

Obituary.

MR. JOSEPH HAMILTON.

Deacon Joseph Hamilton departed this life at Meaford on the 9th October, 1867, aged 50 years. Our brother was a native of the State of New York, and early in life moved into Canada. His first profession of Christ was made in the village of Bath, and in connexion with the Episcopal Methodists. Afterwards, he removed to Meaford, where he was one of the six persons who united in organizing the Congregational Church, and at the same time he was chosen to serve as deacon. Liberally contributing to the erection of the new Chapel, he was, until death, the steadfast and warm friend of the church, ready with head, and hand, and heart, and purse, to help. From its very commencement, he was a subscriber to the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT, which was regarded not as a luxury merely, but as a necessity, by the family. It pleased the great Master to bring His servant through pecuniary difficulties and through great bodily pain, for some time before death; but he was enabled to say and shew that his last days were his brightest and best. Among his last words was the statement that his hope rested on the Lord Jesus. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

Owen Sound, October 16, 1867.

R. R.

MR. WILLIAM ROGERS.

The subject of this brief memoir was born in Burcombe, Wiltshire, and died on the 8th of September last, in the 75th year of his age. Mr. Rogers was the son of pious parents, and during the early part of his life had the benefit of religious training. It was not, however, till drawing near to the age of three score years, that he was brought into the enjoyment of peace with God. In 1852, he and his family, consisting of his wife, two sons and four daughters—all of whom still survive—came to Canada West, took up land in the township of Bosanquet, county of Lambton, and began to hew out for themselves a new home in the wilderness. In 1860, under the preaching of the Wesleyan Methodists, during a revival season, the good seeds of Gospel truth, with which his mind had been previously stored, germinated and rapidly matured, and during the remainder of his life bore the precious fruits of "faith," "joy," and "peace,"—the fruits of the Spirit. A few months after his conversion, he became a member of the Congregational Church in his own neighbourhood, and in a quiet, kind and gentle way "let his light shine before men." Previous to his conversion he had no inclination for religious conversation: he shrank from it. But after that happy event he courted and enjoyed it. Often was he heard to speak with great earnestness and gratitude of God's goodness and mercy in forgiving sin, and of the comfort and soul-peace he was given to enjoy. Although his general health was unimpaired, he had become conscious, for a considerable time previous to his death, that he was labouring under disease of the heart—a disease of which he died. The last evening of his life was spent in religious conversation with his wife, and singing. A little before his usual time for retiring he complained of being unwell, and went to bed. In a short time he complained of being worse, and sat up. A few moments more, and he fell into the arms of his wife, and expired without a struggle or a pain. So ended the mortal course of one beloved and respected by all who knew him—a kind husband and father, and a meek and quiet Christian.

Forest, October 15th, 1867.

J. B.
