

Q. VI. What Ministers have DIED since the last Conference?

A. 1. In *Great Britain*, *thirty-four*, viz.,—

(1.) GEORGE SCOTT (B); who was born at Lewes in 1821. He was led to early decision for Christ chiefly by his mother's influence, and was truly converted to God when twelve years of age. He entered the Ministry in 1844. For forty-four years he laboured in some of our most important Circuits. His preaching was owned by God in the salvation of many. His proclamation of Divine truth was charged with spiritual power, and full of 'instruction in righteousness.' He was gifted with considerable mental power; and by industry, perseverance and zeal, and a prayerful life, his ministry was rendered impressive and successful. He was a devoted pastor, and he fulfilled his ministry with great fidelity. He was beloved by the people among whom he ministered, and was trusted by his colleagues. In 1887 he was elected a member of the Legal Conference. His last illness was brief. He exchanged mortality for life, August the 26th, 1888, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, and the forty-fourth of his ministry.

(2.) SAMUEL SIMPSON (A), son of the Rev. John Simpson, was born at Wednesbury, in 1808. Strivings of the Holy Spirit, to which he yielded when at Woodhouse-Grove School, became weakened on his entering into business; but, after a short time of religious declension, those impressions were soon revived and deepened, and a period of great spiritual sorrow and anxiety was followed by abiding peace with God. He entered the Ministry in 1832, and was appointed to the Market-Harborough Circuit. He was a diligent student, and made careful preparation for his pulpit work. Always 'fervent in spirit,' his preaching was at times marked by unusual pathos, and attended with much power. He delighted to recall memories of numerous conversions which he had seen in various places, particularly in Liverpool, Hull, and Notting-

ham. To a vigorous intellect was united a warm and loving heart; and his genial and sympathetic spirit won for him a hearty welcome in the homes of our people. His tender nature was also strong, and with unflinching fidelity he adhered to his convictions. As Chairman of a District and as Superintendent of a Circuit, he was a wise and faithful administrator; was in cordial sympathy with his colleagues; had a generous regard for their reputation, and gained their esteem and affection. In 1879, infirmities compelled him to retire from active work. In 1883 he settled at Lytham, where, as opportunity served, he continued to exercise the ministry which he had 'received of the Lord Jesus.' He retained his brightness of spirit and his interest in the work of God to the last; and, after a brief illness, passed away to the eternal rest, on the 2nd of September, 1888, in the eightieth year of his age, and the fifty-sixth of his ministry.

(3.) FRANCIS BARKER; who was born at York in 1804. He was converted in early life; and, at the age of seventeen, began to preach amongst the Primitive Methodists. After a few years of labour in connection with that body he was received by the Wesleyan-Methodist Conference. From 1833 to 1875 he diligently and faithfully served the Church in some of the most laborious Circuits of Methodism. After he became a Supernumerary, he rendered valuable assistance for nearly two years in the Glasgow (Claremont-street) Circuit, and by his faithful labours laid the foundation of the flourishing cause now established at Partick. During several following years it was his delight to preach the Gospel whenever his health would permit. His sermons gave evidence of careful preparation, and were delivered with great fervour, very frequently resulting in the awakening and conversion of sinners. As a pastor he was greatly beloved, and ever took special interest in the young. In all his relations with the people he showed a love which, however tried, never behaved itself unseemly. His love for the Word of God and prayer was very marked, and seemed

to increase as bodily strength declined. His last audible utterance was one of fervent gratitude to his Heavenly Father. He calmly fell asleep in Jesus, at Audley, September 11th, 1888, in the eighty-fourth year of his age, and the fifty-sixth of his ministry.

(4.) DAVID STEWART; who was born in Glasgow in 1836. He was converted to God at the age of sixteen, and from this time forth his life was brought under the constant supervision of a watchful conscience. He won a Scholarship at the Glasgow University. After being three years a local-preacher, he was recommended for our Ministry. In 1866 he became a Supernumerary; and his ministry henceforward was to be that of exhibiting the power of patience and the beauty of meekness, and by the grace of God he faithfully fulfilled this ministry; for though he often wondered at the mysterious Providence which had bidden him cease to work so early, he was never known to murmur. In the last few years of his life he suffered acute pain, but it never dimmed the lustre of his piety; and though his mental strength had lost its steadiness and vigour, his faith never wavered. When unable to recognise those who for years had tenderly ministered to him, he was asked: 'But you know Jesus?' he most emphatically answered: 'O yes!' and thus his converse with this world ceased. He entered into rest, September the 22nd, 1888.

(5.) EDWARD BRAMFORD; who was born at Scotton, near Gainsborough, in 1811. He was converted to God when about twenty years of age. Brought up in the Church of England, with considerable prospects and offers of advancement, he deliberately made choice of the Wesleyan-Methodist Ministry, which he entered in 1838. He was faithful, honourable, thorough. His life was a beautiful illustration of the Christian graces; his whole course a pattern of wise and faithful dealing. His preaching was clear, well-defined, devout, and impressive. After retiring from the full Ministry, he em-

ployed himself in every good work for which he felt himself capable. Up to the very close of life, his attachment to his work remained unbroken. When compelled to refrain, he said somewhat mournfully: 'My work is over: I can do no more.' Shortly before his death he said, cheerfully: 'I have been fifty years in the Ministry. I have had a happy life. I thank God for having had such a life. It has now come to an end; but it is all right.' His mental powers remained clear to the end. He died October 13th, 1888, in the seventy-eighth year of his age, and the fiftieth of his ministry.

(6.) GEORGE LEALE; who was born in Guernsey, in 1804, where he died on October the 18th, 1888, at the age of eighty-three, in the fiftieth year of his ministry. He was converted to God in youth; and, though possessed of slight educational advantages, his Christian zeal and natural courage urged him on into various labours, until as a local-preacher and then as an ordained minister, he did good service in France and the Channel Islands. After his retirement from the full work he still laboured on, especially in the visitation of the sick, until failing health compelled him to desist. This was his favourite work during the whole of his ministry, and in this important department of service he proved most efficient. He left the world peacefully, and in assured hope of eternal rest.

(7.) ROBERT CASS; who was born at Beverley in 1819. He began his ministry in 1844, and for thirty-five years faithfully discharged the duties of his office in some of the hardest Circuits in the Connexion. He was a plain, painstaking pastor and preacher; and was honoured of God in the conversion of hundreds of souls, some of whom are now in our Ministry at home and abroad. To the Church he was ever loyal and true; to his colleagues courteous and kind; and to the flock a watchful and faithful overseer. In 1881 he retired from the full work of the Ministry, and resided at Longsight, where he rendered valuable service as long as his health

would permit. The last few months of his life were spent in great prostration and pain, relieved, however, by the abiding sense of God's goodness and grace. His closing hours were full of peace. Some of his last words were : ' I am resting on Christ ; Jesus, I am Thine ; entering through the gates into the City.' He fell asleep in Jesus, October the 26th, 1888, in the sixty-ninth year of his age, and the forty-fifth of his ministry.

