

During the year 1873, he was married to Miss Cecilia Wigle, of Kingville, who was to him a true helpmeet in the work of the ministry. She and her two sons now mourn the loss of an affectionate husband, a kind and considerate parent. Physically Bro. Fife was not strong. Consumption had marked him for its prey. For years he manfully battled against weakness and disease, doing efficiently the arduous work of a Methodist minister. Finally, on the Crediton Circuit, under a severe cold his health gave way, and he was compelled to supply his work during the remainder of the year. At the ensuing District Meeting he was forced to seek a superannuated relation, which he did with great reluctance, being moved to tears as he spoke of retiring even for one year from a work that he loved so much. He always hoped to return to the active work; but this was not realized. Sixteen months wore away, and he was taken to his reward.

He had an intense love for the work of the ministry. His sentiment was: "I would rather preach the Gospel on the poorest mission than have the most lucrative position among the business men of the world." At last death came somewhat suddenly, but the servant was ready. Just before he died, realizing that his speech was failing him, and that he was soon to depart, he said to his devoted wife: "Turn to 2 Cor. v. 1 'For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens;' and to Psalm xxiii. 4 'Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me;' also, to the last clause of the 6th verse, 'And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.'" And he said: "Tell the brethren this is my experience." Thus, on the 22nd of October, 1890, he passed through the valley, borne by the Saviour to the house above.

The funeral took place from his late residence in London West, first to the church where a service was conducted by Rev. Wm. McDonagh, assisted by Revs. J. E. Ford, G. W. Andrews, B. Clement, D. M. Kennedy and Walter Rigby, the Secretary of Conference; thence to Mount Pleasant cemetery, where the body was interred, the burial service being read by Rev. Geo. Boyd, of Queen's Avenue Church, London. Six of his ministerial brethren bore his mortal remains to the tomb, while a number of others attended the funeral, which evinced the fact that he was a brother beloved. A memorial service was held afterwards in the church, conducted by the pastor, Rev. Wm. McDonagh, Chairman of London District. May the blessing of God richly rest on the widow and children, and bring them at last to form an unbroken family in heaven.

QUESTION.—What new Districts, Circuits and Missions have been formed?

ANSWER.—1. No new Districts.

2. The following new Circuits:—

- (1) London East, by uniting Queen's Park and Elizabeth Street.
- (2) Cedar Springs, on Chatham District.
- (3) Gesto (Windsor District) restored, and the membership of Arner Circuit united to other Circuits.

3. The following new Missions:—

- (1) Walkerville (a new field), on the Windsor District.
- (2) Arkona (an old field), on the Strathroy District.

QUESTION.—How many new churches have been dedicated this year? and at what cost, etc.?

1. A new church at Dutton, St. Thomas District, 60 x 40, built of brick, with a stone foundation, basement fitted up for Sunday-school and classes. Cost \$5,000.
2. Tenth Line, Charing Cross Circuit, Chatham District, new brick church, seat 250, basement for Sunday-school, etc. Cost \$4,700; liabilities, \$1,250; assets, \$1,450.
3. Leamington, Windsor District, a church built, at a cost of \$13,000.
4. New church on Camlachie Circuit, Sarnia District. Cost not reported.
5. New church on Ravenswood and Bosanquet Mission, Sarnia District. Cost not reported. Also Avon church, Aylmer District, remodelled at a cost of \$2,400.