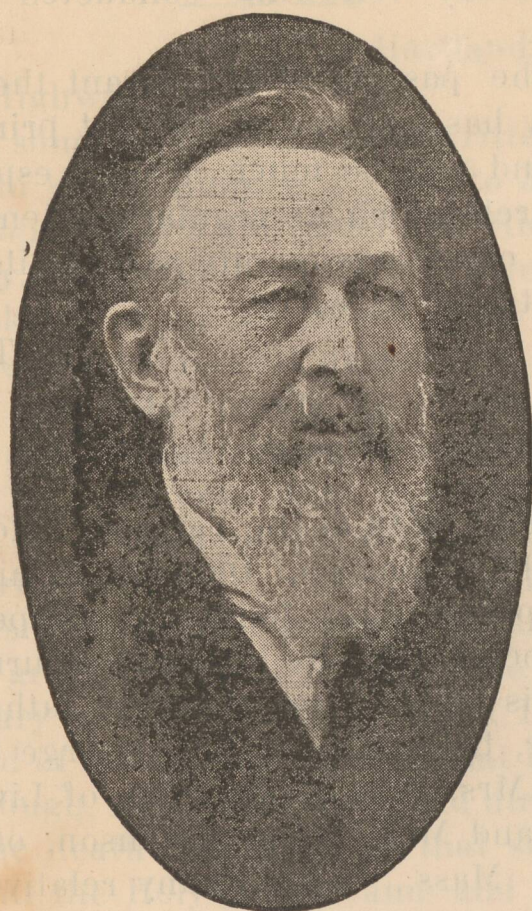


OBITUARY.



Rev. A. H. Trafton

Rev. A. H. Trafton was born at Northampton, Car. Co., N. B., Oct. 31st, 1839, where he spent the early years of his life. He began life for himself as a general merchant at Meductic, then known as Eel River, York Co. In this he was successful, but having a desire to accumulate more rapidly went into lumbering, where he soon lost everything. He then went on a farm at Lower Woodstock. In the year 1866 he was united in marriage to Hannah Watson. To this union eight children were born, of whom five survive—three sons, Rev. P. J. Trafton, of Fredericton; M. S. Trafton, of Los Angeles, Calif.; G. Harold Trafton, of Mapleton, Me., and two daughters, Mrs. F. D. Foley, of East St. John, and Mrs. Alvin Perry, of Port Maitland, N. S. Sixteen grandchildren also survive. His wife died two years ago, March, and since that time he has made his home with his daughter at East St. John.

During revival services which were in progress at Meductic in the year 1877 he received a definite call to the gospel ministry and entered upon the work in the next year with the Free Christian Baptist, with whom he labored until he and his family went to Los Angeles, California, on April 23rd, 1888. After his return to the homeland in 1892 he again offered his services to the Free Christian Baptist, who appointed a committee to wait on him to ascertain his belief in the doctrine of entire sanctification. Because of his belief in this experience as a second definite work of grace he was denied the right to preach in his mother church. He then united with the Reformed Baptist Church and continued in its ministry until the close of his life. After the death of his wife he continued as pastor of the Church at Norton until June 15th, the close of the church year. Since that time he has been engaged as supply and visiting pastorless churches. He maintained his faculties and continued his work right up to the last. He supplied for P. J. Trafton Sunday, March 8th, visited in Fredericton until Thursday of that week, when he left for St. John, leaving the next day for Norton, where he preached the following Sunday. He visited during the week, and contracted a slight cold, but

