

the unregenerated, unsanctified, and unsaved he always expressed much kind and Christian condescension; and manifested a deep interest in their spiritual and everlasting well-being.

As a friend, his friendship was true, unfeigned, disinterested, unostentatious, heart-felt, and firm: and especially in his own house did his friendship, in the shape of the hospitable, assume a beautiful aspect, and appear to very great advantage. In short he combined in his private character an assemblage of excellencies, which never failed to dignify and adorn it; and which all, who knew him well, could not but esteem and admire.

As a Christian; he seemed to be fervent, holy, humble. His devotedness to God, and to the things of Eternity, specially in his later years, was strongly defined, and strikingly marked; giving, so far as short-sighted humanity could judge, decided and unmistakable evidence of his being on the Lord's side, and of his determination, through the strength of Divine Grace, to be for ever His. As a man of God, holiness seemed to be his constant aim: after its perfection he ardently aspired: and to promote its growth appeared to be his grand and untiring study. "He followed peace and holiness with all men." "His conversation was in Heaven." "Whatever things were true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and of good report," these were his, and these he cultivated and pursued. He "did justly, loved mercy, and walked humbly with his God."

We need scarcely say that on the day of the Lord, in the Sanctuary, and in the enjoyment of its Ordinances, he was very much at home, his heart in its right place, and his whole soul in its genuine, spiritual element. When the preacher prayed and wrestled with the great Angel of the Covenant, he seemed deeply to sympathize and to be all engagedness and anxiety, longing and internally crying for the descent of the enriching and soul-saving blessing. And, while the Herald of the Cross was expounding, applying, and enforcing the truths of the everlasting Gospel, he seemed all attention and interest, ever catching his eye, hanging on his lips, and apparently absorbed in his great subject: hearing attentively, humbly, with self-application, with a view to practice, and with a constant reference to the retributions of a great Eternity.

He was moreover, though well stricken in years, invariably found at the weekly prayer-meeting, however stormy or lowering the evening: ever willing, and ready to address the Throne of Grace in behalf of the Church and the world at large: And with a punctuality and a zeal equally laudable and exemplary did he attend on the recitations of the Sabbath Evening Bible Class, and, to his high credit be it said, deemed it neither disparagement nor degradation to take his place with the young and immature, even with boys and girls; and with much apparent humility, meekness and docility, hear the subject of the lesson expounded as well as applied; and thus received instruction out of that unexhausted and inexhaustible Volume, which has enlightened and saved the millions around the Heavenly Throne, and under God will yet enlighten and save millions more.

In the Sabbath School Department, connected with this Church, he felt a deep interest; ever since it originated, he felt a deep concern in its advancement; and, till over-taken and arrested by that malady which issued in death, he deemed it at once a duty and a privilege to attend on those who were but a remove from comparative infancy. He deemed it rather a pleasure than a task to instruct them in the simplest truths of God's Book, to make them acquainted with the A. B. C. of the Gospel, school them into the rudiments of a pure, sublime, celestial wisdom, point them to the Lamb of God, direct them to the Cross, as poor, helpless, perishing sinners, prompt, urge, and beseech them to give their hearts to Christ, to fix their affections upon Him as the most beautiful, delightful, and captivating object in the universe; the Rose of Sharon, the Lily of the valley, the Sun of Righteousness, the chief

among ten thousand and altogether lovely; to remember Him in the days of their youth, to walk in Wisdom's ways, and thus to acquire principles, and form habits through the strength of Divine grace, which, when developed and matured, would fortify them in the future amidst all the assaults of the Devil, the World, and the Flesh.—Thus did he labour under God to mould their souls for immortality.—

Would to God that the unenlightened and unsanctified of this place would copy the beautiful example which he has thus left behind, and thus be followers of him and of all those who through faith and patience are now inheriting the promises!

May I be permitted, for a moment, to enter into the Sanctuary of the domestic circle, and to speak of him, As a Father? And as such I may say, that he lacked not a single element in the composition of a kind, devoted father: being tender, generous, fervent, untiring, unceasing in the outgoings of his affection towards his children, ever anticipating their feelings, ever putting his own soul in the room of theirs, and thus, as far as moral identification was possible, making himself one with them. In short he rejoiced with them when they rejoiced, and wept with them when they wept. In a word, as an earthly parent, he was all that they could desire; and, if their hearts, which are now charged, if not surcharged, with sorrow, because of the sore bereavement sustained, and the great blank left, by the departure of such a father (I say) could such hearts but now respond orally, would they not speak with a moral eloquence, rarely equalled, and perhaps never surpassed. As a father, and as children, there seemed to be an unbroken felicitous reciprocation, a delightful, moral unity; which, I trust, was but the emblem, the germ of that purer, loftier relationship and companionship, which shall be developed and subsist between them in the Heavens to eternity.