(8.) DAVID LEWIS ; who was born of Methodist parents, near Dolgelly, in 1838. Accustomed to religious influences from childhood, and brought into early association with the ministers who visited his father's house, he was led to fear the Lord from his youth. During a memorable revival in Cardiganshire, and in obedience to the Spirit's call, he began to preach. For three years he was employed as a lay-agent at Pwllheli and Mold. He entered the Ministry in 1861, and for twenty-six years laboured in North and South Wales, with more than ordinary acceptance and success. He possessed a good voice and great physical strength, both of which were often unduly taxed in his earnestness to bring sinners to the Saviour. He was ' a good minister of Jesus Christ ; ' a diligent student of the Word of God ; a devoted pastor ; a genial, warm-hearted, and faithful colleague ; a pattern of punctuality ; and ' a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.' His preaching was characterized by a spirit of tender affection and burning zeal, often rising to a high pitch of eloquence, and accompanied, at times, by extraordinary unction and overwhelming pathos. Struck down suddenly by disease in the midst of his usefulness, he was compelled to become a Supernumerary at the age of forty-six. He lingered, ' in feebleness extreme,' until, on the 2nd of November, 1888, the Master called him to his rest and reward. He died at Walton-le-dale, near Preston, in the forty-ninth year of his age, and the twenty-seventh of his ministry.

(9.) WILLIAM O. ALDOM ; who was born at Trowbridge, in 1817.

He was son of the Rev. Isaac Aldom, Wesleyan minister, and was converted to God comparatively early in life. Recommended for the Ministry, he was for a term in the Hoxton Theological Institution; and in 1841 was appointed to a Circuit. His preaching was earnest, faithful, evangelical, and useful. Many were the seals to his ministry. As a pastor he was diligent, kind, sympathetic; paying special attention to the poor and infirm, and to children and young people. He was a devoted adherent to the economy of Methodism, and in the times of its greatest trials stood in defence of it with unfailing fidelity. His natural disposition was of the happiest and brightest type; and this, combined with the sunshine of a loving heart and holy life, made him most congenial and most exemplary. He became a Supernumerary in 1881, and engaged, as opportunity served, in preaching and pastoral visitation. His end was sudden. He had expressed a wish that, if it might please God, he might be saved from much bodily suffering. The wish of the servant was the will of the Master. On November the 10th, 1888, God took him, in the seventy-second year of his age, and the forty-eighth of his ministry.

(10.) RICHARD STEPNEY; who was born at Horsham, in 1811. In early life he became the subject of religious impressions, yielding to which he realized the further enlightening of the Holy Spirit until dawn broadened into day. In 1835 he entered the Wesleyan-Methodist Ministry at Stokesley, and for forty-four years continued to labour therein with unabated vigour. He was an acceptable, evangelical and useful preacher. He rejoiced in all successful toil, especially in that of his colleagues, whom he stimulated, and by whom he was ever trusted and beloved. In 1879 he became a Supernumerary, eventually settling at Houghton-le-Spring. Three Sundays out of four he occupied the pulpit; and his Class and the visitation of the sick employed the remainder of his time. For some months physical weakness rapidly manifested itself, until 'the weary wheels of life stood still at last,' on

November 12th, 1888, in the seventy-eighth year of his age, and the fifty-fourth of his ministry.

(11.) JOHN BROADBENT; was born at Hebden-Bridge, of godly parents, his father being a highly-esteemed local-preacher. In early life he was deeply convinced of sin, and for six months was in great distress, but afterwards was filled with 'joy unspeakable.' When a local-preacher he was wise in winning souls. After three years' training at Didsbury, he entered with much zeal upon the work of the Ministry; and during an itinerancy of thirty-four years he was an untiring labourer, and through him 'much people was added to the Lord.' From 1865 to 1870 he was stationed in Sunderland and North Shields, where his name is still a household word. The seafaring and river-side populations were reached and raised by hundreds, and led to sobriety and to Christ. As a temperance reformer and evangelist, he was 'in labours more abundant;' and although some of his methods were new and strange, and not always in harmony with the views of his brethren, yet his aim was ever to do good. These years of exhausting service weakened his great strength, which was never afterwards fully restored.

In 1888 he was appointed to Knighton, and began his work there with wonted earnestness, gaining the esteem and love of his people, and awakening careless hearers by the fervour of his preaching. On Sunday, November the 25th, although in suffering, he preached three times and administered the Lord's Supper. During the week he was unable to take public work, but met Classes in his own house, in one of which a young man said he had found peace through the last sermon Mr. Broadbent preached at Knighton. His illness increased; but he was greatly cheered by the assurance of his Saviour's love. When waiting for the doctor to perform a serious operation, he repeated with much feeling the whole of the hymn commencing: 'How do Thy mercies close me round.' A few days before the end he said: 'I should like to go to heaven and be at rest. Not that I want to shirk the battle of life.

I should like to live a little longer, and work for Christ better than I have done.' He died in great peace, December the 16th, 1888, in the sixty-first year of his age.

(12.) JOHN KNOWLES, LL.D., Ph.D.; who was born near Manchester in 1804, of pious parents. While a Sunday-school scholar he was brought to the Lord, and joined the Wesleyan-Methodist Church. Three years later he came on the plan in one of the Manchester Circuits, at the same time as John Rattenbury and Joseph Hargreaves. In 1832 he entered the Ministry, and was sent, at the request of the late Dr. A. Clarke, to the Shetland Isles, where he entered upon a long and laborious career. While at Holywell there was a gracious revival of religion, and during his ministry in Tunbridge-Wells Circuit considerable increase took place in the Societies. In early life he manifested an earnest desire for mental improvement, and was accustomed to go to the house of one of the ministers at five o'clock in the morning to receive help in his studies. He continued to be a diligent student through life, often rising at three o'clock in the morning for reading and preparation for his work. He was a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and possessed an extensive acquaintance with geology and other sciences, bringing that knowledge to bear upon his life and ministerial work. His preaching was earnest and practical, and he was diligent in pastoral work. He had a sound judgment, and his advice was frequently sought by persons in perplexity.

In 1871 he retired from the active Ministry, and settled in Tunbridge-Wells, where he continued to take a deep interest in the work of God. His mental powers were vigorous to the last. As the end came on, he enjoyed perfect confidence. Having served his generation, he fell on sleep, December the 31st, 1888, in the eighty-fifth year of his age, and the fifty-seventh of his ministry.

(13.) EDWARD BAYLIS; who was born at Evesham in 1814, and died there, January the 1st, 1889, in the seventy-fifth year

of his age, and the fiftieth of his ministry. At the age of seventeen he was converted to God, and shortly afterwards was called to preach the Gospel. His mental vigour and eminent spirituality qualified him for a ministry marked by entire consecration to God and a great passion for souls. His first appointment was to the Shetland Isles, where he laboured with very great success for four years. In 1858 he volunteered for a second term of service in the Islands; and, during the nine years of his renewed labour, he was honoured of God in the conversion of many souls. His name is still held very precious there. His self-denying toil, his holy walk and conversation, and his wisdom and success in winning souls, have indelibly impressed themselves upon the Circuits in the Zetland District. After successfully labouring in other Circuits he retired from the full work; and for five years rendered at Evesham cheerful, efficient and generous service, from which he was laid aside only a few days. The morning before he died he came down from his chamber full of joy, and commenced singing the praises of God. In the evening he was dying; and at that solemn hour he manifested cheerful and perfect resignation to the Divine will. The next morning he passed away.

