

DEATH OF COUNCILLOR JOSEPH WESTLEY, J.P.

A Nonconformist Merchant Prince.

It is with feelings of deep regret that we chronicle the demise, this morning of Mr. Joseph Westley, J.P., County Councillor for Blisworth Division, President of the Northamptonshire Association of Baptist Churches, chairman of the South Northamptonshire Liberal Association, and head of the firm of Westley and Sons, millers, etc., Northampton and Biisworth. Mr. Westley, who was nearly 73 years of age, caught a severe cold at Christmas when visiting some old people of the village. Some years ago Mr. Westley suffered from an internal complaint, from which, to all appearances, he had thoroughly recovered. His robustness and vigorous vitality indicated that, though he had overstepped the allotted three score years and ten, he had probably many years of healthful active life before him. The cold he contracted at Christmas, however, caused the old disease to again develop. At the beginning of last week Mr. Westley was confined to his room, and was consequently unable to be present at the fortnightly sitting of the Towcester magistrates last Tuesday. Dr. A. Clifton, of Northampton, attended Mr. Westley and on Sunday it was thought advisable that a specialist from London should be called in and he arrived on Sunday night. An operation was successfully performed on Monday morning, and the patient appeared to rally. Later in the day, however, he gradually became weaker and at four o'clock this morning he sank into a comatose state and died an hour later. With the exception of one son, who is in New Zealand, all the members, of the family were present at the deathbed.

Mr. Joseph Westley, who is a fine example of the Nonconformist-man of business, was born at Blisworth on March 21st, 1821, in the house now Mr. Charles Pitts's blacksmith's shop.

Always a supporter of the Baptist Church at Blisworth, where he was senior deacon, Mr. Westley a long time ago was elected a member of the Towcester Board of Guardians for Blisworth parish. He was the best known member of the Board, and it was a general thing for an applicant, or even an inmate of the house brought forward for reprimand, to appeal to "Muster Wustley." Not that Mr. Westley forgot or neglected the poor who had any claim upon him even though no stronger than that they lived at Blisworth. Although he has extended his operations far and wide, he has not left his birthplace to fall on evil times while he has prospered in the neighbouring town, but, has developed the resources and helped the fortunes of Blisworth as were his own. Mr. Westley's services were extremely valuable on the Board of Guardians, and when the Local Government Act came into force in 1888, everyone looked upon Mr. Westley, always a good Liberal, as the natural representative of his Division on the Northamptonshire County Council. The Conservatives unwisely opposed him, putting forward a big local magnate, Mr. Bertie Wentworth Vernon, J.P.

The figures were:

J. Westley (L.)	318
B. W. Vernon (C.)	240
Majority.....	78

In Consequence of this election Mr. Westley did not permit himself to be re-elected on the Board of Guardians: he felt the work would be too much for him; and the Towcester Board was poorer in consequence. In 1892 Mr. Westley was re-elected without opposition to the County Council. He has always been a staunch Liberal, and has taken an active part in the politics of his county. Every Liberal candidate for the Parliamentary representation has had his most strenuous support, and it was the greatest pleasure to him to recall the grand day for South Northamptonshire when Lord Althorp was returned. The memories of that day were always sweet to him, and were always an incentive to him to work for Liberal successes. The successes, were a long time coming but Mr. Westley was rewarded at last by the return in 1892 of Mr. Guthrie. That, with a few exceptions, was the proudest day of Mr. Westley's life. His wonted cheeriness almost overcame him. Though beyond seventy, he was young again. His glee was unbounded. Once more, though he had hardly dared to believe it would come, South Northamptonshire had a Liberal member of Parliament. He ran up a flag in celebration of the event.

Less than twelve months ago, in February of last year, on the nomination of the Lord Lieutenant of the county (Earl Spencer), Mr. Westley was appointed, with 23 others, a Justice of the Peace of the county. It was a curious circumstance that he was sworn of the Grand Jury at the Northamptonshire Assizes on February 13th, five days before he took the oath and qualified. He is the .first of the 24 to be taken away by death.

