

ten years ago, his time had been usefully employed, as our readers well know, as Superintendent of Missions, which position gave him many opportunities of keeping up the devotion and hopes of our people in destitute localities. A few months since, however, the naturally robust and vigorous frame gave way, and a full sense of his fast-failing health induced him to seek the rural quietude of Elmsdale, where, on the 22nd of February, he meekly yielded up his spirit to Him who gave it.

Without entering into detail, we give place to the following tribute to his memory, delivered from the pulpit of St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, on the first Sabbath of March :

"DIED.—At Elmsdale, on the 22nd inst., in the 75th year of his age, after a lingering illness, borne with humble and pious resignation to the will of his Heavenly Master, the Rev. John Martin, for many years Pastor of St. Andrew's Church in Halifax, and more recently Superintendent of Missions in connection with the Church of Scotland. He has now gone to receive the reward of a good and faithful servant, having labored long and earnestly in the cause of his Redeemer."

Had I seen this intimation last week, I must have taken some notice of it in last Sabbath's service, for what can be more just than that one that served this Church and Province so long should be gratefully remembered, and that he that was in labors oft, and preached in this town so frequently, should have some commendation bestowed on his memory before the recollection of his services shall have passed away, as is apt to be the case even with departed worth? But he that has just entered into his rest deserves otherwise for his talents, consistence, and long and unwearied labors in the Colonial vineyard. To begin with the last: it is upwards of 40 years since Mr. Martin entered this Province, and, till about three years ago, he has labored indefatigably for its spiritual evangelization. Whether as minister in Halifax, or as Superintendent of Missions (till enfeebled by health), he devoted his time and energies to the gathering in of his expatriated countrymen, and the building up of the waste places of Zion. He never left the bounds of the Synod but once, and that was on a mission to visit the Parent Church to procure laborers, in which object he was very successful. Whether in assisting at sacraments in settled congregations, or in proclaiming "the glad tidings" to destitute localities, his time was altogether occupied (except when engaged in his own congregation in Halifax); and he never grudged any amount of toil or work among our people in Pictou. This county can bear witness how cheerfully he obeyed its invitation when in want of services, and how, to the far-off corners on the one hand, and in the towns on the other, he labored to supply their wants. He is believed to have baptized more children than any other minister in our connexion; and if a record of his

services for these 45 years could be exhibited, it must present an array of facts at once curious and instructive. But it was not only as Minister, but as Editor he was useful. His religious paper, the *Guardian*, was devoted principally to the cause of his Church and of sound morality. For years, also, he edited our *Missionary Record*; and, as Superintendent of Missions, he drew up those admirable Reports which tended to bind the Parent Church yet closer to her Colonial daughter, if not to attach the latter still more firmly to the former. In short, for the long period mentioned, did this venerable man either write or preach, journey or plead, in behalf of his fellow-colonists. And it is not saying too much, that if it be owing to the late Dr. McGillivray that there should be a Kirk in this county, it is owing to the now departed Father that there should be a *Church of Scotland in this Province*, for he rallied its dispersed forces throughout the length and breadth of the land, and kept the flame burning till missionaries appeared. I can yet remember how pleased he appeared, 16 years ago, when one seeking the welfare of Zion came out; and how still more pleased at his return, 4 years ago, to the field of labor. In short, his devotion to the cause of his Church was great; and it was not a barren sentiment, but a devotion that cost him self-denial and energy, if not the sacrifice of means, as he is well known to have embarrassed himself by the publication of the *Guardian*. So much for his labors, which, less or more, he maintained till within a few years of his death.

II. His consistence was undoubted and true. He was staunch both to Church and State; a true Kirk minister, whatever secessions were made from her pale, or advances for union with other bodies were pressed; a firm and unalterable Protestant, whatever political partizanship darkened the horizon. And aspersed as he was for his very firmness, by those who should rather have taken his side, it was his calumniators, and not he, that deserved to be ashamed. His was a course of integrity, conscientiousness and consistency too rarely witnessed in these shifting times.

III. His talent in the ministry might be judged by his pulpit exercises, especially on sacramental occasions, when he was rich, happy and useful in his addresses. His talent as a pleader, in his success in gaining laborers for the field; and as a writer, in penning those resolutions to "the powers that be," the most admired of which were from his most loyal pen. For miscellaneous information and ministerial ability, he had not many superiors. Alas! now that he has gone, we must confess that he was not honored amongst us as he should have been. The country people honored him; the Highlanders flocked around him; they liked to see the venerable old man, with his whitened locks that bore for their Church the battle and the