

A GREAT LIGHT GONE OUT.

The Late Charles Haddon Spurgeon's Christian Life-Work.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon, the greatest Baptist preacher of the present age, had one of the mightiest, most eloquent and most devoted men who has served the Lord in any generation, has passed to his reward. After a long illness of seven months, during the greater part of which he suffered acute pain, the release came on the night of January 31st, last.

It was in June 1891, that Pastor Spurgeon's illness began. Up to that time he had experienced occasional visitations of rheumatic gout and also suffered from kidney troubles, but a severe attack of influenza resulted in his immediate prostration. He lingered in London while hoping for recovery and making an effort to preach in the Metropolitan Tabernacle when his condition would permit; but in October last, he was compelled to give up the fight and placed himself wholly in his physician's hands. On the 26th of that month he left his home at Beulah Hill South Norwood, England, and went with Mrs. Spurgeon to Calais, on the way to Mentone. On reaching the famous health place, an improvement speedily took place, and his friends were encouraged, but the influenza left in its wake a complication of ailments baffling all medical skill. He would take no nourishment and was troubled with extreme lassitude and intervals of delirium. Mrs. Spurgeon was constantly by his side, and her ministrations to the sufferer were aided by his brother, the Rev. James Spurgeon and wife and Mr. Spurgeon's secretary, Mr. Jos. W. Harrald.

In November and December last, there were recurrent periods of exaltation and depression. At times the invalid would be strong enough to write letters and to walk out and bathe in the soft sunshine of southern France; but the symptoms, though less acute, remained unchanged. One day's improvement was lost the next. New Year's day, 1892, found him still hopeful, however, and he felt so bright that he was able to make an address to the little circle of friends in the hotel at Mentone, who had met to greet him on that day. He also sent a New Year's message to his congregation at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, London in which he said:

What a joy it will be to be within measurable distance of the time to return to my pulpit and to you. I have not reached that point yet. Now may the Lord cause the cloud of blessing to burst upon you in a great tropical shower. I am expecting this.

Even as late as January 9th last, he was still hopeful of being restored to his flock, and wrote to them:

Personally, I scarcely make progress during this broken weather; but the doctor says I hold my own, and that is more than he could have expected. Whether I live or die, I would say, in the words of Israel to Joseph, "God shall be with you."

But these anticipations, prompted by the insidious and deceptive nature of the disease, were destined to be disappointed. In the middle of January, all the symptoms reasserted themselves with increased activity, and the gout threatened to reach the brain. Dr. Fitzhenry, Mr. Spurgeon's physician, warned the sufferer that the end might come at any moment. The sick pastor became weaker and took less and less nourishment. The steady decline of vitality continued, with rarer intervals of relief than before.

On Sunday, January 31, it was evident to the watchers that the great change was at hand. A weak, restless morning was passed and at 3 P.M. he became unconscious. He remained in that condition, recognizing neither his wife, nor any of the others who surrounded his bed. At 11:20 P.M., he passed peacefully away.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon's life-story is a familiar one throughout the whole Christian world. It is especially so to the readers of this journal, who have been spiritually comforted and strengthened by his sermons, which have regularly appeared in the WATCHMAN. The career of such a man is a record of the triumphs of faith, and the entire consecration of human energies and abilities to the work of the Divine Master. Mr. Spurgeon was born in the town of Kelvedon, in Essex, England, on June 19th 1834. His paternal grandfather was an Independent minister at Stanbourne, a man of sterling piety and greatly respected. His father was the Rev. John Spurgeon, formerly of the Congregational Church of Islington, near London, and his mother a Miss Jervis of Colchester, a lady of singular piety. When ten years old, Charles went to live with his grandparents and there received the same religious nature he had experienced at home. At school he was very successful in his studies, carrying off many prizes and acquiring high honors for a mere lad. On leaving Colchester, he entered an agricultural college at Maidstone, but stayed there only a short time, leaving at fifteen to become an usher in a school at Newmarket, his father's purpose being to make him a schoolmaster. But a year later a change came which turned the whole current of this young life and gave to God's service one of its most brilliant and faithful workers. That change was his conversion, and it came about when he was sixteen. His own account of the occurrence is so simple and graphic that we reproduce it:

"I went into a Primitive Methodist Chapel, one snowy day in January," he said. "A thin-looking man came into the pulpit and read the text, 'Look unto me and be saved, all the ends of the earth.' Then fixing his eyes on me he said, 'Young man, you are in trouble, and you will never get out of it unless you look to Christ.' And then lifting up his hands and crying out, he exclaimed: 'Look! look! look! it is only look!' I did look and saw with my mental eye

open before me, and I was filled with joy unspeakable." Sixteen years later, preaching in the same church, Mr. Spurgeon pointed to a seat on the left hand

under the gallery and said: "I was sitting in that pew when I was converted."