At the annual meeting at Long Buckby of the Northamptonshire Baptist Association in May, 1380, Mr. Westley was appointed treasurer, a post he held until last year when, on being elected president, he resigned the older office. He was elected president, strangely enough, at Long Buckby as well. His presidential address, delivered on May 24th, was extremely practical, and strongly advocated weekly giving by Church members. Mr. Westley's presidency would not have expired, had he lived, until next May. On March 21st, 1891, his 70th birthday, Mr. Westley was the recipient at Blisworth of his portrait, painted in oils by Mr. Harris Brown, and the following address:

"To Joseph Westley, Esq., C.C.,
Founder and senior partner in the firm of
Joseph Westley and Sons, Northampton and Blisworth.

Dear sir,—On the occasion of the celebration of your seventieth birthday, we desire, on behalf of the employees, to offer you our sincere congratulations, and beg your acceptance of the accompanying oil painting as a small token of the very high esteem in which you are held by those in your employ. Wishing you many years of happiness, and a continuance of good health,—Signed on behalf of the staff— E. J. Biggs, Northampton; W. Standen and W. H. Tarry, Nunn Mills; W. Packwood and A. Pike, Blisworth; J. Richardson, Weston Fa veil; J. W. Hobbs, retail department; A. Harris Stoke-on-Trent, E. J. Davies (Market Harborough), H. S. Smith (London), and G. Wood (Birmingham), agents.

The subscribers desire to express their wish that the painting shall remain an heirloom in your family, and be held by the senior partner in the firm who shall bear the name of Westlev, Northampton, March 21st, 1891."

At the same time Mr. Westley's family gave, as a thank offering, a new organ to Blisworth Chapel. The cost was about £260. The opening took place on June 11th when Mr. Westley was presented with a gold key—with which to open the organ—as a souvenir of the interesting occasion.

Mr. Westley died at his residence, Grafton House, Blisworth. He was twice married, his first wife was Miss Sands, of Roade and his second, who also predeceased him, Miss Garner, of Harpole. His eldest son, Mr. Samuel Westley, who was for a short time; alderman of the Borough of Northampton, died on June 27th, 1890. He leaves six sons and two daughters all children of his first wife. They are—Mr. William Westley and Mr. Robert Westley, both of whom live at Northampton; Mr. Charles-Henry Westley, who resides at London; Mr. Edward A. Westley, who is in New Zealand; John Hands Westley, Blisworth; and Mr. Alfred Westley, Blisworth. With the exception of Mr. Alfred Westley all these are married. One of the daughters, Miss Westley, resides at Blisworth, and the other is the wife of Mr. T. S. Stops, of Tiffield. The funeral has been arranged to take place on Friday next at Blisworth at twelve o'clock.

FUNERAL OF MR. JOSEPH WESTLEY

The funeral of the late Mr. Joseph Westley J.P. C.C., of Grafton House, Blisworth took place on Friday, at Blisworth, marked every mark of sorrow and respect, and in the presence of a large concourse of relatives and friends of the deceased. The funeral cortege was timed to leave the late residence of Mr Westley at noon, and very soon after the clock of the parish church had struck, the procession started from the house, and slowly walked to the Baptist Chapel, at which the deceased for many years constantly worshipped, and of which he was senior deacon. The procession was in the following order:—

Workpeople of the firm, numbering about seventy

Ministers: Rev. H. Bradford, Northampton; Rev. H. T. Martin, Northampton; Rev. S. Needham, Northampton; Rev. William Adams, Bugbrooke; Rev. A. C. G. Rendell, Long Buckby; Rev. G. W. Robert, Kingsthorpe; Rev. E. R. Broom, Milton; Rev. E. J. Darley, Towcester; Rev. P. G. Masters, Roade.