(14.) JAMES WORSLEY BROWN; who was born at Lymm, in 1854. Blessed with the teaching and influences of a godly home, he was early the subject of Divine grace, and of a deep impression that he would be a preacher of the Gospel. He gave himself to good work in many spheres. He was accepted as a candidate for the Ministry in 1878. After a year on the List of Reserve he entered the Institution. During his probation he rendered successful service as a supply in several Circuits, particularly at Chipping Norton, where 'many were added to the Lord.' The people loved him as a diligent pastor; his brethren trusted him as a faithful colleague. At Brighton, the first Circuit to which he was appointed by Conference, the best services of his too short life were given. His preparation for the pulpit was careful, and the Lord owned the Word.

spoken by him in converting sinners, and building up the Church. During the latter part of his ministry he struggled bravely against increasing weakness, known only to himself. His greatest trial was to own that his work was done. His last illness was protracted and most painful. He never murmured; but frequently said: 'I have found my religion a blessed reality.' For the sake of Church, wife and child, he would have lived, but he said: 'I die in the faith that I have preached.' His last sentence was: 'All right; my feet are upon the Rock!' He died at Sheffield, January 27th, 1889, in the thirty-fifth year of his age, and the ninth of his ministry.

(15.) JOHN BRAMLEY; who was born at Bubwith, in Yorkshire, in 1822. He was early the subject of deep spiritual impression, and in his fifteenth year yielded himself to God. In 1847 he was accepted as a candidate for our Ministry. Of a singularly gentle, genial and loving disposition, he was greatly beloved by his colleagues and others, and an especial favourite with the young. Reverence for Divine things was a prominent feature of his character. His preaching was intensely evangelical; and his qualifications as a pastor were pre-eminent. To the last he maintained the early glow of his whole-hearted consecration to Christ. After travelling for thirty-eight years, he laboured with much acceptance, as a Supernumerary, in the Regent-road Circuit, Manchester, and for two years in the Alderley-Edge and Knutsford Circuit. The closing weeks of his life were marked by much suffering, at times by paroxysms of agony; but he never murmured. 'God is with me, very precious, and helps me to endure it.' He died as he had lived, clear in the assurance of his acceptance, and firmly trusting in his Saviour's merits, on February the 7th, 1889, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, and in the forty-second of his ministry.

(16.) MILES BRISTOW PICKERING; who was born at Cherry Burton, near Beverley, in 1822. He was converted to God

during a revival in his native place in 1845, his name appearing shortly afterwards on the Beverley-Circuit Plan, and he was appointed a Class-leader. In 1847 he offered himself as a candidate for our Ministry, and entered the Theological Institution at Didsbury, where he spent three years. His fervour in prayer, energy in preaching, godly life, and genuine brotherliness made a permanent impression on his fellow-students. His first appointment was to the Chipping-Norton Circuit; and for nearly forty years he fulfilled his ministry with steady devotion, and did good work for his Circuits. One of the most striking features in his character was thorough conscientiousness. He was upright, earnest and loyal-hearted; his genuineness was apparent, being the outcome of close intercourse with God. He was exceedingly modest; and so detested anything like parade or self-assertion, that he was in danger of going to the other extreme. He was a sound, faithful Methodist preacher. His sermons evinced careful preparation, were well thought out, and full of Gospel truth. His style was clear and forcible, his language chaste, his manner affectionate and impressive, his appeals earnest, and not unfrequently powerful; and, above all, his labours were attended with Divine unction and success. With deep joy would he speak sometimes of the frequent revivals he had been privileged to be connected with in the course of his ministry.

As a colleague he was most kind, genial and obliging; in administration he was judicious, painstaking and kind; and in all things showed a thorough-going integrity. He was always welcomed in the families of our people, for he brought with him the sunshine of a loving, cheerful disposition, and sought to make every one happy. His last appointment was to the Downham-Market Circuit, where, during his third year, his strength entirely failed. The end was somewhat sudden. After a few weeks' retirement, in the fullest assurance of eternal life, on February the 20th, 1889, he calmly fell asleep, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, and the fortieth of his ministry.

(17.) WILLIAM LIMMEX; who was born at Bawdsey, Suffolk, in 1815. His parents were devoted Methodists. When seventeen years of age, principally through the instrumentality of his godly master, he found peace through believing, and from that time gave himself wholly to the service of God. In 1836 he was accepted as a probationer for the Ministry, and for nearly five years did faithful work in English Circuits. He was appointed in 1841 to the West Indies, where he laboured with great acceptance for fifteen years. During an alarming visitation of cholera he was most assiduous in attending to the sick and dying. His health failing, he obtained permission to return to England, and in 1856 was appointed Superintendent of the Swindon Circuit. After nineteen years of Circuit-work he was permanently laid aside. He was an acceptable, evangelical and useful preacher; a most diligent pastor; a faithful colleague; strictly conscientious in the discharge of his duties as Circuit minister; loyally devoted to Methodist doctrine and discipline, and exceedingly helpful in his counsels to the doubtful and distressed. His last long illness was borne with Christian fortitude, and with trustful submission. His last words were: 'Peace; trusting; fully trusting.' He fell asleep in Jesus, at Swindon, March the 5th, 1889, in the seventy-fourth year of his age, and the fifty-third of his ministry.

(18.) JABEZ ROUGHT, son of the Rev. Thomas Rought, who entered the Ministry only four years after Wesley's death, was born at Kendal in 1813. In early life he resisted the strong religious influences of his home; but at the age of nineteen yielded to Christ. He was accepted at the Conference of 1835 and sent to Madeley, where, largely under his ministry, the great revival of 1835-7 broke out, which in its results was second only to the great work under the ministry of Fletcher. Among the fruits of this revival was the Rev. G. T. Perks, M.A. During forty-three years Mr. Rought continued his zealous and successful labours, chiefly in wide, laborious Circuits, in

which he toiled on bravely and conscientiously. He delighted in his work, and was strongly attached to Methodism. His sermons were carefully prepared, rich in evangelical instruction, and effective in persuasion and appeal. He was a faithful, wise and genial Superintendent, and a diligent pastor. His labours were signally owned of God in the salvation of souls. In 1878 in consequence of failing health, he retired to Hammersmith, where for ten years he preached and worked as he was able. In 1888 he removed to Leicester. He still loved his work, though unable to do much preaching. Within three weeks of his death he preached in the Humberstone-road chapel. His end was calmly triumphant. He entered into life March the 6th, 1889, in the fifty-fourth year of his ministry.

