

a number of the Yearly Meetings on this continent; Dublin Yearly Meeting once, and London Yearly Meeting three times, and also held services in a number of the towns and villages in England. On these occasions his concern was largely for the young men, and they responded eagerly to his interest; he seemed to have the power of winning and holding their confidence.

His work for young men in connection with the Young Men's Christian Association in Baltimore was large and important. Of this institution he was President from 1877 to 1884, when he declined a re-election, but remained on the Executive Committee till his death. The resolutions adopted concerning his decease by the Trustees of this Association contain these words: "The loss to the Association and to the young men of the city seems almost irreparable and . . . we extend our sympathy not only to his bereaved family, whose loss is great indeed, but to every young man in Baltimore; for his death takes from them a true friend." The Secretary of the Association wrote: "He was never happier than when sitting quietly with *one* young fellow who needed help, and pouring into the undeveloped life some of his own strong faith and rich experiences. He never lost his touch upon men; never allowed them to look upon him, or to think of him, as an old man grown away from or out of sympathy with them. He was interested in all the concerns in their lives. His influence over the lives of the members of our Association was remarkable. He was a great favorite as a speaker, and knew how to make the 'great theme' attractive to young men. His wholesome sunny life was a benediction."

When the noon-day prayer meetings for business men were being held, merchants would say, "If Dr. Thomas is to lead to-day, I will go; for he seems to know about our difficulties and temptations."

He was accustomed to spend his summers at his country residence in the Blue Ridge Mountains, and during this season of rest and relaxation he was unwearied in promoting all kinds of Christian work in the neighborhood. He always attended and frequently conducted the union services; and, in addition, held in his own house every First day morning for many years a Friends' meeting, to which all were welcomed. Many have testified to the spiritual help received in these meetings.

As a physician Dr. Thomas had a large and absorbing practice, and was careful to keep well up with the rapid march of medical science. To his skill in treating disease was added unusual power of personal sympathy, and many testimonials have been received from his patients of the spiritual help and comfort which he brought to them.

While giving so much time to definitely religious work and to his profession, his interests and sympathies were not confined to these. Every movement that promised improvement and elevation of the people, if he could approve of it, found in him active support and advice, and often he would take his seat upon the platform in a public meeting where some neglected reform was to be advocated, so as to commit himself openly to the cause.

He was specially interested in education, and was a Manager of Haverford College for many years, and an active Trustee of the Johns Hopkins University and of Bryn Mawr College during their formative years, and he exercised no slight influence upon their course and development. He was also actively interested in a number of the charitable and benevolent institutions of his city and State.

In our own Society he served the Meeting in various capacities, having been successively Clerk of his Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, of the Representative Meeting, the Yearly Meeting on Ministry and Oversight, and finally the Yearly Meeting itself. He was also active on various Standing Committees of the Yearly Meeting, and as a member of the Associated Executive Committee on Indian Affairs. He threw himself heartily into all the various concerns to which he gave his time and attention, and his strong grasp of the questions that presented themselves was often very helpful to the work. Yet this very faculty made it difficult for him to understand how others could see differently, and in his earnestness for what he felt to be the right thing, he would at times speak more emphatically perhaps than he was aware, so that some would be almost afraid of his occasional brusqueness of manner. But as years advanced, and trials and bereavements came, there was a perceptible softening of manner, and a patience foreign to his natural character was increasingly developed. Chief among these sorrows was the loss by death of his lovely and highly-gifted wife in 1888, a loss which made him turn in his loneliness with a still deeper trust to his Saviour, and enabled him to enter more closely into fellowship with other mourners.

During the last months of his life the solemn character of his ministry on various occasions made a number of those who listened to him feel that the end was approaching. This was especially the case at the last two Quarterly Meetings that he attended—the one at Deer Creek, and the other at Lincoln. At this last he appeared to have a message for each condition present, and spoke at unusual length and with great power from the text, "And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest, as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land." He shewed that this applies not only to the Lord Jesus, but also in some degree to men who live in the Spirit of the Lord, and that we are to be to one another such helps as are spoken of in this passage. Soon after this he went to Indianapolis to attend the Quinquennial Conference, to which, as to the preceding two, he was a delegate from our Yearly Meeting; in this he took a very active and earnest part. He was increasingly concerned that the doctrines and testimonies of Friends should be maintained in their integrity, especially those that relate to the voice of the Lord in the heart of the individual believer, and to the headship of Christ in our meetings for worship. One of his very last expressions in regard to the future of the Society of Friends was a deep concern that Friends should preserve their meetings for worship in their freedom from all official direction that would interfere with the right liberty of the individual.

On his way home he stopped for a First day at Urbana, Ohio, where he preached in one of the churches in that city. It was his last sermon, and the audience listened with deep attention as he spoke to them on the love of God and the influence this should have on our lives. Already he had had several attacks of what was afterwards recognized to be neuralgia of the heart. This returned, and at the time of our Yearly Meeting in 1897 he was too unwell to come to the meeting, of which he was the Clerk. There seemed, however, no reason for immediate anxiety, and when the end came, as it did very suddenly, it was a profound shock to all.

The annual meeting of the Yearly Meeting's Pastoral Committee was in session when the news was brought; business was at once suspended and the members of the Committee, many of whom were his close personal friends and fellow-workers, gave expression to their grief, and a time of solemn prayer followed.