would not give up, and although not feeling well on Sunday, March 22, he conducted two services in the Norton Church morning and afternoon. He arose Monday morning, but did not feel well enough to take the early train for St. John. He was making preparation to go on the next train and while taking some nourishment he succumbed to heart failure. He was boarding in the home of Brother Charles Murphy, where every kindness was rendered. Rev. F. T. Wright accompanied Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Foley the same day to Norton to bring the body to St. John. A short service was held in Brother Murphy's home in the afternoon by Brother Wright at which Rev. Sanders Young, U. B., and H. Wood, Presbyterian, assisted. The funeral service took place Wednesday with scripture reading and prayer at the home by Rev. F. T. Wright, after which the cortage made its way to the Reformed Baptist Church, where a large congregation had assembled. Rev. F. T. Wright had charge and was assisted by Rev. H. S. Dow, who preached the sermon and Rev. W. W. Howe, who offered prayer, and also spoke words of comfort. There were present in the congregation Rev. H. N. Goodwin and Rev. Mr. McLeod, Methodist; Rev. Gideon Swim and Rev. Mr. Colwell, U. B. Brother Wright took charge of the service at the grave. We were led to praise the Lord for the hope of the resurrection. He had finished his work, had received the answer to his prayer and heart's desire, "that when his task was accomplished, he should be taken quickly from this stage of action." He was a kind and loving parent, a good provider and his last years were the fullest in spiritual blessing. P. J. T.

The death of Rev. Alfred H. Trafton took place at Norton, N. B., Monday, March 23rd. The same day the remains were brought to St. John; on Wednesday the funeral service was held in the church at 2.30 p. m. The floral tributes were many and beautiful, the audience was large, which all spoke in honor of the one who had departed. Interment was made by the side of his wife at Fern Hill cemetery, who had predeceased him a little more than two years.

My earliest memory of Brother Trafton was when I was a boy about 12 years of age. He was then preaching in the northern part of this province. I have known him ever since, but more especially since I entered the ministry myself.

His messages were always good and he possessed a rich and melodious voice in song, which he often times used in the course of his preaching, singing a verse or part of one to illustrate some truth he had in mind.

His friends were many as he was well known in this province and also in parts of Nova Scotia, he was an acceptable visitor at the churches where he had recently labored. At the ripe age of more than 85 years he spent all the energy he had laboring the major part of his time with the churches at Salem, Head of Millstream, Norton and Westchester. He realized his time was becoming short and seemed anxious to put his all into the closing of his fight. It may be well said

of him that he exchanged his sword for a crown; the day previous to his death he had preached twice; he arose in the morning and was making preparations to go to St. John when the end came. Thus has passed from our midst an aged Christian minister and a veteran soldier of the cross of Jesus Christ; his is the eternal triumph through the Redeemer. May we be faithful, and in that day share in the glory of the Lamb.

F. T. WRIGHT.

CHOICE

(Continued from Page 1)

progenitress of Jesus the Lord and Christ, once the Nazarene carpenter, now the World's Redeemer, soon, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Praise God.

Orpah went back to Moab. Perhaps she married quite happily. Possibly she became the happy mother of a beautiful family. We cannot say for certain. Her choice took her out of the will of God, back into heathen darkness and superstition; while the blotting out of her whole nation, including her and whatever family she may have had, is forfeited by the prophet Zephaniah (2:8-10).

Ruth's choice paid.

Ruth's choice is the choice we are called to make. We belong to the children of wrath; let us cast in our lot with the children of God. We are of our father the devil; let us seek to be born again and we can cry "Our Father which art in Heaven. Our old religion is a religion in name only: let us lay hold of "the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." Let us say, "Good-bye" to associates, lovers, friends and family, business partners and business methods of the world, worldly frolics, foolery and fashion and cast in our lot with the people of God. It will pay us here. It will pay us in the world to come. To those who are ready to give up all to find God's favor. He says, "Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

The path of sin may at first seem cute, smart, pleasant, even right; the way will soon prove hard; the ends thereof are the ways of death. "The wages of sin is death."

Choose the other path—the path of the just. At the first the bitterness of conviction and repentance may seem galling; the narrowness of the way may at the first glance seem repulsive; but take the way and "Ye shall find rest unto your souls." That path will be a "shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." Soon you will say, "I delight to do thy will, O God." Finally you will say, "I am now ready and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith; and henceforth"—Ah! Henceforth. "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."