

parents were pious; both being united to the Methodist Episcopal church before he was born, and were among the first fruits of her ministry in Canada. The indomitable energy of character so fully displayed in our lamented brother, was conspicuous in his youth, as well as in his later years. Through the mercy of God, at the age of eighteen years, he, with many others, became a partaker of the "grace which bringeth salvation," and was enabled to "rejoice in God with all his heart." The wholesome and elevating influence of piety gave direction and force to all his subsequent life. He was married to Widow Crawford, who became a helpmate to him through all the uncertainties of this probationary state. She is now left with twelve children to deplore their loss. During the "troublous times" of our Zion, Br. Sills entered the itinerant work, and commenced his labors, June 24th, 1837. Having passed the usual probation he was duly ordained, and occupied, with great credit to himself and signal usefulness to the church, the following circuits, viz:—Hallowell, Waterloo, Elizabethtown, Augusta, Hallowell, Hope, Tyendenaga, and Sidney, remaining in each two years, and beloved by the people of his charge on leaving.

He was a welcome visitor, a constant friend, a faithful minister, a kind father, and an affectionate husband. Fruits of his ministry are now living in every charge where he preached the Gospel, and many others are with him entered into rest. He was eminently a man of one work; the constant aim of Br. Sills was to "make full proof of his ministry." He was permitted to labor up to the close of his earthly career, and fell, as he had often wished he might do, "in the harness"—his last Sabbath on earth being spent in his place in the pulpit.—His last sermon was characterized by the usual fidelity, spirituality, and pointedness of his pulpit efforts. His career, if not brilliant and attractive, was useful and impressive; if he was not adapted to figure, he was "wise to win souls," "and many in eternity will be the crown of his rejoicing." He now "rests from his labors, and his works do follow him." His amiable bearing towards his brethren, and his efficiency as a member of our Annual and General Conferences, endeared him to all who ever associated with him in the ministry, and they cherish an affectionate regard for his memory, and deeply feel the loss they have sustained. Our brother was attacked with a very painful and violent disease, under the influence of which he labored while preaching his last sermon on the last Sabbath which he spent on earth, and on the following day he very suddenly and unexpectedly exchanged the sorrows of the wilderness for the joys of the heavenly Canaan, on Monday, December 22nd, 1851. He was interred in the family burying-ground, in Fredericksburg.