Following his conversion, he made profession of faith and was baptized by the Rev. Mr. Cantlow and united with the Baptist Church in the village of Isleham, near Newmarket. He burned with zeal to begin at once the work of the Master. On accepting an engagement shortly afterward as school assistant at Cambridge, he found the opportunity he desired and began his religious work as a tract distributor in connection with the congregation of the church over which Rev. Robert Hall, a most eloquent and successful preacher, was then pastor.

But tract distributing was merely a step in young Spurgeon's pathway to higher usefulness. He felt

THE MESSAGE ON HIS LIPS and hungered for an opportunity to speak it. Soon it came. There was to be a service in a cottage at Taversham, a village near Cambridge, at which a preacher was to have been engaged. Young Spurgeon, seeing that no one volunteered, threw himself into the breach. Still a mere boy he entered the cottage where the farm-laborers and their wives were gathered together. After singing, praying and reading, came the sermon. It was not such a task as he had feared.

HE DID NOT BREAK DOWN, nor stop in the middle, nor run out of ideas. At last it was ended; he took up the hymn-book when:

"How old are you?" came from a dozen different pairs of lips.

"I am under sixty," was the smiling reply.

"Yes, and under sixteen," said an old lady.

"Never mind my age," was Spurgeon's answer. "Think of Jesus and his preciousness."

He soon became known far and wide as the "Boy Preacher" and less than a year was called to be the pastor of a Baptist congregation at Waterbeach and he went there although only seventeen. Feeling the need of a more thorough preparation for the ministry, he tried to enter Regent's Park College, but afterward gave up the idea. His education, brief as it had been was unusually thorough in many ways. In 1854, when nineteen, he made an address at a meeting of the Sunday School Union at Cambridge, which so impressed some of his hearers that shortly after he was tendered the pastorate of the New Park Street Church in Southwark, and there he began his first important charge and

HIS REAL PULPIT WORK in good earnest. The congregation was a mere handful, but in six months the hearers crowded the chapel. Soon the fame of the young preacher spread abroad and people flocked to the little church in New Park Street. The press called attention to his precocious powers, and praises came from every side; but to these Mr. Spurgeon gave little heed. He was doing the Master's work in all humility.

The little chapel soon became too small for the throngs that assembled at every service, and it had to be enlarged. Pending the change, Mr. Spurgeon preached in Exeter Hall to vast crowds. In 1850, a fund was started to build a new and larger edifice. Surrey Music Hall was next engaged and a disastrous accident occurred on the first attempt to hold services there. Seven thousand persons had gathered and the preacher was about to begin when some one in the audience raised the cry of "fire!" In an instant there was a terrible panic! Seven persons were killed outright and twenty-eight hurt. During the excitement, Mr. Spurgeon remained in the pulpit, endeavoring to check the panic and calm the fears of the frantic multitude. He succeeded at last, but valuable lives had been sacrificed in the stampede.

THE METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE. The foundation stone of the Metropolitan Tabernacle was laid on Aug. 16, 1859, by Sir Monton Peto, and two years later the great building which is capable of seating over six thousand persons, was finished and opened in 1861, free of debt. The total amount expended was in the neighborhood of \$150,000. For thirty years Mr. Spurgeon's ministry was continued at the Metropolitan Tabernacle uninterrupted. His fame as a preacher steadily increased and his field for Christian usefulness widened to a grand horizon. On one occasion he preached at the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, to fully 23,000 persons and at another time, at Agricultural Hall, Islington the audience was over 20,000.

He possessed a voice of vast penetrating-power, whose clear, bell-like tones could be heard distinctly in every nook of the greatest buildings at which most preachers would have recoiled. The first impression a stranger received on listening to the Tabernacle orator was that the man himself seemed insignificant in contrast with the vast building. Stout and short, his height not exceeding five feet three inches, and on the elevated platform which constitutes the rostrum in the Metropolitan Tabernacle, he seemed almost diminutive. The moment he opened his lips, however, the hearer felt the presence of a powerful orator. His delivery was slow and enunciation perfect.

But the secret of Mr. Spurgeon's success as a preacher, must be traced in a very large degree, less to gifts of voice than to his down-right earnestness, the transparent simplicity of his character, his common sense and his marvellous flow of homely Saxon.