Deacons; Mr. R. Brice, J.P., Mr. F. Covington, J.P., Mr. R. Cleaver, J.P., Mr. S. Pickering, Mr. J. Brice, Mr. H. M. Mawby, Mr. R. Timms, and Mr. G. Hall, College Street Chapel, Northampton; Mr. Wm. Hobbs, Union Chapel, Northampton; Mr. Joseph Jeffery, Mr. E. T. Trenery and Mr. George Higgins, Doddridge Chapel, Northampton; Mr. A. J. Davis and Mr. F. Perkins, Kingsthorpe; Mr. F. W. Woollard, Stony Stratford; Mr. A. P. Hawtin and Mr. J. Addington, Mount Pleasant, Northampton; Mr. G. Nightingale, Towcester; Mr. George Cave, Nobottle; Mr. O. Adams and Mr. W. J. Adams, Bugbrooke and Mr. C. Pollard, Kettering.

The Rev. J. T. Brown, College-street, Northampton Rev* W, Fidler, Towcester (secretary of Northamptonshire Association of Baptist Churches; Rev. Henry Wyatt, Blisworth; Rev. W. J. Mills, Walworth Road, London; Rev. J. Trotman, Port Mahon, N Sheffield; Rev. F. G. Hughes, London (late pastor of Blisworth Church).

Mr. J. Campion, C.C., Courteenhall executor under the will of the deceased; Dr. A.C. Clifton, Northampton; Mr. W. Shoosmith, solicitor to the deceased. Mr. W. Chesters, undertaker.

The COFFIN, of polished oak, with heavy Brass mountings, and bearing on the plate the Inscription :-

Joseph Westley,
Died January 9th, 1894,
In the 73rd year of his age.

The coffin was borne on a hand bier by the following employees at Blisworth Mill:—
Messrs, William Hobb, A. Alexander, J. Hedge, A. Pike, George Smith, C. Reynolds, J. Pinfold, and A. Keech.

Mr. W. Westley (eldest surviving son), Mrs. T. S. Stops (daughter), Mr. Robert Westley (son) Miss Westley (daughter), Mr. J. H. Westley (son), Mr. H. Westley (son), Mr. Alfred Westley (son), Mr. Stops (son-in-law), Master Joseph Harold Westley (grandson, son of the late Mr. S. Westley), Master A. Westley (grandson), Master Herbert G. Westley } (grandson) Master S. Stops (grandson); Mr. R. C. Wesley, Kislingbury (brother); Mr. Robert Campion, Oxford (brother-in-law); Mr. S. Garner, Harpole (brother-in-law) Nurse Brown, Northampton; Mr. A. Grose, Northampton, Mr. W. G. Stops, Northampton. Members of the staff: Mr. E. J. Biggs, Northampton; Mr. W. Packwood, chief at Blisworth; Mr. W. H. Tarry, Northampton; Mr. H. E. Spence, Blisworth; Mr. F. J. Gains, Northampton; Mr. J. Davis Market Harborough; Mr. , J. Smeather, Mr. J. Harris, Mr. G. E. Walton, and Mr. A. Stephenson, Northampton; Mr. G. S. Pilgrim, Nun Mills; Mr. W. Richardson, Weston Favell; Mr Boys, Northampton.

Millers, etc.: Mr. J. B. Whitworth, Wellingborough, Mr. G. O. Price, Newport Pagnell; Mr. R. Whitworth, Clifford Hill; Mr. J. Barford and Mr. B. Harvey, Northampton; Mr. J. H. Beesley, St. James End, Mr. George Randall, Isham; Mr. E.G. Colford, Heyford; Mr. S. M. Soundy, Reading, ex president National Association of Scottish and Irish Millers; Mr. H. Carter, London, ex-president; Mr. H. G. Sanderson, London, secretary; Mr. Pearson Turner, London; Mr. H. J. Davis, London. Mr. D. C. Guthrie, M.P., and Mr. M. P. Manfield M.P.

