

brand, (Church of England), Capt. Fisher, Mr Crouch, (T. J.) Mr P. Faey, Mr Joseph Faey, Mr. Stanton Crouch, Dr. Agnew, Mr. Cleburne, M.P., Mr. Whitecomb, Mr. Jas Smith, Capt Crosby, Mr. Roberts, Mr Morris, Mr. Kothwell Mr Barlow, the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman Murdoch, Alderman Propsting, Alderman Stewart, Mr. Joseph Andrews, Mr. W. J. F. Andrews, Mr. Nicol, Mr. Miller, Mr. Biggs, Mr. Jato, Mr. Samuel Cato, Mr. Burgess, Major Cotton, Mr. Murray Burgess, Mr. Kissock, Mr. Ballantyne, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Moss, His Honor Sir Valentine Fleming, Dr. Officer, Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Woollie, Mr. Cairnduff, Mr. Rolwegan, Mr. R. Shoebridge, Mr. Ball, Mr. Campbell, Mr. R. L. Hood, Mr. R. Brown, Mr. John Dunn, Mr. James A. Dunn, M.P., Mr. Orry, Mr. G. Salier, Mr. B. Rout, Mr. Crosby, Mr. Thomas Giblin, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Horton, Mr. Tolman, Mr. R. S. Waterhouse, and others, numbering in all about 150 persons. Several carriages, cabs, &c, brought up the rear of the procession. At the grave, prayer was offered, and short addresses given by Friends, after solemn pause, as is customary among the Friends. The whole service was very affecting, and, pervading the vast assemblage were sentiments of affectionate sympathy with the bereaved, and of chastened sorrow at the dispensation by which one so estimable and so useful has been taken from our midst.

GEORGE WASHINGTON WALKER.

To the Editor of the Christian Times.

STR—The Tasmanian papers record the death of George Washington Walker, Esq., of Hobart Town. The memory of a good man is sweet. A brief notice of an old colonist, who for more than a quarter of a century was associated with the cause of progress, may not be unacceptable to your readers.

George Washington Walker, the Quaker missionary, the associate of James Backhouse, first visited these colonies, on an errand of mercy, in 1832. The two philanthropists had crossed the deserts of South Africa in their zeal to learn the condition of the coloured races, and the hopes of their evangelisation. The record of that tour is one of the most pleasing ever presented to the British public. The mission stations of German, French, Dutch, and English societies received the hearty sympathy of these two simple-minded ministers of Christ.

Well educated, agreeable in manners, gentle in deportment, and sincere in religious zeal, they were the objects of peculiar attention and esteem, and the honoured instruments of much good in Australia. Their disinterested benevolence gave them a passport into every society and to every heart. Colonial Governors paid them marked respect. They not only received them as guests at their table, but afforded them every facility for carrying on their Christian work.

Although devoted to the real welfare of the entire community, their labours in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land were chiefly directed to the amelioration of the condition of convicts and aborigines—the white and the black outcasts of society. To this end they travelled, talked, and wrote; they memorialized Governments, they denounced abuses, they suggested improved modes of moral discipline. By the formation of Temperance societies, by the distribution of tracts and Bibles, by private entreaty and public appeal, they sought to deliver the man from the slavery of sin, and direct his eye to the Atoning One.

If the friends of the prisoners, they were not less the friends of the natives. Arriving at the termination of the Black War of Van Diemen's Land, they were indefatigable in their endeavours to secure the physical comfort and moral good of the miserable captive sons of the forest. They took an equal interest in our own Australian natives, as evidenced in their early visits to Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide.

After nine years of useful labour, James Backhouse went to England, where he published his interesting and instructive narrative, and George Washington Walker remained to settle in Tasmania.

It was my happiness to become acquainted with the good man in 1841, and for years to be associated with him in Temperance and other movements. When not the initiator, he was the active coadjutor of others in good enterprises. He was the untiring advocate of the unhappy prisoner. The Bible Society found in him a constant and zealous supporter. Upon the platform of moral and social reform he was a frequent speaker, having a pleasing manner, and a simple but conviction-carrying eloquence. His religious addresses were characterised by much tenderness of feeling and spirituality of sentiment, with deep humility of bearing. He was preeminently a man who lived near to God in habitual religious exercises. But it was in private admonition that the great charm of his Christian character became apparent. His judicious treatment of the inquirers, his solemn tone with the profane, his affectionate and sympathising language toward the struggler and the mourner, and his loving smile for the young, will long be remembered.

He faithfully performed his duty as a citizen. As a merchant, he was honoured in the mart; as the manager of the Savings Bank, he taught many a lesson of practical and social economy. Alive to the interests of society, he was ever the warm friend of education. A man of extensive reading himself, he sought to extend to adults as well as to youth the advantages of learning. A naturalist and a lover of science, he was for many years a most influential member of the council of the Philosophic Institute in Hobart Town.

Earnest for the welfare of his fellow-creatures, and liberal of his time and money to that object, he was at the same time as faithful in the performance of family duties. His partner had not to complain of his indifference, nor his children to feel his neglect. Favoured with years of intimacy with that beloved family circle, the writer can deeply sympathise with the bereaved ones of that hallowed household.

Our friend departed this life on the 1st inst., in his sixtieth year. His funeral was attended by the Chief Justice, the Colonial Secretary, a number of members of Parliament, the ministers of all denominations, and representatives from the corporation, the Friends' meeting, the Bible Society, and Temperance Societies, in all 150 persons, to testify to the public recognition of his benevolent and useful life.

Australia can ill spare such a sterling man as George Washington Walker. A desire to make known the virtues and labours of one of the true heroes of these colonies, with the hope of enkindling the zeal of others, was the simple object of my addressing you.—Yours respectfully,

JAMES BONWICK.

Ballarat, Feb. 12, 1859.