THE ORPHANAGE. Mr. Spurgeon's schemes for the good of his fellowmen, and particularly for the relief of the unfortunate, were manifold. In 1866, he received a letter from a lady (Mrs. Hillyer), asking him to become trustee of a fund of \$100,000, for the purpose of founding an Orphanage. Two and a half acres of land in Stockwell were secured as a site, and a number of small homes were erected. Five hundred orphans are regularly cared for, educated and trained at the Stockwell Institution. All this fatherless flock is fed, clothed, trained and started in life.

There were other enterprises of a philanthropic character connected with the Metropolitan Tabernacle. These include the Colportage Association, an Almshouse for seventeen aged women, a number of mission schools, a mission to the blind, beside Ladies Benevolent and Maternal Societies, and others. One of Mr. Spurgeon's favorite philanthropies was the Pastors' College, which was founded in 1856. The plan of starting young pastors and encouraging them until they found their true sphere occurred to Mr. Spurgeon while he was struggling, during the earlier years of his ministry. He undertook the expense of sustaining from his own income a number of young students. His wife economized as much as possible, and he spent on his work from three to four thousand dollars a year from the sale of his sermons. In 1864, the college building was finishing and opened. Over five hundred students have been educated there, and have entered upon ministerial duties in different countries.

Mrs. Spurgeon was a Miss Susannah Thompson, of London, and was married to Mr. Spurgeon in January, 1856. The issue of the marriage was two sons, Charles and Thomas, both now ministers of the Gospel. Mrs. Spurgeon has devoted much of her time to a fund in behalf of poor ministers, and enterprise in which she was aided by a host of friends. She has long been an invalid.

As a writer and editor, Mr. Spurgeon's abilities found a wide field of usefulness. Since 1865 he edited *The Sword and Trowel*, a religious journal in which he gave to the world many volumes of essays and addresses other than pastoral. His "lectures to students," "Speeches," "Books of Devotion," "Treasury of David" and "John Ploughman's Talks" have been issued by the hundred thousand and commanded an amazing popularity.

HORTICULTURAL John Craig Horticulturist to Experimental Farms before Agricultural Committees of the House of Commons.

In large fruits we are making a test of varieties running along two lines; first with the standard varieties chosen from the nursery men's catalogues of to-day. These are the product of the early introductions by the early settlers, as modified by selection and cultivation, and called the American varieties. These varieties have mostly come to us from the western and moister parts of Europe as our settlers came from that region. The French colonists when they first came brought with them the best fruits of their native locality; the English settlers followed and brought their favorites; and the Scotch, Irish and Welsh did the same with theirs; so that to begin with, as I have already stated, we had the fruits of western and the milder portions of Europe. I might say this class then, composes one side of the varietal test. Secondly, the other class is made up of East European sorts which you have frequently heard referred to as the "Russian apples," and I will draw attention to them quite often in the course of my remarks, as we are testing this class extensively. In order to give you an idea as to the causes which led to their introduction for trial into this country, touching upon the early history of the movement, I will relate briefly a few facts relating thereto, upon which hinged the beginning of the work.

Ever since the introduction of the Duchess of Oldenburg from Russia, by way of England, about 40 years ago, there has been a growing interest in the fruits of that cold climate. The first large importation was made in 1870 by the United States Department of Agriculture. This comprised 262 varieties, but owing to the very crude state of Russia pomology, evidenced by the many synonyms afterwards found in the collection, and coupled with long unpronounceable names—the work of sifting the good from the bad in this cumbersome list has been laborious and slow. Without going into details in regard to their merits and demerits I may say, that already a sufficient number of valuable varieties have been found to repay all the expenses incurred in the work of introduction and trial; and when we look at the possible advantages to be derived from these foreigners by uniting them with our native varieties, thus obtaining hardiness on the one side and possibly quality on the other, the benefits likely to accrue are inestimable. I have said the first importation was made by the United States Department of Agriculture, but the credit of bringing this work to a practical and a successful issue is due to a Canadian—one now departed—I refer to the late Chas. Gibb, of Abbotsford, Quebec. At great personal expense, in company with Prof. Budd of Iowa, he undertook the arduous task of visiting the various localities in which these fruits were grown, making notes on condition and quality of tree and fruit. The result of those investigations—a fair and unvarnished statement of facts was published and is now the foundation of our knowledge of the Russian fruits.

As far as we know at present any apple tree not up to the grade of hardness of Duchess, Tetofsky, Wealthy or Powaukee is of doubtful usefulness for planting in the district of Ottawa or similar latitudes. I have referred to the work in apples. Experiments of a like nature have been carried on with pears, cherries and plums.

DOMESTIC HINTS. There is only one sudden death among women to eight among men.