(19.) WILLIAM BINNINGTON BOYCE; who was born at Beverley on November 9th, 1803. He was engaged for some time in a bank at Hull; his business talents being very superior, and his prospects exceptionally good. He entered the Ministry in 1829, and was appointed by the Conference to Mission work in South Africa, where he laboured successfully for thirteen years. He was author of the first Kafir Grammar, and the discoverer of 'The Euphonic Concord,' thus rendering most important service to all writers and translators of the language. In other respects, his work in South Africa was of the greatest value. He was the personal friend and the biographer of the Rev. W. Shaw. He wrote an able volume on South African affairs. Returning to England in 1843, he was stationed for two years in the Bolton Circuit. In 1845 he was appointed to Sydney, where his services were highly appreciated. He was the President of the first Australasian Conference in 1855, and was re-elected in 1856. He returned to England in 1858, and was appointed one of the General Secretaries of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, an office which he held with conspicuous ability for eighteen years. In 1861 he was appointed by the British Conference to preside over the first

Conference of Eastern British America, and discharged the duties of his office with characteristic energy. In 1876 he retired from the office of Missionary Secretary, returned to Sydney, and occupied himself in literary pursuits and frequent preaching. He was possessed of very remarkable general ability and information. His principal works are *The Higher Criticism and the Bible*, and *An Introduction to the Study of History*, both of which show very extensive reading and profound research. He read six hours a day, and wrote much up to the last. His preaching was plain and practical, yet showed deep thought and a firm grasp of evangelical doctrine. His character was high-toned and blameless. After a short illness he fell asleep peacefully on March 8th, 1889, in the eighty-sixth year of his age, and the sixtieth of his ministry.

(20.) LUKE TYERMAN; who was born at Osmotherley in the Thirsk Circuit, February the 26th, 1820. His parents were Methodists. He was converted to God in his fifteenth year. His early piety was real and intense. As a local-preacher, his sermons gave evidence of thoughtful preparation, remarkable originality, and strength of mind. In 1842 he was accepted as a candidate for the Wesleyan-Methodist Ministry, and was sent to Didsbury. During his residence there his services were in great request as a powerful and popular preacher. In 1845 he was appointed to his first Circuit. From its commencement his ministry was effective and fruitful, and attracted large congregations. His style was vigorous, his denunciations of sin, and his preaching of the terrors of the law and of the judgment, were sometimes terribly vivid; whilst his exaltation of the Person and Work of Christ was reverent and inspiring. He had an intense hatred of Popery, and lost no opportunity of warning his hearers against its pernicious teachings and practices. He was a Methodist preacher of the old school, and had a strong preference for old methods. He was mighty in prayer, both in public worship and in social and official gatherings.

In 1864, through failing health, he became a Supernumerary, and devoted his leisure to literature, still preaching as his strength permitted. He delighted greatly in Methodist history, and acquired precious records relating thereto. From these stores he collected the materials which are embodied in *The Life and Times of the Rev. Samuel Wesley*; *The Life and Times of the Rev. John Wesley*; *The Oxford Methodists*; *Wesley's Designated Successor*; *The Life of the Rev. John Fletcher*; and *The Life of the Rev. George Whitefield*. These works have made him famous as a Methodist historian, and will continue to rank among the books of reference on the great religious revival of the eighteenth century. In his last illness he acknowledged and deplored his unfaithfulness, and expressed a penitent trust in the merit and mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ. He died on March the 20th, 1889, in the seventieth year of his age, and the forty-fourth of his ministry.

(21.) ISHMAEL JONES; who was born at Llandinam, Montgomeryshire, on September the 30th, 1833. His parents were devoted Christians, and early inspired him with a love of the Bible and with deep religious feeling, which bore fruit in his early conversion. His grandfather was a notable Calvinistic Methodist preacher, and his father rendered acceptable service as a Wesleyan local-preacher. After doing the work of an evangelist in several Circuits, Ishmael Jones entered Didsbury College in 1855; and after about a year of student life he was sent to supply for Dr. Jobson, and at the following Conference was appointed to Wrexham. He laboured afterwards in some of the most important Circuits, and in every Circuit was greatly beloved. As a Superintendent, he was very judicious and painstaking, and as a colleague, loyal and affectionate. To the young he was a true friend, winning by his genial smile and manifest sympathy both their confidence and love. His ministry of the Word was confident, earnest and dignified; he challenged the intellect of his hearers by forceful reasonings; while his sympathetic exhortations and appeals, through the 'unction of the

Holy One,' touched their hearts; and his whole bearing and aspect were those of a man consciously in the Divine Presence. His dying words were consonant with his ministry. In a half-conscious condition, he exclaimed: 'All I have to do to-morrow is to write, History's greatest fact is: "God is Love."'

His life was in full harmony with his theology. Blessed with a spirit of rare and delicate courtesy, unselfish and full of sympathy, he won his way to the heart. When elected a member of the Legal Conference in 1885 he declared his loyalty to the faith and to the Methodist brotherhood; loyal and brotherly he was to the end. At the Conference of 1888 he removed to Bristol, where his ministry was speedily owned of God; but the promise of a successful ministry there was suddenly broken by the sickness which, after a few days of keen suffering, carried him to his eternal reward on March the 23rd, 1889, in the fifty-fifth year of his age, and the thirty-third of his ministry.

(22.) SAMPSON COCKS; who was born at Roche, St. Austell, in 1823, and died at Smethwick, March 29th, 1889, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, and the forty-fourth of his ministry. He was blessed with pious parents; and at the age of thirteen obtained a clear sense of forgiveness. Early in life he began to preach, and entered into mercantile life in Liverpool, where he engaged in various services amongst the sailors, and was made a blessing to many. Showing great aptitude for business, he was offered a superior position in the firm where he was employed; but his heart was in the work of the Christian Ministry, which he entered in 1845. In his Circuits he was much beloved; and his colleagues testify to the esteem and love they had for him. For young people he possessed special attractions. He gave great attention to Young Men's Mutual Improvement Associations, and his addresses to the Sunday-schools in his Circuits will never be forgotten. He was genial, and a great favourite in social circles. As a pastor he was diligent; and his visits to the sick-room were always welcome. His preaching was instructive, practical, clear, and logical.

His end was sudden, but peaceful. There was no dark valley through which to pass, but one step from earth to heaven. 'He was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith; and much people was added unto the Lord.'

(23.) EDMUND LOCKYER; who was born at Dartford in 1813. His parents having removed to Manchester while he was young, he joined our Society at Oldham-street in 1829; but it was not till the following year that, while explaining to another the way of salvation, he himself was assured of acceptance with God. From his earliest years he had an intense longing to be a missionary, and was eventually designated, according to his own preference, for Fiji. A vacancy, however, occurring in Jamaica, his appointment was changed, and he sailed for the West Indies in 1839. Here he laboured successfully for upwards of ten years, when he was compelled, to his great regret, to return to England. For more than thirty years he rendered faithful service in various Circuits at home, spending his strength ungrudgingly in the work, and attending diligently to all the details of our economy. He was also a discreet and earnest supporter of all our Connexional efforts to promote the temperance reformation. In 1880 he became a Supernumerary; but it was still his great delight to preach Christ, and in other ways to fulfil his ministry, until, as his strength failed, he regretfully relinquished his beloved work, and waited in quiet patience till he was called home. He was singularly guileless; always cheerful himself and cheering to others, and much beloved by all who knew him. His piety was characterized by great simplicity, and his preaching was plain, practical, and full of hope, and instinct with the spirit of the Gospel. During the last few months of weakness he was continually quoting the words:

'Above the rest this note shall swell,
My Jesus hath done all things well.'

