

# DEATH OF MRS. JANE BURKE.

---

Death came to another of our pioneer Christian mothers on Monday, when Mrs. Jane Burke passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. Scott, at the age of 74 years, after five or six years of declining health, followed by a paraletic stroke about a month ago.

Deceased was born in England, and at the age of 9 years came to Canada and settled in Toronto, where, on reaching young womanhood, she married the late Captain David James Burke, who pre-deceased her 24 years. Mrs. Burke moved to Penetang as a bride after her marriage, where they lived for a number of years, moving to Midland in 1880, thirty-six years ago. She was one of the early settlers of this district and well knew the trying experiences of a pioneer life. She was the mother of three sons and five daughters, the three sons who are all marine Captains, and four daughters survive, viz.:—Captains Edward, David and Fred, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Gardiner, Mrs. J. B. Hanly and Mrs. William Scott, all of Midland, except Mrs. Gardiner, whose home is in Oakland, California. Some of the family have "silver threads among the gold," as a reminder that they, too, are nearing life's sunset.

The funeral took place on Wednesday morning to St. Mark's Church, where impressive services were conducted by Rev. J. A. Hanna, after which all that was mortal of this grand old mother of Israel was tenderly conveyed to Penetanguishene, where, by the side of her devoted

husband she now rests in peace.

Mrs. Burke was a highly esteemed citizen and a kind and thoughtful neighbor. None ever entered her home without a warm welcome nor left without feeling the warmth of a genuine hospitality, so characteristic of the people of her ancestry. Disease did not destroy the charm of a kind indulgent disposition; nor old age diminish her unselfish solicitude for her friends and loved ones. Adhering to the faith of her fathers, she united with the English church in early life and loved to attend its services when health permitted. While she has continued to enjoy the society of her friends and children, she has for several years, realized that her active life was over and with resignation awaited the Divine call from death unto life.

As the death dew gathered on her marble brow, around her bedside gathered her "girls" and "boys"—always girls and boys to her, though now grown to mature years with boys and girls around their own fire-sides. The life so long interwoven with theirs, with tearful eyes they watched as it, slowly but surely passed over. The love of a mother for her children passeth human understanding. The boys and girls that

gathered about the bed of this dying mother and so bravely fought the Death Angel, long ago passed out from the little home circle. Business cares and their own home circles have encroached upon their time, may have robbed mother of their companionship but she was ever just the same; rejoicing in their successes and grieving at their misfortunes. They may have grown away from her, but she never from them; they were still her boys and girls. We know that years hence the memory of her unselfish devotion will make them better men and better women and her precepts be their guiding star,