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# In Memoriam.

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John Emanuel Lightfoot.

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ACCRINGTON'S FIRST MAYOR.

Born April 28th, 1802.

Died April 24th, 1893.



# JOHN EMANUEL LIGHTFOOT.

It is our duty to-day to chronicle the death of one of our oldest townsmen—John Emanuel Lightfoot, Accrington's first Mayor and, as we have long delighted to call him, our "Grand Old Man." Mr. Lightfoot had reached the ripe age of 91—he was 92 within a few days, his birthday being on the 28th April (yesterday). Considering his advanced years, Mr. Lightfoot enjoyed remarkably good health, and up to a comparatively short time since was able to go about, though latterly he had to resort to a bath chair. A few years ago he had a serious illness, but he got over it, and again, about three months since, he broke a couple of ribs, though he seemed to have recovered, and there were apparently no ill effects from the accident. On Wednesday of last week he was out of doors for a time, but on Friday he was not well, and he gradually became weaker till Sunday, when it was seen he was rapidly sinking. About six o'clock he fell asleep and never regained consciousness, passing quietly away about midnight. He did not appear to be suffering from any particular disease—merely old age. All through his life he was very careful in his habits, and always preserved a very serene and quiet nature, never becoming excited about small matters. His medical man for many years was the late Dr. Clayton, and after his death Dr. J. S. Clayton, who attended him up to the last.

## THE LIGHTFOOT FAMILY.

The Lightfoots are a numerous family, and are to be found in various parts of Lancashire. From entries in the family Bible at Quarry Hill much information may be gathered. The genealogy is there traced back to a Ralph Lightfoot who, sometime before 1690, was married to one Elizabeth. There were two children, Elizabeth, born September 11th, 1690, and John, baptised October 7th, 1701.

John married one Martha, and the issue was: John, born Dec. 5th, 1730; Samuel, born 3rd Oct., 1733, died young; Samuel (II.), born Dec. 5th, 1735; Joseph, born Jan. 18th, 1738; Ralph, born Nov. 2nd, 1741; and Mary, born Sept. 20th, 1745.]

Joseph Lightfoot, fourth child of John and Martha, also married a Martha. They had ten children—Joseph, born Nov. 23rd, 1763, died young; Samuel,

born April 1st, 1765; Ann, born April 10th, 1767; James, born March 15th, 1769; Ann (II.), born August 22nd, 1770; James (II.), born June 18th, 1772; John, born July 7th, 1774; Thomas, born Jan. 7th, 1777; Martha, born April 5th, 1779; and Peter, born May 18th, 1782.

John Lightfoot, seventh child of Joseph and Martha, married, at Runcorn, on Dec. 25th, 1792, Ann Orme, (born Feb. 25th, 1773), and had issue—Elizabeth, born Sept. 22nd, 1793; Mary, born April 1st, 1796; James, born May 2nd, 1798 (all born at Warrington); Joseph, born 25th April, 1800; *John Emanuel*, born Wednesday, April 28th, 1802 (christened at Parish Church, Gisburn, Sunday, 16th May following), both born at Gisburn; Elizabeth (II.), born April 18th, 1804, died in 1806; Peter, born June 28th, 1806; Ann, born Dec. 14th, 1808; *Thomas*, born April 9th, 1811; William, born April 15th, 1813 (five last-named born at Great Harwood).

John Emanuel, fifth child of John and Ann Lightfoot, married Mary, daughter of John and Ann Hutchinson, on August 12th, 1824, at St. James's Church, Accrington (the ceremony being performed by the Rev. John Hopwood). The issue was: Joseph, born June 2nd, 1825, died July 8th, 1825; Ann, born Aug. 15th, 1826; James, born Feb. 16th, 1828 (all christened at St. James's Church); John, born March 7th, 1830, died Dec. 18th, 1836, aged 6 years and 9 months; Elizabeth, born May 8th, 1832, died Nov. 16th, 1833, aged 18 months; Joseph, born Sept. 21st, 1834, died July 28th, 1839, aged 4 years and 10 months.

Mr. Lightfoot's wife, Ann, died April 5th, 1836, aged 39 years, after 11½ years of married life. On the 4th May of the following year (1837), Mr. Lightfoot led his second wife to the altar at Whalley Church—Sarah, daughter of Bernard and Ellen Hartley, of Nether Town, Whalley. The second marriage resulted in two children—John Bernard, born April 14th, 1838, died, aged 21; and Emma Grace (Mrs. Buncing), born July 31st, 1840, only surviving child.