He calmly fell asleep, at Handsworth, on the 3rd of April, 1889, in the seventy-sixth year of his age, and the fifty-first of his ministry.

(24.) WILLIAM HOLMES ROBSON; who was born at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in 1810. His father was a Class-leader, in connection with the Orphan House Society in that town, in the latter part of Mr. Wesley's life. At the age of twenty-six, Mr. Robson was received by the Conference as a Minister on probation. In one of his early Circuits he was the colleague of Dr. Waddy; and he was wont to speak gratefully of the kind and valuable assistance he received from that eminent minister, especially in the composition of his sermons. His preaching was plain, practical, evangelical and useful, and indicated varied reading and careful preparation. His public prayers were remarkable for comprehensiveness, Scriptural language and spiritual power. As a Superintendent he was active and judicious; and it was said: 'No Circuit sinks under his management.' After forty years of Circuit-work he became a Supernumerary, and, to the utmost of his strength, continued to render service in preaching, speaking at public meetings and visiting the sick. His last illness was short, but severe. It was patiently borne; and his end was peace. To a friend, who, a little before his death, quoted to him the twenty-third Psalm, he quietly and impressively said: 'And there are the green pastures still!' He died on the 5th of April, 1889, in the seventy-ninth year of his age, and the fifty-third of his ministry.

(25.) HENRY JAMES THORNE BOWER; who was born at Langton, Dorsetshire, in 1856. His parents were godly, and in very early life he was led to consecrate himself to God, and to connect himself with the Church. When about seventeen years of age he became a local-preacher. He entered the Ministry in 1882, after spending three profitable years at Didsbury. For a year he laboured in Peel, and for three years in the Blandford Circuit, with much acceptance and success, and in 1888 was appointed to St. Austell. Although in failing health, he entered upon his work very hopefully, and soon won the affection and confidence of the people. He was modest and retiring, his conversation being

marked by a tone of thoughtful, earnest piety. His preaching was characterized by a familiar knowledge and wise use of Scripture, and was close, practical and highly appreciated. In his last illness he manifested a cheerful resignation to the will of God, and on the 9th April, 1889, he peacefully expired, in the thirty-third year of his age, and the seventh of his ministry.

(26.) PAUL ORCHARD; who was the son of the Rev. Paul Orchard, and was born at Truro in 1826. He retained loving and reverent recollections of his godly home. In 1840, during a gracious revival at Kingswood, he was soundly converted. He began to preach when sixteen, and was proposed for the Ministry by Rev. John Rigg, and accepted by Conference in 1846, and sent as a supply to the Banwell Circuit, where he is still remembered with affection and respect. For thirty-nine years he laboured in some of our most important Circuits with exemplary diligence and fidelity. He was a reverent student of God's Word in the original. His sermons were clear expositions of Divine Truth; full of teaching, enforced and illustrated from the Word itself. In matters of business he was scrupulously faithful and exact. His colleagues found him a generous friend. He obeyed the precept: 'In honour preferring one another.' A peculiarly sensitive nervous system and weak action of the heart exposed him to much suffering in public life, and made him shrink from many things for which his mental endowments fitted him. But this was sanctified to his greater usefulness; he was able to comfort them which were in any trouble by the comfort wherewith he himself was comforted of God. His friendships were peculiarly strong and tender, faithful and unchanging. In 1885 he asked for a year's rest; and soon afterwards a severe illness obliged him to relinquish all thought of Circuit-work. He often asked wistfully: 'Shall I ever preach again?' He settled in Bristol, living happily among his friends and his books, and faithfully using his opportunities of preaching privately by the tongue and the

pen. On April 12th, 1889, he visited a friend, conducted family prayer, returned home, and in a few minutes expired, in the sixty-third year of his age, and the forty-third of his ministry.

(27.) JOHN SOWTER PARKES; who was born at St. Kitts in 1836, and was the son of the Rev. John Parkes. His conversion took place during his apprenticeship. In 1856 he was accepted as a probationer for our Ministry; and, after three years at Richmond, was sent to Canton. During six years spent in China he acquired a good knowledge of the language, and became an efficient preacher; while his kindness and urbanity endeared him to his brethren and to the people. During his residence abroad two attacks of malarial fever laid the foundation of the disease which caused his death. From 1865 to 1880 he laboured with much acceptance and fidelity in home Circuits. His sermons were expository and practical, and were thoughtful and finished productions. He was of refined tastes and studious habits; amiable, but with a keen sense of justice; a mean or unjust act would rouse him to strong indignation. His last distressing illness was borne throughout with exemplary patience and calm reliance upon Christ. He manifested a fearless confidence in prospect of death, and a thoughtful regard for the comfort of others. He peacefully fell asleep on May 9th, 1889.

(28.) JOHN JONES (D); who was born near Oswestry in 1834. He was converted to God while yet young, and began to preach at the age of fifteen. Endowed with good natural abilities and favoured with wise counsel and help, he applied himself diligently to study; and having a strong conviction that God had called him to work in the mission-field, he offered himself for the Ministry; and after three happy years at Richmond College, he was sent to India, where he laboured for ten years, and where he had the honour of opening a new station in the very heart of heathenism, at Karur, now the

head of a prosperous Circuit. Returning to England in 1868 he was appointed to his native Circuit, and continued for twenty years to exercise a profitable ministry. He was an able administrator, a vigorous and popular preacher, an effective platform speaker, attracting large audiences by his vivid and eloquent descriptions of mission-life, and by his powerful appeals on behalf of a cause which never ceased to be dear to his heart. Whilst greatly in demand for occasional services, he never neglected the smallest place in his Circuit, and the minutest details of ministerial duty received his conscientious attention. He was a man of quick observation, discriminating judgment, and unbending integrity. His home-life was singularly beautiful; and being buoyant and cheerful, possessing large stores of information, and considerable conversational power, he was a welcome visitor in the homes of our people. Struck down by disease in January last, he was for six months 'an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.' His sick-chamber was a Bethel, which many felt it a privilege to visit. On one occasion, after a night of extreme pain, he was heard to sing:

'In doing and bearing The will of our Lord,
We still are preparing To meet our reward.'

As the outward man perished, the inward man was renewed day by day, and 'at evening time it was light.' He died at Chatteris on June 13th, 1889, in the fifty-sixth year of his age, and the thirty-second of his ministry.

(29.) THOMAS INGLIS WALSH; who was born in Edinburgh in 1840. In early life he was led by the Christian spirit and example of his mother to dedicate himself to God. He entered the Ministry in 1861. His probation was spent in English Circuits; he then for fourteen years laboured successfully in Scotland. His genial manners in private life, and the fervour and masterliness of his public ministrations, were highly appreciated by his countrymen. He possessed in an eminent degree the qualities of an attractive and powerful preacher.