No daughter's education should be considered complete until she thoroughly understands every branch of housework.

Don't take alcoholic drinks on leaving a warm room to go out into the open air. Tea, coffee, or the like, is infinitely more appropriate.

When you borrow money you borrow trouble, but at the same time you save

times increase the trouble of the man who lends it to you.

For fried smelts clean some fresh ones, leaving only the liver; salt them, dip them in milk, quickly flour them, and thread them by the head on skewers, six small fish or four large to each skewer. Fry a golden brown, strain, salt and serve with parsley.

Try cranberries for malaria. Try ginger ale for stomach cramps. Try a wet towel on the back of the neck when sleepless. Try a hot, dry flannel over the seat of neuralgic pain, and renew it frequently. Try snuffing powdered borax up the nostrils for catarrhal cold in the head. Try a cloth wrung out from cold water, put around the neck at night, and covered with a warm wrap, for a sore throat.

A mother can guard her child from having an accident by strict supervision over him on her part, and by not permitting her child to be left to careless servants; by not allowing him to play with fire; to swing over banisters, and to have knives and playthings of a dangerous character; to keep all poisonous articles and cutting instruments out of his reach; and, above all, insisting, lovingly, affectionately, but firmly, upon implicit obedience. Accidents generally arise from one of three causes—namely, from wilful disobedience, or gross carelessness, or from downright folly.

In making Scotch cookies take one-half Scotch pint warm water; mix with flour to an ordinary consistency, dissolve one-half ounce yeast, and add to the mixture; then add 1 1/2 oz. salt. Mix well, and put into buttered jar. There should be plenty of room in the jar to allow the batter to rise; leave for about eight hours in a warm place. In the morning, if ready, they will have left the side of the jar. Then to every 4 pounds of batter add 6 oz. of lard or butter, 6 oz. currants, and a little flour to make quite dry. Leave for another hour. Then make into small round pieces, and allow them to prove. Bake in a sharp oven. The quantity of yeast mentioned may not be the same as we use here; but you will easily learn how much to use for a given quantity of water. When the cookies are proving keep them from the air, and don't shake them.

NEWS ITEMS. Mount Vesuvius is again in a state of eruption.

Premier Abbott is almost entirely restored to health.

On Sunday afternoon Michael Disher, only twelve years of age, committed suicide by hanging himself in the barn at his home near Freeland, Mich.

Mrs. R. J. Doyle, who founded the first Canadian branch of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, died in Owen Sound on Tuesday morning.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company has decided to establish telegraphic communication between Rat Portage and the Rainy River district.

It is believed that a number of vessels bound to or from European ports were lost in the storm that prevailed on Monday and Tuesday. A quantity of wreckage has come ashore on the west coast of Ireland.

The fourteenth annual convention of Ontario Grand Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen was opened at Ottawa Wednesday morning, Grand Master Workman Milne presiding.

Sir William Harcourt's speech at White-chapel has attracted much attention. A special cable says he contends that the Irish Local Government bill is sure to fail in giving satisfaction, and may bring about the defeat of the Government.

Mrs. Anna Margaret Montagu, of Coleraine, daughter of Lord Robert Montagu, was committed for trial yesterday, charged with the murder of her three-year-old daughter. It appears that the governess locked the child up in a dark closet for some offence, and that the mother, to increase the punishment, fastened her hands behind her back with cords and secured her to a ring in the wall, in such a position that her feet barely touched the floor. After three hours, when Mrs. Montagu opened the door of the closet, she found that the child was dead.

The Churches. METHODIST, Cambridge St.—Rev. T. M. Campbell, Pastor. Services at 11 A.M. and 7.00 P. M. Sabbath School and Bible Class at 2.30. Classes at 10 A.M. Prayer Meeting, Wednesday at 8 P. M. Young People's Christian Endeavor Society, every Friday evening at 7.30. METHODIST, Queen Street.—Rev. Newton Hill, Pastor. Services at 11.00 A.M. and 7.00 P. M. Sabbath School at 2.30 P. M. Prayer Meeting Thursday at 7.30 P. M.

BAPTIST, Cambridge Street.—Rev. W. K. Anderson, Pastor. Services at 11.00 A.M. and 7.00 P. M. Prayer Meeting Sabbath morning at 10.30 A.M. Sabbath School at 2.30 P. M. Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor Monday at 7.30 P. M. Prayer Meeting Wednesday at 7.30 P. M.—All seats free.

