

The King's Highway

Mrs. Thomas Moran

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

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1871 Rev. William Edmund Smith 1951

Our ministerial ranks have again been broken by the sudden passing of Brother E. W. Smith, who died very suddenly of a heart attack at his home in Cambridge, Mass., on Jan. 30th. The editor of the King's Highway had a letter from him written Jan. 29th, the day before his death, enclosing a poem of his own composition, his last contribution to our paper. See it in this issue. Our readers will miss Brother Smith's good articles which he wrote so well, and were enjoyed by all. He had been preaching the gospel for over 50 years, and he possessed all the elements that a man needs to make him the great preacher that he was. He had natural ability to speak fluently; he was educated, having had a university training for the ministry, and above all, he possessed and enjoyed the Blessed Holy Spirit, having been converted when quite young, and later he sought and obtained the baptism with the Holy Ghost to sanctify him wholly, and to keep him in joyous victory, while he preached the doctrine of scriptural holiness, which he loved to preach to others.

Having known Brother Smith for over forty years, and during that time had become intimately acquainted with him, we learned to love him dearly as a brother in the Lord's work; we also found that he possessed many characteristics of a great soul. He was humble; his ability as a preacher did not puff him up, neither did his trials discourage him, or hinder him from "shouting the victory," as he used to say. He was courageous for the Lord, not afraid to preach the whole truth anywhere, and witness for Jesus whenever he had opportunity.

He did not preach to live; he lived to preach; he was liberal with what money he received, giving hundreds of dollars to the work of the gospel and to the poor, saving barely enough to bury him when he was through with this life. In this also he followed the Rev. John Wesley's example.

Besides his widow, he is survived by two sons: William and Tracey, of Somerville, Mass., and one daughter, Mrs. Andries, of Syracuse, N. Y.; also two grandchildren and several nephews and nieces; three brothers, George, of Gorham, Me.; T. W. Smith, of Fredericton, and Warren, of Nashwaak Village; and other relatives and a host of friends. Brother Smith used to say sudden death would be sudden glory, and that was the way he went. Living alone as he was in his apartment in a big city, surrounded by strangers, we used to pray that God would not let him get sick and suffer there alone, perhaps before anyone would know it. God answered prayer. He dropped suddenly on the street near his house. It may be said of him as it was of Enoch of old: He walked with God, and was not,

for God took him. We did not hear of his passing until past noon Friday, the day of the funeral, so could not get to the service. It was held in the Reformed Baptist Church at Marysville, N. B., conducted by the pastor, Rev. F. A. Watson, assisted by the following Reverend brethren: B. C. Cochrane, H. E. Mullen, A. J. Owens, P. H. Green, R. H. Nicholson, H. O. McGeorge, H. E. Anderson, B. M. Hicks, F. A. Anderson, Leslie Hicks. Interment was made at the cemetery near his old home at Nashwaak Village, where he was born, nearly 80 years ago. "And he being dead yet speaketh."

H. S. DOW



Reverend P. J. Trafton, highly respected and dearly beloved minister of the Reformed Baptist Church, died at his home in Fredericton, N. B., Jan. 20th, in his eighty-first year. Brother Trafton had been in failing health for some years and passed away peacefully in the presence of his beloved wife and children.

Born at Woodstock, N. B., Percy Trafton was converted to God in early manhood and later entered into the experience of entire sanctification. Hearing the call of God to the Gospel ministry, he left a prosperous business and went forth to serve the Lord for nearly half a century as a consecrated and successful evangelist and pastor. He was one of the most beloved pastors that has served the Reformed Baptist Church during its sixty-year history. Brother Trafton served his church with zeal and efficiency. At various times he occupied official positions with the Alliance and always labored whole-heartedly in the performance of duty. He had a great zeal for missionary work as well as for every other branch of the church's work. Ordained in the year 1906, Brother Trafton had a record of more than forty years of active service. Since his retirement five years ago he maintained a clear vision and live interest in the work of the

Lord. Brother Trafton served pastorates at Fredericton and Moncton, N. B., Fort Fairfield, Maine; Port Maitland, N. S., and elsewhere.

Surviving the deceased are his beloved wife, two sons, Alfred, of Pontiac, Mich.; Rev. Norman, of Truro, N. S.; three daughters, Mrs. Clarence Dow, Calais, Maine; Mrs. George Untz, Hyde Park, Mass.; and Marguerite, Fredericton, N. B.; one brother, Harold, of Mapleton, Maine; and two sisters, Mrs. Fenwick Foley, Saint John, N. B.; and Mrs. Alvin Perry, Port Maitland, N. S.

The funeral service was held at the Fredericton R. B. Church Tuesday, Jan. 23rd, and was conducted by the Superintendent, Rev. B. C. Cochrane. There were more than thirty ministers and missionaries of the Reformed Baptist Church present for the service and also ministers of the United Baptist, United Church, Christian and Missionary Alliance, Salvation Army and Pentecostal Churches. The church accommodated less than half the people who came to pay tribute to a valued friend and an honoured minister. The message of the Superintendent was from the words: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . . enter into the joy of thy Lord." Rev. F. A. Watson, president of the R. B. Ministers' Association, and personal friend of Brother Trafton for many years, also paid tribute to the deceased. Other ministers taking part in the service were: Rev. H. E. Mullen, pastor of our Fredericton Church; Rev. F. A. Dunlop, president of Bethany Bible College; and Rev. E. W. Tokley, pastor of our Moncton Church and Associate Editor of the "King's Highway." Music was provided by the Fredericton Male Trio singing "Servant of God Well Done," and Miss Christina Crawford, who sang "Beyond the Sunset." The service closed with the singing of "Amazing Grace," a favorite hymn of Brother Trafton, by the ministers and congregation.

Interment was at Rural Cemetery Extension. Revs. G. A. DeLong, H. O. McGeorge, G. R. Symonds, H. E. Anderson, B. M. Hicks and R. H. Nicholson were the pallbearers. Assisting in the committal service were Rev. F. A. Anderson and Rev. J. A. Owens.

At the grave the ministers united in singing one verse of the "Sweet Bye and Bye."

Brother Trafton was a good man and a faithful servant of God. He served the church and the Kingdom of God long and well. And now he rests from his labours and his works follow him.

"Servant of God, well done,
Rest from thy loved employ;
The battle fought, the victory won,
Enter thy Master's joy."