He was skilful alike in close reasoning and broad generalization and sacred truths were presented by him in words of unaffected beauty. A rich spirituality pervaded his sermons on the duties and privileges of the Christian life, and those on sterner themes were often delivered with impassioned energy. Methodism in Scotland is much indebted to his public spirit and business aptitude. For several years he served with more than ordinary efficiency as District Secretary. In 1886 he was elected Chairman, and held that office up to his death. Last year he removed to Gledholt, the newly-formed Huddersfield Circuit. He had scarcely entered upon his work when he was prostrated by a sudden illness. He so far recovered as to be able to preside at the May District Meeting. His last public service, as Chairman of the District, was in connection with the meeting of the Local-Preachers' Mutual Aid Association in Bradford, at which he gave a Sacramental address. At the close, he prayed as one who had heard the Master's call to the perfect service of the Church above. On the eve of his death he had a long and animated conversation with a colleague on the exit of the soul from the body and its entrance to the eternal world. Next morning the mystery was made clear. He died, June 13th, 1889, at Lindley, in the twenty-eighth year of his ministry, and the forty-ninth of his age.

(30.) GEORGE BEST; who was born at Tadcaster, December the 8th, 1863. In his ninth year he was brought to God through the instrumentality of the Sunday-school. He preached his first sermon in his fifteenth year. His early educational advantages were very small, but by diligent study he sought to prepare himself for the Ministry to which he felt himself called. In 1884 he was admitted as a student into the Hands-worth College, and was subsequently appointed to the Longton Circuit, where, in his second year, his health failed. Suddenly attacked by congestion of the lungs, he died in much peace on the 15th of June, 1889, in the twenty-sixth year of his age, and the second of his ministry.

(31.) JAMES CALVERT FOWLER; son of the Rev. Philip Fowler, who was born at Bedford in 1844. He was converted to God in his nineteenth year, and soon afterwards gave himself wholly to Christian work. The Conference of 1865 accepted him as a candidate for the Ministry, and sent him to the Richmond branch of the Theological Institution, where he spent three years. His first appointment was to Continental India; but it soon became evident that his constitution was unequal to the climate, and after four years' service he returned to England, where he soon took rank as a preacher of uncommon merit. He was blessed with a liberal education, received partly at Woodhouse-Grove, considerable intellectual resources, with a retentive memory, and a ready and accurate judgment. His sermons were enriched by historical and scientific allusions, choice incident and simile, and a careful and conscientious exegesis. His prayers with the family and the congregation were devout, and entirely free from rhetorical artifice. But the best features of his character, partially obscured by a natural reticence, were discovered only to his more intimate friends. With a fine sense of honour and a rigid devotion to duty, he combined a delicate perception of the proprieties of life, and a hatred of hypocrisy. He was a true friend, a faithful colleague, and, as far as his strength would allow, a diligent pastor.

At the Conference of 1887, in enfeebled health, he asked for a year's rest, in the hope of returning to Full Work in the following year. Unable to take public duty, he studied closely the Greek Testament, and spoke to his friends again and again of his intercourse with God through the written Word. He possessed considerable literary ability, and contributed thoughtful and graceful essays to various periodicals. His last literary effort was a memoir of his sainted father in the *Wesleyan-Methodist Magazine* for May last. In a letter written a day or two before his death, he said: 'I think I am learning patience; but O! how I long to preach! I had rather die in the pulpit than anywhere else.' After two years of wearisome

affliction, borne with Christian resignation, he suddenly expired on the 25th of June, 1889, in the forty-fifth year of his age, and the twenty-second of his ministry.

(32.) THOMAS LLEWELLYN; who was born at Neath Abbey in 1811, and died at his native place July 1st, 1889. Converted to God in early life, he thenceforward steadfastly cleaved unto the Lord. Religious decision was immediately followed by earnest effort after mental culture. He resigned attractive prospects in business life from a conviction that God required his services for the Christian Ministry. He was accepted by the Conference of 1836, and appointed to the Dorchester Circuit. Few men have passed through a ministry of fifty-three years with greater acceptance and honour. His preaching, which kept the salvation of his hearers steadily in view, was marked by a sympathetic and winsome affection, a felicity of illustration, and an earnestness of appeal which, under the blessing of God, rendered his sermons attractive and powerful to believers and unbelievers. Before the infirmities of age overtook him, these qualities gave him a high rank among the preachers of his time. For many years he laboured in our most important Circuits, and twice he was Chairman of a District. In administration he combined unvarying kindness with fidelity and strength. With an evident purity and nobility of character, he was habitually affable and considerate alike towards high and low, easily winning abiding friendships. His kindness to children was specially noteworthy. He won their affectionate attachment as a father.

Through failing health he became a Supernumerary in 1880, residing at Bowdon, where he greatly endeared himself to our people. The charm of his conversation, and the geniality and courtesy of his manner, made him welcome everywhere. For two years before his death he suffered terribly from an incurable malady. This fiery ordeal was sanctified to the purifying and ennobling of his character. He displayed wonderful fortitude and patience. No murmur escaped his lips. He removed to his

birthplace four months before his death. The Neath ministers always found him strong in faith, and in hope of the inheritance that fadeth not away. Some of his last words were 'Precious Jesus!' 'Conquest!' 'Triumph!'

(33.) GEORGE OUTHWAITE; who was born at Tickton, in the Beverley Circuit, in 1849. He was led to decision when about fifteen years of age, and at once began to preach. He offered himself for our Ministry, and was accepted by the Conference of 1869. After one year on the President's list, he spent nearly two years at Headingley, his course being interrupted by physical weakness. He commenced at Falmouth a ministry of marked ability and success. He read widely and well, and had a high idea of pulpit responsibility. His sermons were rich and powerful in teaching for the life. His influence over the young was considerable, and his addresses to children were much valued. As a colleague, he was trusted and loved, and as a friend prized for his edifying conversation, his sympathy and integrity. His last appointment was to Banbury, soon after which pulmonary disease set in, and his work became a constant effort. Eventually, knowing there was no hope, he set his face toward death without a fear. A few days before he died he said: 'This is the beginning of the end; but there is no darkness; it is all bright.' He quietly passed away on the 3rd of July, 1889, in the fortieth year of his age, and the seventeenth of his ministry.

(34.) JOHN BREWSTER; who was born in Nottinghamshire, 1818. He entered the Ministry in 1845; spent twenty years in the Mission-field, and eighteen in Circuits at home. He became a Supernumerary in 1883; and died suddenly, July 22nd, 1889.

N.B.—The obituary of SAMUEL W. CHRISTOPHERS, who died August 14th, 1889, will appear next year.