Mr. C. C. Becke, Northampton; Mr. W. R. D. Adkins, C.C., Northampton; Mr. F. G. Adnitt, J.Fj and Mr. C. Adnitt, Northampton.

† Mr. T. C. Thompson, Northampton; Mr. H. Hughes London; Mr. F. Tonsley, T.C., Northampton; Mr. J. Campion, Abington; Mr. J. T. Franklin, Handley, Mr. T. M. Percival; Towcester; Mr. A. Kingham Mr. C. R. Nunn, Mr. J. H. Baker, Leicester: Mr. B. W. Wood, Kislingbury; Mr. J. Campion, Bugbrooke. Mr. C. Rodhouse, C.A., Daventry; Mr. J. Denney C.C., Silverstone; Mr. T. Ashdowne, secretary Northampton Radical Association; Mr. W. Billingham and Mr. J. Taffinder, Northampton; Mr. W. Smart, Hill Burcote; Mr. J. Ward, Towcester; Mr. H. A. Capes Wootton; Mr. J. Brice, Towcester; Mr. W. Abbott Hardingstone; Mr. T. Buswell, Market Harborough; Mr. T. E. Blacklee and Mr. W. G. Osborn, Northampton; Mr. R. Howard, Eastcote; Mr. T. Barker Weedon; Mr. J. P. Tinney, Milton; Mr. J. Ingman Northampton; Mr. R. A. Ashby, Blisworth; Mr. G. Groom and Mr. E. Groom, Eastcote; Mr. W. Luck Northampton; Mr. T. Tee, Blisworth.

Northampton and District Bakers' Association: Mr W. J. Souster, Mr. J. Smith, Mr. J. R. Stanton (secretary), Mr. E. Hardwick, Mr. Joseph Brown and Mr W. Westley (Hardingstone), Mr. W. Petts, Mr. H. A. ^ Haskins Mr J. E. Sturgess, Mr. G. Holland, Mr. A. J. Woolgrove, Mr. M.V. Roberts, Mr. J. Peach, Mr. W. E. Barrett, .Mr. C. Williams, Mr. G. Tarry, Mr. J. Hailes (Shutlanger), and Mr. T. G. Faulkner (Lower Heyford).

Mr. T. Fairey, Quinton; Mr. J. J. Carter, Blisworth; Mr. G. Savage, Stoke Bruerne, Mr. S. Davis, Towcester; Mr. W & J. Whitlock, Mr. W. Whitlock, Mr. F. A. Chesters, Blisworth; Mr. J. Mason, Northampton, Mr. S. Ward, Bugbrooke; Mr. W. W. Clarke, Mr. A. Clarke, Milton; Mr. C. Marriott, Blisworth; Mr. R. L. Smith, Harpole; Mr. J. Loveday, Northampton; Mr. W. James, Far Cotton.

On arrival at the chapel the coffin was placed on the platform in front of the pulpit. The pulpit was heavily draped in black upon which were affixed many of the handsome wreaths that had been sent by relatives and friends.

The chapel was crowded to its utmost capacity, and the adjacent schoolroom was likewise packed. The connecting windows were opened so that those who were in the school could take part in the proceedings. Amongst those in the chapel, or subsequently in the graveyard, and not in the procession, were many members of Mr. Westley's family more distantly related than those already mentioned; and Mr. W. Patterson (agent to the Duke of Grafton), Mr. S. Montgomery; Mr C H. Piff, Mr. D. Norman (Towcester), Mr. C. Roper, C.A., Mr. J. Wilson, Mr. J. Champion, jun., Mr C Pickering (Pitsford), Mr. W. Lepper (Weedon), and Mr. W. G. Ward (Northampton).

The service, which was conducted by the Rev. J. T. Brown, was commenced by the singing of Isaac Watts's magnificent hymn:

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come.

