

Albert William Badminton (1864-1891)

Transcription of obituary published in the Minutes of Conference by Thomas Scrimshaw

ALBERT W. BADMINTON was born at Malmesbury, Wilts, May 19th, 1864. He had in his boyhood the helpful advantage of godly parentage and the inspiring ministries of a Christian home. His father has for many years served our connexion as a respected official and local preacher. At the early age of fifteen our departed brother decided for Christ, and became conscious of a true change of mind and heart. He at once sought to put himself into line with the redemptive purposes of God, the result being that the joy of a living faith in a living Christ filled his soul. Feeling conscious of God's favour, through Jesus Christ, he at once associated himself with the church of his parents.

Being of an active and thoughtful temperament, he soon manifested considerable interest in the work and welfare of the connexion. In a short time his name was placed upon the plan of the Malmesbury Circuit, and in the capacity of local preacher he sought to stir up the gift of God that was in him. In 1883 he was engaged in the Goole Circuit as a hired local preacher. The year following he entered the ministry, his first two years being spent in the Hungerford Station. After this he travelled a year at Ludlow and two at Belper. Thence he removed to Ashby-de-la-Zouch Circuit, residing at Coalville. He was travelling in the latter circuit at the time of his death.

While his ministerial career could not be described as brilliant, it was nevertheless useful. To the full measure of his light and strength he served his generation according to the will of God. He did real work, and has obtained an early reward. His sermons cost him something; indeed, they were too thoughtful for the majority of hearers; but at any rate they had real grit in them. In attention to appointments he was conscientious, and in the homes of people, welcome.

His illness was short in its duration, but intense in the suffering which it entailed. He laboured up to within about twelve days of his death. From the beginning of his illness he anticipated that his end was near. Each successive day he got worse, eventually becoming unconscious, and was in this condition, more or less, till the end was approaching, when consciousness returned and some questions were asked. His chief anxiety seemed to be his beloved wife's health. She was lying then in an adjoining room suffering with the same complaint. 'I shall preach no more,' were among the last words that he uttered. To the present writer, who visited him and prayed with him, he said, 'I cannot sleep; as soon as I close my eyes I am delirious. It is too much for me, I want help.' His confidence in Jesus Christ was always strong, and he died well.

He was carried away by typhoid fever, November 10th, 1891, after a twelve days' struggle with disease and pain. His funeral took place at Malmesbury, November 12th. He leaves a sorrowing widow and a fatherless child. These need both consolation and protection. May the Lord, who never fails to proceed righteously, be their protection, consolation, and strength

References

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