2. In Ireland, five, viz.,—

(1.) JOHN DONOR POWELL; who was born at Gloucester in 1827, and died at Belfast on the 14th of July, 1888. When

about sixteen years of age he was brought to a saving knowledge of Christ under the ministry of Rev. John Harvard, and thenceforth he lived a consistent and consecrated life. He had received a good education, with the legal profession in view; but manifesting a great love for books, he was sent to a bookseller's establishment, where he remained until called to the Ministry. He soon displayed considerable pulpit power, and was made a blessing to many. By the Conference of 1851 he was accepted as a candidate; and, being intended for the Foreign Mission-Field, was placed under the care of the Missionary Committee, and so remained until September, 1853. He was then sent as a Supply to the Skibbereen Circuit, and from that time to the day of his death was one of the most ardent admirers and devoted sons of Irish Methodism. His worth was soon recognised; many of the leading Circuits secured his services, and no Circuit ever had a more faithful minister. He was an indefatigable and affectionate pastor, a trustworthy adviser, and one of the truest of friends; unconventional in manner, genial in disposition, gentle as a child, and of sterling piety. All who knew him were constrained to love him. He could warn, rebuke, exhort and comfort as few others could. In labours very abundant, he found but little time for systematic study; yet such was his diligence in improving every moment, that he acquired a masterly knowledge of the Sacred Scriptures, Methodist theology and Methodist polity, and formed a wide acquaintance with general literature. In the pulpit and on the platform, in many respects, he had few equals. A strong individuality marked all his public efforts. His was not the logic that too often cuts only to kill, but the sympathy and pathos and spiritual power which always move minds and hearts only for good. Sadly broken in health, he was compelled, at the Conference of 1869, to retire for a year. The rest proved beneficial, and the following summer found him once more at the work he loved so much.

In 1879 he was appointed Secretary to our Orphan Society

—a position which he filled to the close of life. A truer friend the widows and orphans never had. But his manly character and his noble and self-denying response to the numerous calls of his brethren for help, honourably earned for him a still higher degree. In 1886 he was elected a member of the Legal Conference. The following year his brethren conferred upon him the highest honour at their disposal, when, by a practically unanimous vote, they elected him Vice-President of the Conference. Thus was he called to fill most of the positions of responsibility available to a Circuit minister; yet he never was an office-seeker. Honour to him meant duty; and right faithfully was that duty performed.

During the last two years of his life he suffered from a complication of diseases. Towards the close of last year some new and alarming symptoms suddenly presented themselves. He was unable to attend the Conference; and in hope that a year's rest might restore him, he was once more placed on the list of Supernumeraries. But acute pain speedily wore out the physical frame; and, though his affliction was patiently borne, he longed for rest and heaven. Through all, his joy and peace never left him. He died as he had lived, strong in faith, giving glory to God. Some of his last sayings were very precious. A few hours before the end he said, with great emphasis: 'He has been with me as the God of my life all my life long.' Shortly afterward, though in extreme weakness, he said with a trembling voice:

'But O! eternity's too short
To utter all Thy praise!'

With this closing testimony he gently fell asleep in Jesus.

(2.) JOHN NASH; who was born near Bandon in 1802. When a young man he was brought to God. He at once identified himself with the Methodist Church, and entered the Ministry in 1824. He continued in the active work, with one brief interruption, for forty-one years, travelling some of our most extensive Circuits, and often enduring hardness

as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. He was an able expositor of Scripture, and his sermons were most appreciated by the more thoughtful of his hearers. He was a diligent and sympathetic pastor; as Superintendent of a Circuit, he administered the discipline of Methodism with strictness and impartiality. His deportment was gentlemanly. His reserved and sensitive disposition acted as a bar to that fraternal intercourse so generally prized by the Ministry of our Church. He was a close reader, and greatly delighted in the Greek and Hebrew Scriptures. The years of his retirement were spent chiefly at Kenmare. Some of his last words bore testimony to the power of that Gospel, which for so many years he had preached to others; and on the last Sabbath of July, 1888, he calmly entered into rest, in the eighty-sixth year of his age, and the sixty-fifth of his ministry.

(3.) WILLIAM CRAIG; who was born at Athlone in 1805. In his thirteenth year he sought the Lord, obtained pardon, and immediately began to meet in Class. In 1828 he was called out to fill a vacancy, and the following year he was received on probation. In 1830 he was sent to the Enniskillen Circuit, where, in connection with his services, the Lord poured out His Spirit in an abundant measure. For forty-three years he laboured in several of our most important centres, as Dublin, Belfast and Limerick, with unremitting zeal, faithfulness and success. In every place he was highly esteemed for his talents, devotion and perseverance; and his brethren elected him to the high office of President of the Primitive Wesleyan Conference, an office which he sustained with distinguished ability and advantage. He was, in proportion to his means, most liberal in the support of God's work. He was a systematic and diligent student, and his mind was vigorous and well stored with Scriptural truth. He had a clear knowledge of sound doctrine, and his preaching was able, forcible, instructive and faithful. He paid marked attention to the young by acts of kindness, and by speaking

to them affectionately concerning the salvation of their souls. In this way he was useful in every Circuit, and was made a special blessing to both parents and children. His unwearied diligence endeared him to the whole of his acquaintances. He was strongly attached to the discipline and doctrines of Methodism. He was loving, sympathetic and faithful. 'Integrity and uprightness preserved him.'

In 1876 he was obliged to retire from active work. For a number of years he was unable to walk, and for a considerable time scarcely able to speak; but his mind was clear. He was, however, able to read, and in this exercise he always took great delight. His faith failed not; and his mind was kept in perfect peace. After a long and painful illness, which he bore without a murmur, he passed into rest on the 21st of September, 1888, in the eighty-fourth year of his age, and the sixtieth of his ministry.

(4.) JAMES BENJAMIN GILLMAN; who was born at Kinsale in 1800. He was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth in his sixteenth year at Limerick, under the powerful ministry of the late Rev. William Reilly; and the reality of the great change which he then experienced was abundantly illustrated in a holy and beautiful life throughout his subsequent lengthened career. After a time he removed to Bandon, where his deep piety and remarkable gifts led many to believe that Providence intended him to occupy a position of no ordinary influence in the Christian Ministry. But his great diffidence, combined with his high ideal of the work of preaching, led him to shrink from the responsibility of the work for some time. In 1823 he was accepted by the Conference as a candidate for the Ministry. He speedily became known as a man of remarkable ability; and from year to year occupied a foremost position as a preacher in our Church, his services being eagerly and repeatedly sought by our principal Circuits, in all of which his ministry was made a signal blessing.

After about eighteen years of remarkable popularity and

usefulness, he was suddenly stricken down by a mysterious Providence when at the height of his power as a preacher, and for nine years was laid aside as a Supernumerary at Queens-town, where from time to time he preached as his health would allow. Though he keenly felt being thus laid aside from the glorious work of preaching Christ and Him crucified to perishing men, he murmured not. Under the Divine blessing his health was so far restored that at the Conference of 1854 he returned to the active work, and for fourteen years preached in our leading Circuits with much of the fire and attractiveness of the earlier period, and not unfrequently with a power which has rarely been equalled in the history of our Church, and probably never surpassed. He threw his entire strength into the work of preaching Christ, and a goodly multitude will bless God throughout eternity for such a preacher. His great strength lay in a rich, deep, faithful exposition of the Divine Word, which was applied to the hearts and consciences of his hearers with demonstration of the Spirit and of power; so that not unfrequently a sermon from his lips was the opening of a new era in the life history of the hearers. Some of his sermons on the terrors of the law and the certain doom of the impenitent were overwhelming, while his ministry was equally remarkable and effective in feeding the flock of God, and in the edification of the household of faith.