The Rev. Henry Wyatt read a number of appropriate passages from Scripture. The Rev. J. T. Brown then delivered an impressive address, which was listened to throughout in the greatest silence. He said: Friends, a very short while ago we little thought we should be here, as we now are this morning, but an unlooked for event has occurred, and has gathered us that we may perform one of the most sacred acts in this our serious life, that we may carry to the grave the deserted clay tenement in which a beloved friend has dwelt among us so long. One by one our intimates and comrades in Christian work and in social life are leaving us, and at times and I think we have recently been passing—are passing—through such a time, the losses are thick and close together. Our circle narrows, the company of our heart thins apace. Another now has flown away, and another place is empty among us. It seems scarcely possible to realise, notwithstanding all the signs that are about us, that he who yesterday was among the living upon earth is today with them that sleep. It will be a strange thing to come to Blisworth, especially will it be so to a great number, and not find him here whose remains we bury today. A shadow must come over us whatever there may be to cheer and whatever there may be in the music of such words as we have just heard to live our spirit up, as we look upon that coffin which are enclosed the ruins of one who was framed and fashioned like ourselves and from which there seem to come a voice which says, "See where you are going to" Every thoughtful and every sensitive mind will feel that in any case death has a pensive side. We are parting today with one of large worth, and in many ways important in the region in which he dwelt; a man who has lived long with us and been a familiar figure; the father of a numerous family; a "very close and valued friend of many of us; and an important officer in the Church which gathers in this place; a fellow labourer with many of us for many years in the vineyard of the Lord our God; a member of our society, the society round

about us, held in highest esteem; a faithful servant of the Lord Jesus Christ; in all the force the term admits we are justified in saying he was a man, in the very best sense a Christian man, in whom above and through all the manliness and godly spirit shone with clear and serene light. Some there are who slip away from us and are never missed except by a very few but in Mr. Westley we lose one so well known, and so warmly esteemed, who has filled such a large place in one form or another among us, that he cannot but be greatly missed, missed in the family of which he was the centre, and, as has been expressed today, not only the centre but the circumference of the household too; missed in the Church here; missed in this village with which his name is so closely, we might almost say inseparably, united; missed in our social friendly gatherings and circles; and missed over this county which he was an ornament and such a beneficent power. There is no need that I should use exaggerated speech or fulsome words in praising our departed friend, but in all truth, as in all soberness, I may say, and you will assent to what I say, that his presence with us was a gladness and a thing greatly to be desired; that for the sake of his sustaining character and his most useful work he was one that could ill be spared; and that very much that attached us to him has died in his death. Possessing, as he did well-known to everyone and therefore hardly needful to be pointed out to you, the kind qualities that endear him to our affection, and at the same time fitted him for most valued work— pure, simple, lowly in his life and way and carriage of himself; of a cheerful spirit, and a sunny and smiling face; with a large heart kindly disposed towards, I may say, everybody; a lover of the Lord Jesus, serving him here for a lengthened period in the Church and the school and in various ways; man of business, enterprise, upright most honourable in all his dealings; a master respected - I might say more, and use a stronger word - but respected by his servants; a staunch Nonconformist and Liberal but; at the same time full of charity and good will to all who differed from him. As the treasurer of our Association of Baptist Churches, as a poor law guardian, as a county councillor, and of late as a magistrate on the bench, fulfilling each of the offices with an ability and a wisdom and a diligence which gained for him very wide and well-deserved praise - how in regard to a man so worthy, how could we but rejoice in his presence, prize that presence, and how can we do other than feel some regret now that we sustain his loss ? He was one of Christ's nobles. He belongs to the aristocracy which goodness lifts into rank and dignity. He was a member of the royal priesthood of Christ. He worked and witnessed for Him as long as he lived. He was a sincere and devoted fellow servant of us, and helper too, who rendered help and service to such extent, and so freely and to whose life there are about us so many testimonies. Many of us will feel it much. We shall be the weaker, poorer, for the want of him. The atmosphere about us is somewhat dimmer today, notwithstanding the outer brightness; and a charm—a certain charm, indescribable, but still a charm—has faded away since he is no longer here. In our sense of his personal value and work, and of our need of him, and in the love of our heart that would fain keep him near, we feel the sadness on the one side of the occasion that has gathered us today. We would have had him longer with us, but God willed otherwise. It has been with him like the flower of which the Psalmist speaks, - over which the wind passes, and, lo, it is gone—utterly gone. At the same time, while we feel the greatness of the loss, I think I express your feelings and my own, we recognise, the Divine hand that took him away; we bow our heads; we take our stand by the side of the sweetened patriarch, and we use his words as our own, "The Lord gave, and .the Lord hath taken, away"; or we say with a

