood, and now that she is gone it is a comfort to recall her expressions of faith, and to know that her soul was anchored to the Word of God and to the promises of Jesus, that where He is there shall she also be.

A. W. BURKE.

CRAWFORD Died at Fernhill, Ont., April 24th, Sarah, relict of the late James Crawford, aged 75 years, 6 months and 9 days.

The subject of this notice was among the early pioneers of this country, having emigrated from Argyleshire, Scotland, with her parents sixty years ago, and settling in the Township of Caradoc, and afterwards in Lobo, at that time an almost unbroken forest, and enduring many of the privations incident to early Canadian settlement. In her youth, while still in her native land, she manifested strong religious convictions, which, late in life, became so prominent in her character. These convictions were greatly fostered and encouraged by the efforts of her Gaelic teacher, to whom she often referred as laying the foundation of her future Christian life. Naturally possessed of a warm, generous and sympathetic nature, she readily found many friends to whom she ever proved loyal, and who ever enjoyed her genial companionship. Of her it may be truly said that no needy person ever passed her door empty handed, and her generous deeds of kindness were only limited by her circumstances. Over thirty years ago, she openly identified herself with the cause of Christ by becoming a member of the Disciples' church, Lobo, of which she has ever since remained a faithful communicant. Possessed of a wonderful memory, an extensive reader of the best religious books, her views were broad and liberal toward all. Thoroughly imbued with the requirements of an ideal Christian character, her mind was constantly occupied with earnest religious thought and devotion and, up to the moment that her sainted spirit took its flight to her Saviour, she was almost constantly repeating favorite scripture passages and hymns. She is survived by three sons and two daughters; to whom she has left the inestimable legacy of an exemplary Christian life, viz., Duncan, in Elmira, N. Y.; James, in London; John and Janet, on the old homestead; and Mrs. W. J. Anderson, in Strathroy.

The funeral, on Friday, April 26th, to Poplar Hill cemetery, was largely attended, showing the respect of the community; and her six nephews, John, William, Duncan and Alex. Currie, and John and Duncan McCallum, acted as pall-bearers.

"Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord, from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."

The Greater Suns.

The sun of our solar system, large as he is, is small compared with some of the suns of other systems that lie far out in the infinite depths of space. How awesome and solemn the thought of the measurelessness of the physical universe. And how awe-inspiring and yet comforting the thought that all

those systems and worlds within the range of our observation constitute a part of our Father's house of "many mansions." Concerning the size of the enormous sun Arcturus, a writer says. "If the earth were situated midway between the sun and Arcturus, it would receive 5198 times as much light from that star as it would from the sun! It is quite probable, moreover, that the heat of Arcturus exceeds the solar heat in the same ratio, for the spectroscope shows that although Arcturus is surrounded with a cloak of metallic vapors proportionately far more extensive than the sun's, yet, smothered as the great star seems in some respects to be, it rivals Sirius itself in the intensity of its radiant energy. If we suppose the radiation of Arcturus to be the same per unit of surface as the sun's, it follows that Arcturus exceeds the sun about 375,000 times in volume, and that its diameter is no less than 52,450,000 miles! Imagine the earth and the other planets constituting the solar system removed to Arcturus, and set revolving around it in orbits of the same forms and sizes in which they circle about the sun. Poor Mercury! For that little planet it would indeed be a jump from the frying pan into the fire, because as it rushed to perihelion Mercury would plunge more than 2,500,000 miles beneath the giant star. Venus and the earth would perhaps melt like snowflakes at the mouth of a furnace. Even far away Neptune, the remotest member of the system, would be bathed in torrid heat."—*Christian Oracle*.

LIST OF AGENTS.

Acton, Miss Mamie Masales.
Aurora, Miss Mary Wells.
Aylmer, Cecil Legg, Lyons P. O.
Beamsville, Ont., Miss R. Prudhomme.
Blenheim, Miss Bella Sinclair.
Bowmanville, Mrs. Geo. Butchart.
Collingwood, Ont., Miss M. E. Frame.
Erin Centre and Erin Village, R. W. Ballah, Hillsburg P. O.
Everton, Ont., Jno McKinnon.
Glencain, Ont., Miss L. Frame.
Georgetown, Chas. McKinlay.
Grand Valley, Geo. Tough.
Guelph, Ont., Maggie M. Tindall.
Huntsville, Ont., W. M. Crewson.
International Bridge, A. H. Cowherd, Amigari P. O.
Kilsyth, Ont., James Fleming.
Lobo, Ont., Mrs. E. McClurg, Ivan P. O.
London, Dr. D. A. McKillop, 671 Dundas St.
Marshville, Ont., Mrs. Ella E. Main.
Mimosa, Allan Robertson, Hillsburg P. O.
Orangeville, Martha E. King.
Owen Sound, Ont., A. E. Trout.
Portage la Prairie, Man., John Munro.
Rainham, Miss Alice Fitzgerald.
Ridgetown, Miss Nettie Green.
Rodney, John Higgins.
Rosdene, Ont., Miss Ella Moot.
Smithville, Ont., Mrs. Wm. Alcock.
St. Thomas, Ont., W. W. Coulter.
Toronto Junction, Arch. McMillan.
Toronto, J. L. Leary, 400 Manning Ave.
Walkerton, Ont., N. C. Royce.
West Lorne, Miss Bella McKillop.
West Lake, Ont., Mrs. Catherine McDonald.
Warton, Ont., Mrs. S. M. Brown.
Winger, Ont., Miss Ella C. Swayze.

Sour stomachs sweetened by the use of K. D. C.