As a preacher his name is imperishable in Irish Methodism. As a pastor, before the failure of his health he was truly exemplary, giving up a considerable portion of his time daily, going from house to house cheering the faint and weary, and binding up the broken in heart. He devoted special attention to the young men of his charge, forming them into classes for study and mental improvement; and had the joy of seeing many whom he had thus trained rise to positions of great influence and usefulness in the Church. Though of late prevented by infirmities from taking part publicly in the offices of the Church, he cherished a wakeful, loving interest in all her work at home and abroad, and rejoiced to help it forward by every means in

his power. His spiritual life was calm, rich and deep : a life of faith in the Son of God, which seemed to grow in depth and richness from year to year. Throughout his ministerial life he gave special prominence to the faithful loving study of the original text of the Old and New Testaments, and probably Irish Methodism never had a minister more acquainted with the Sacred Text. He maintained the habit of daily study of the Word down to the commencement of his last illness, and often said : ' I could not do without it ; it is the food of my soul.'

He spent the calm and beautiful evening of his life, as a Supernumerary, at Limerick, loving and beloved. Up to within a few months of the close of life his mental power was unimpaired. During the last few months his physical and nervous depression was great, and he often said :

' Weaker than a bruised reed,
Help I every moment need.'

But the loving Saviour proved faithful to him, and his faith centred in Him to the last. On the 31st of December, 1888, his spirit gently passed from earth to heaven, in the eighty-ninth year of his age, and the sixty-sixth of his ministry.

(5.) ROBERT GEALE; who was born near Manorhamilton, in 1832. He was brought to God amongst the Methodist people, and in 1859 offered himself as a candidate for the Ministry, and was accepted. For twenty-six years he laboured with zeal and fidelity, chiefly in Ulster; and in some Circuits was cheered by the conversion of many souls. He travelled through a considerable part of the three Kingdoms, raising funds for the erection of the Methodist church at Moville; and years afterwards he laboured with similar zeal and success in connection with the building of the Youghal church and schoolroom.

His character was sterling, and his disposition eager and impulsive; warm in his friendships; and specially attached to his brethren in the Ministry. He loved the Church of his choice, and held the principles of Methodism with a tenacious

grasp. As a pastor, he was zealous and conscientious, and the afflicted members of the Church especially ever found in him a true and sympathizing friend. His mind was well stored with Scriptural truth, and his experience was marked by humility and trustfulness. Successive attacks of paralysis and repeated bereavements threw dark shadows across his pathway during the closing years of life. But with uncomplaining patience he suffered the Father's will, and quietly awaited the end. The nature of his last illness was such as to give little opportunity for verbal testimony for Christ; but his love for the Word of God, his enjoyment of fellowship with Christian friends, and his evident interest in everything in relation to the progress of the Gospel, showed that then, as ever, Christ and His Cause held the first place in his thoughts. He fell asleep in Jesus on March 26th, 1889, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, and the thirtieth of his ministry.

3. In our *Foreign Missions*, three, viz.,—

(1.) PARAMANANTHAN NALLATAMBI; who was appointed by the District Meeting to work as 'another agent' in connection with the Negapatam College, and recommended as a candidate for the Ministry to the Conference, died on June the 5th, 1888. He was unable to take up his appointment until the middle of March through prolonged attacks of fever. After a few weeks' work he went to his home to get married, and immediately on his return was attacked by sun-fever, to which, after a few days, he succumbed. During the brief periods of his work and illness, he won the respect and admiration of the missionaries and the native church, and we deeply mourn his loss.

(2.) GEORGE EDWARD GOONEWARDENE; who was born at Baddagama in 1828. His parents were Christians. He was educated at the Coke Institution of the Church Missionary Society, and was for some time a highly-esteemed tutor at the Government Central School, Galle. Here he was brought into

contact with the Rev. A. Anthonisz and Joseph Rippon; and as the result of their ministrations, was led to give his heart to God. He at once threw himself heartily into Christian work, became a local-preacher, and in 1854 was accepted by the District Meeting as a minister. His preaching was thoughtful and earnest, expounding the Word of God faithfully; and was singularly successful in deepening the spiritual life of our people, and in leading sinners to Christ. As a pastor, he was untiring in his efforts to care for the welfare of his flock. There are many of our poor who will ever have reason to thank God for his self-sacrificing love. In 1863 he was appointed theological tutor at our Galle Institution. During the many years that he occupied that important post he exercised a great influence for good in forming the characters of students and in preparing them for the Ministry. He was an able theologian, and had a rare gift of imparting his knowledge to others in an attractive and useful manner. He was beloved by all the students, and many in our Ministry to-day attribute much of their usefulness to his care and instruction.

His unceasing care for the young in our schools received its recognition from the District Meeting in his appointment to the office of District Visitor to our schools. Several now in our Ministry were converted to God under his teaching, both before and after his entrance on the Ministry, and many of our most useful teachers owe their conversion and training to him. Few men in any ministry have been so universally beloved. His sympathy was fully given to all Christian work, and his genial nature, his Christian forbearance, his wide knowledge of our work, and his almost unerring judgment, made him an able counsellor in all our Church-meetings. He became a Supernumerary at the beginning of last year, but only when his work was really done. On his way from his last station to his home at Galle he was seized with paralysis at Colombo, and after an illness of a few months, entered into rest, in the utmost peace, on October the 28th, 1888, in the sixty-first year of his age, and the thirty-fifth of his ministry.

(3.) JAMES HOBDAY; who was born of English parents at Bangalore in 1829. He became, while a child, the subject of gracious influences, which were strengthened while he was preparing for confirmation, and subsequently at Madras, when he became a student in the Free Church of Scotland Institution, and a teacher in the Wesleyan Sunday-school. He joined the Methodist Society, and found peace with God. When, in 1852, the Rev. E. E. Jenkins established the High School at Royapettah, Mr. Hobday became his assistant, giving up a situation under Government with higher pay and better worldly prospects. In 1853 he entered the Ministry, and subsequently laboured in all parts of the Madras district. As a missionary he was distinguished by enthusiasm, courage and saintly piety. He was mighty in prayer; and, as a vernacular preacher, in open-air discussion, as well as in the quieter work of the pulpit, few men exceeded him. In the mission-school sympathy with the Hindu youth made his teaching very attractive; in this, and in every class of work, he was pre-eminently the evangelist. Several remarkable conversions crowned his labours in the school, among others that of the Rev. S. Somosoondrum.

In 1882, under the pressure of sickness, he retired from active duty; but retirement could not separate him from the work he loved. He continued, as strength permitted, to preach in English and Tamil, and always with profit and delight to his hearers. After a period of great affliction and physical weakness, he passed to his reward, May 5th, 1889, in the sixtieth year of his age, and the thirty-seventh of his ministry.

HENRY M. H. COX, of the West Indian Conference (Western Section), and JONATHAN C. RICHARDSON (Eastern Section), have died during the year. Their obituaries are printed in the *Minutes* of the Conference to which they belonged.