Thus after a very brief period of sickness has one of our best friends, and of the most devoted supporters of this Church, departed this life, to all human appearance, in the firm faith of the Gospel, and in the bright hope of a blessed and a glorious immortality, but, while his body has descended to the dust, to rest there till the morning of the resurrection dawn, and brighten on the Tomb, his Soul, the better part, we trust, has winged its flight to the Heavenly world, the region of peace unbroken and rest everlasting. He has fought a good fight, finished his course, and is now, we hope, encircled with the crown of glory, that shall be unfading as immortality and everlasting as eternity itself. Permit me, ye mourning relatives after sustaining such a shock and so great a bereavement, to tender to you the word of consolation. And what greater consolation can we offer you? what greater consolation do you need? Your father and friend, so dear and so near to you, had reached a considerable age, and has closed his labours only because his Great Master has assigned him nothing farther. Like Him, he wished to be ever engaged in doing good. His whole life, so far as I am aware, has been filled up with the useful and the dutiful for both worlds. His period of sickness was but brief. He was but a short time in the furnace, in the moral crucible: and doubtless, when taken out of it, like the gold out of the material crucible, bore the Master's perfect image: and, of course, was made meet for his everlasting use and enjoyment. He died apparently without a struggle. He has left the theatre of earth to act his part on the purer and loftier theatre of the Heavens. His body, we hope, asleep in Jesus, now reposes in yonder silent grave, while his spirit has joined the General Assembly and Church of the First-Born. Dear, mourning brethren, desire not his return to this part of the Universe where sin and death reign; but rise in your affections and by faith and hope to that Heavenly world, whither, you fondly hope, he has gone, and where, you expect through grace, and, by the merits of Christ, finally to meet and to associate with him for ever. Think

(if among the ransomed of the Lord) of the sublimity of his employments, the vastness of his felicity, and the unutterable dignity and grandeur of his associates; and prepare to meet him, arrayed in spotless robes, with the palm of victory in his hand, and the crown of glory on his head; and, occupants of the same Heaven, to surround the same lofty Throne, participate in the same unmingled joys, adore the same glorified Lamb, and celebrate the same undying, and everlasting song.—You have sustained a great loss: and the tear of sorrow is not forbidden to flow; but, murmur not against the will of a Sovereign God, and sorrow not even as others who have no hope; but, believing that Jesus died and rose again, you may rest assured, that all, who sleep in Jesus, will God bring with Him.—Let not, then, your hearts be troubled:—God is your refuge; Christ, your friend; and Heaven, your Home.

To the Elders of this Church, the partners of his official duty, what shall we say? Is not his death a solemn warning to you, a solemn warning to myself?—Have we not laboured in the same field? Have we not been overseers of the same flock? Shall we not meet, as part of our charge, the same souls at the last, great assize, the great day of God Almighty; and render our account to the same Great Lord? How unutterably and awfully solemn will that account be; and how constantly should we bear it on our hearts and our spirits, that the day is rapidly nearing and is just at hand, in which our work will be done, and our account sealed, against the day of an eternal retribution. Let every professor of the Gospel in this congregation be excited by this solemn dispensation of Sovereign Providence to prepare for his own departure, his own dissolution. One of your brethren, to whom under God you were highly indebted, has finished his warfare, and closed for ever his labours among you. He will never visit your domiciles, or counsel you in private any more. He will never again stand over the Sacramental Table, and distribute to you the holy symbols of Christ's broken body and shed blood. He has gone to minister in a higher Sanctuary, even the Heavenly; where these symbols are utterly uncalled-for and never needed, and where the once crucified, but now exalted and enthroned Saviour is for ever unveiled to the gazing view of the numberless host of adoring Saints.—You will see him no more at our praying-meetings, nor join with him in confessing your sins, and imploring God's mercy and grace. No! His remains are already committed to the silent tomb in the hope of a joyful and triumphant resurrection. May you long remember his example, and cherish the virtues which adorned his character, and shone forth in his life. "Help, Lord," should you cry, "for the godly man ceaseth, and the faithful fail, from among men." Ardently beseech Him, with whom is the residue of the Spirit, that He would shed down His influence upon us, and raise up some in this region of moral desolation, who shall bear the Ark of the Lord, when our Fathers are fallen asleep.

But, ere we close, we must say a word to impenitent sinners; who, though hastening to the Bar of Judgement, are yet most manifestly unprepared to die.—You feel a respect for the memory of this man of God, whose Funeral Sermon has convoked so many within these sacred walls. You are assured that he took a deep interest in your highest welfare: and often sent-up his prayers to Heaven in your behalf. You are willing to mingle your sorrows with his children and friends left behind: and to drop tears over his grave, and at the remembrance of his worth. But, why not follow his example? Why not lead his life? Can you die with safety without this? Can you enter into the rest promised to the righteous? Know you not, unbelieving and impenitent hearts will for ever disqualify you for the kingdom of God? If death find you in this state, it will find you under the curse, and, as the minister of God's justice, cut you off in your sins.—Dismal, tragical end! Where Jesus and His departed Saints are gone, you can never come.