ST. ANDREW'S (Presbyterian), William Street.—Rev. Robert Johnston, B. A., Pastor. Services at 11.00 A.M. and 7.00 P. M. Sabbath School at 3.00 P. M. Prayer Meeting Wednesday at 8.00 P. M. Young People's Christian Circle Sabbath Morning at 10.15.

ST. PAUL'S (Church of England), Russell Street.—Rev. C. H. Marsh, Rector. Services at 11.00 A.M. and 7.00 P. M. Sabbath School at 2.30. Prayer Meeting Wednesday at 7.30 P. M.

ST. MARY'S (Roman Catholic), Russel Street.—Rev. Vicar-General Laurent, Pastor, Rev. Father Nolan, Curate. Services at 8.00 and 10.30 A. M. and 7.00 P. M. Sabbath School at 3.30 P. M.

Y. M. C. A., Rooms Cor. Kent and Cambridge sts. Open daily from 9.00 A. M. to 10.00 P. M. Prayer Praise meeting Saturday at 8 P. M. Young men's meeting Sunday at 4.15 P. M. Short addresses. Good singing. Young men always welcome. Dr. W. H. Clarke, President; C. K. Calhoun Gen. Secretary.

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It's a well-recognized fact that daily surroundings have much to do moulding of character. If the home be neatly furnished the chances are that the good man will come home early o' nights and that the children will grow up refined and gentle.

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A Sideboard for \$4.50, a Bureau for \$4, a Bedstead for \$2, or a Mattress and Springs for \$5. Common Chairs, Hall Furniture, etc., very low. We are making a special drive in Mattresses.

ANDERSON, NUGENT & CO. Furniture Dealers and Manufacturers, near the Market.

THE MARCH OF IMPROVEMENT.

Art in the household and beauty in the ordinary surroundings in life was the gospel propounded by the late Professor Ruskin and other elevators of the human mind, and to realize what progress has been made in this direction it is well worth while paying a visit to the magnificent show rooms of the old established furniture house of Messrs.

OWEN MCGARVEY & Son. 1849-1853 Notre Dame Street. MONTREAL.

A walk through those spacious show rooms is a revelation; in fact they really amount in themselves to a Montreal Industrial exhibition in their line. Such must necessarily be the reflections of anyone who pays a visit to this firm's prominent establishment and makes a tour of inspection through their attractive warerooms.

Everything in the furniture line is to be found there, from a twenty-five cent chair to a fifteen hundred dollar bedroom set, and prices to suit everyone.

No one need despair; the millionaire can furnish his house from top to bottom with the finest and most costly, and his junior clerk can fill his little tenement with useful and pretty articles at prices to suit his more limited means.

On entering the well-known and extensive warerooms on Notre Dame street, the visitor is struck by the excellent display of Sideboards, Dining Tables, Hall Stands, Bookcases, Wardrobes,

Library Tables, Writing Desks, and Easy and Combination Chairs of all descriptions.

On reaching the second floor a beautiful assortment of PARLOR FURNITURE

meets the eye, such as 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 piece parlor suites. Odd piece suites, gilt chairs, corner chairs, ottomans, divans, tete-a-tetes, piano and foot-stools in plushes, brocatelles and silk damasks of all the newest and latest shades; also a full line of fancy centre, card and work-tables, statuette-stands, ladies writing desks, music stands and easels.

On the third floor a fine selection of Rocking, Easy and Reclining Chairs claims particular attention. The celebrated bent wood furniture imported from Vienna, Austria, and of which the Messrs. McGarvey make a specialty, also occupies a prominent position on this floor.

On the fourth floor bedroom sets in profusion are to be found from the cheap ash wood to the elegantly carved set valued at fifteen hundred dollars. Brass and iron furniture, of which they have just received a very large consignment from Birmingham, England, is an especially noticeable feature; handsome solid brass bedsteads and pretty cots for children from \$30 up to \$125—there they are of the newest designs; neat iron bedsteads as low as \$5, and rising to much higher figures, can also be found here. A great advantage in this house is that the price of every piece of furniture and article is marked in plain figures, but owing to the widening of Notre Dame street west, which will necessitate their removal next spring, they are now offering special inducements in the way of Discounts off the marked prices. The entire establishment is a model one, neatness and order prevailing everywhere; all available space is taken up to accommodate the enormous stock which they carry, and from which purchasers can select at their liberty. Their new passenger elevator will be found not only a great convenience, but also a luxury in its way to carry their customers to any of their six flats of show rooms.

The firmly established reputation of this well-known house is a sufficient guarantee that outside show is only the last thing aimed at, and that stability and good value for money are to be found in the old established firm of Messrs.

Owen McGarvey & Son. 1849 and 1853 Notre Dame Street, corner of McGill street.