greater than Job, with the Divine Son, our Lord and example to us, "Even so, Father, for so it seemeth good in Thy sight!" But this is not all, friends. There is more in our hearts than meek silence and lowly submission. We can sing and we can give thanks—we do rejoice and give thanks for him—for the grace bestowed upon him, for the beautiful works, for the Divine spirit which we have seen in his character and in his life, and with praiseful souls we repeat, and complete the words, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord". Whether we think of him as he was amongst us, or as he now is, or whether we turn to ourselves, with all that there is to touch our hearts, we feel that the light is more than, the darkness and the gloom, and the comfort more than the sorrow; that there is more to lift up than to depress our spirits, while we tenderly bury him for a while. Farewell! If we were to indulge in grief we might expect some angel to say, "Wherefore weep ye, Why seek ye the living among the dead?" The sunshine is falling upon the bare fields to-day, and as we stand here the light from above that disperses the gloom and sadness falls upon us, and in our brooding wonder we hear a voice from heaven saying, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." And those words, so exquisite, so comforting, so assuring to those who have to die, have been fulfilled in the person and experience of our departed friend. His life here is ended, but it is not finished. It is carried on under the same lines elsewhere, lifted into a loftier sphere, raised to a greater completeness and perfection in all the excellencies which marked it while he was here. The Lord who loved him, and whom he loved, from Blisworth had shown him the path of life, and along it led him up unto Himself. Where Christ is there our friend lives now. To him the triumph, the rest, the safety, the blessedness, the glory of the conquerors belongs. Not in Blisworth, not in the fields where we dwell, is his home now: it is in the land of pure delight, it is in that better country, the heavenly; it is in the Paradise where, there is fullness of joy and pleasures for evermore. Thinking of him, therefore, we join him. He was fond of music. He delighted in the psalmody of the sanctuary. He sings better now, in a finer tone, a richer music, a nobler, inspiration. But we here join him in saying, as we think of what he was and what he now is, Praise and honour and glory be unto our redeeming Lord for ever and for ever. We have had him, and, in a certain very true sense, we have him still. Such men, as far as this world is concerned, do not wholly die. The power that issues from their character and their life is not exhausted in the few years that they spend upon earth. It outlasts themselves. Their example is the light that shines on and on; and out of us there comes a voice that may be heard every day, speaking and stimulating us to the memory of them that are no more. Their memory is a rich legacy and a source of perpetual inspiration; their works not only follow them whither they go, but when they are gone their works send out spiritual influences where they have once been. To you, my dear friends, the dear friends of my dear friend, to you; to you, the Church here; to us, companions, friends; there is thus some compensation in our lives. And if only we will give heed to what is revealed, learn the lessons of his life and character; if they shall only lead us to this, that he so lived, that he was such a man; if they will only lead us to cultivate the qualities and reflect the spirit which, made him so precious, it will be that Mr. Westley, who was a blessing while he lived, shall be a blessing to all who are alive and remain. And, once more, and before I end: We cannot forget that we here, professed believers in Christ, should feel that He is here. He has brought Him to our view especially at such times as this, as the Lord of the living as well as of the dead; all sympathetic and tender, the comforter of our own

children, bereaved Churches and mourning friends; Jesus, who went to the sisters at Bethany in their distress, and wept with them at the grave.

• Jesus, who speaks so comforting to us concerning Himself, as the Resurrection and the Life; Jesus the ever-abiding, who lives while men die, and keeps His place at our side, to sustain, and cheer, when other comforters and other helpers fail; our light, our salvation in time, our hope for years to come, our hope for ever and for ever. And with a comforting voice He is speaking by this very event and this spectacle on which my eyes look down now, He is speaking in more solemn strains, He is speaking openly in your ears and hearts, He is speaking to me, to you, about ourselves, what we are, whither we are going, our frailty, our transient life, the immortal destiny to which we are hastening; speaking to us of that which is of supreme moment—Oh! how my friend would insist upon that—to those who gather to pay respect to him, speaking to us of the relation and the attitude of our souls to the living Lord and; Saviour, and the preparation for that transit, that going out from this world, and entering into the unseen which is coming, and may be very near; speaking to us of the Father's houses and the place prepared for all His followers. And that place surely is brought nearer to us, and heaven is opened unto our eyes, and clothed with growing attraction, because so many are there with whom we have taken sweet counsel and walked to the House of God in company, Jesus is speaking to us, in touching tones, with a still small, but penetrating voice, speaking to some of us who are the few lingering remnants of the generation which our friend belonged, speaking to the youngest and speaking to all; and his word is: "So number, your days; seek as the first thing Me and My salvation; live, while you live, unto Him; and when you pass, and the days are run, I will receive you to Myself, that where I am ye may be also!" Oh, friends and old companions dear, oh, friends and people of our county, may that be our final destiny—with Him now, with Him for ever! Today ye will hear His voice. Let us fear lest the promise being left us or entering into rest, any of us should come short.

At the close of the address, during which many, were visibly affected, a second hymn was sung; and the Rev. W. Fidler led the congregation in prayer. The next hymn was—

Hear what the voice of Heaven proclaims
For all the pious dead:
Sweet is the savour of their names,
And soft their sleeping bed.

This, Mr. Brown explained, was chosen by Mr. Westley himself only last Sunday to be sung at his funeral.

At its conclusion the body was removed from the chapel, Mr. Strickland, who had been at the organ; throughout—the organ Mr. Westley's family gave to the Church—played magnificently the "Dead March" from "Saul" When all had gathered round the graveside the coffin was gently lowered, the grave was close to the back of the chapel, adjoining the brick vault, in which lie the remains of Mr. West-ley's wives, who, as the inscriptions record, died, the one Elizabeth on September 28th, 1877, aged 53, and the other Sarah on December 19th, 1890, aged 58. It was Mr. Westley's request that his body should be interred in an earth grave. The sides were lined with ivy and other evergreens.

The Rev. J. T. Brown, after the coffin was placed at the bottom of the grave, said: The body returns to the earth whence it was taken; but the spirit unto God who gave it. We

see that coffin, we look down into this grave, and then we look up. The sun is shining so sweetly, so beautiful, the sunshine falling on the grave, oh, is it not an emblem? What a spectacle meets us here! The grave! But the sunshine on the grave, and the light from the blessed Heaven! We leave him where he left himself always while he was here: "I know that my Redeemer liveth" He committed himself for time, for eternity into the hand of the Saviour; and in His keeping, and with Him in glory, we take this farewell of him. And the voice speaks, "Be ye ready!" for to the grave we are all hastening.

- The Rev. J. Trotman followed with prayer, and the service concluded with the Benediction pronounced by the Rev. J. T. Brown.

The wreaths sent to the funeral were afterwards arranged on tables on the grass plot in front of the chapel, for the inspection of all. In consequence of the crush a number of wagons were drawn into a field belonging to Mr. T. Tee adjacent to the burying ground, so that as many as possible could see the proceedings. Messrs. Shepherd and Manning were the undertakers. The coffin was made by Mr. Scarborough of Blisworth. The funeral sermon will be preached at Blisworth Chapel to-morrow (Sunday) morning, by the Rev. J. T. Brown.