Thomas Lightfoot (chemist and afterwards partner at Broad Oak), ninth son of John and Ann Lightfoot, married, at Accrington, in 1829, Betty Whittaker, by whom he had eleven children—Margaret Ann, born July 17th, 1829; Ellen, born March 8th, 1831; *John*, born Aug. 20th, 1832; William, born June 7th, 1834; Alfred, born May 10th, 1836; Thomas Alfred, born Nov. 7th, 1837; Mary, born June 17th, 1839; Joseph Orme, born July 17th, 1841; Betsy Maria, born Aug. 27th, 1843; Hannah, born Aug. 17th, 1845; and James, born Feb. 19th, 1847.

## PARENTAGE: JOHN LIGHTFOOT, EXCISEMAN.

John and Ann Lightfoot, the father and mother of the Accrington Lightfoots, were natives of Warrington. The father was a man of rare qualities and unusual abilities. It is said that he received an exceptionally long-continued education,



which was not completed till he attained the age of manhood. His family must have possessed considerable means, or John Lightfoot certainly would have been called upon to work for his daily bread before his marriage. As it was he was under tutors to the time of his union with the lady who became his wife. He acquired a thorough knowledge of mathematics in all its branches; was well-versed in the science of optics; had a large acquaintance with hydrostatics; was moreover learned in chemistry; and had studied several other subjects included under the general head of Physical Science. Nor did he abandon the pursuit of knowledge when he married. All through life he was an earnest student, intermeddling with every sort of learning, but devoted most of his leisure hours to extending and perfecting his acquaintance with scientific subjects. In the latter half of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth century there were no Mechanics' Institutions, no Science Classes, no systematic attempts to inform the minds and to educate the intellects of working men. The more honour to those who interested themselves in the good work of communicating knowledge to poor! Among the pioneers of popular education was John Lightfoot. He made his acquisitions doubly his own by sharing them with others. One of his principal pleasures was to gather about him a number of inquisitive young men, and to impart to them the knowledge of science he possessed. Nor were these efforts fruitless. The late Mr. John Mercer, of world-wide fame as a chemist, was one of those who sat at the feet of John Lightfoot. To have inspired John Mercer with enthusiasm in the pursuit of scientific knowledge and to have trained his son John Emanuel redeemed the life of Mr. Lightfoot, senior, from even seeming failure and make it "worth the living." The occupation of John Lightfoot gave him abundant opportunities both for obtaining and imparting information on all kinds of subjects. He was an Exciseman. It was Mr. Lightfoot's business to see that the duty (three pence per yard) on all goods printed was paid to the Government. His place was in the packing room, he had to keep an account of all pieces packed, and to fix a stamp at the end of each piece. In those days officers of Excise, especially in the smaller towns and villages, were important individuals, and were frequently the centre of the only literary and intellectual circle of the neighbourhood. From early manhood to his death Mr. Lightfoot served the King in this capacity. It was a rule of the service that an officer should not remain more than five years in one locality. Gisburne, Great Harwood, Church, Oakenshaw, Accrington, and Middleton successively received Mr. John Lightfoot as its Excise Officer.—(*Accrington Guardian*).

In his life of John Mercer, Mr. Ed. A. Parnell says the assistance Mr. Lightfoot rendered to John Mercer, "both in tuition and friendly counsel was greatly remembered and acknowledged by Mercer to his last days." Mercer, Mr. Parnell tells us, received valuable assistance in his mathematical studies from Mr. Lightfoot, then excise surveyor at Oakenshaw Works, with which Mercer was associated. Recognising John Mercer's natural abilities, Mr. Lightfoot took a lively interest in him which ripened into mutual and abiding friendship. John Lightfoot seems to have enjoyed complete confidence of the great calico printers in the district. He was as great a favourite among the members of the Hargreaves family, of Broad

Oak, as he had been with the Forts and Taylors of Oakenshaw. This appears somewhat remarkable when we keep in mind that he was stationed at the works as a Government representative to see that duty was paid on every yard of cloth produced at the works. Who can say what influence John Emanuel Lightfoot's father had upon Accrington? He was the tutor of several of the Hargreaveses. Wm Hargreaves, one of the most polished and one of the most noted members of the family, received the rudiments of his education from Mr. Lightfoot, who used to attend Oak Hill, the family mansion of the Hargreaveses (now the public park) in the evenings for the purpose of imparting knowledge to Mr. Hargreaves's two sons.

#### EARLY DAYS.

Gisburn, a quaint little village in Ribblesdale, was the place of the birth of John Emanuel Lightfoot, and the date 28th April, 1802. He was the fifth child, and his father, then about thirty years of age, was in the service of the Government as excise man. In October following, however, the family removed to Great Harwood, where they continued till John Emanuel was about 13 years of age. He always retained a strong affection for the place of his boyhood. For "Harrod," as Great Harwood was called, young Lightfoot, like John Mercer, who was 11 years his senior, had a great attachment. "No earthly spot was more beautiful than Harwood" in John Mercer's estimation, and if Lightfoot was not so enthusiastic about it he certainly retained a liking for the place. There is not much to record about Lightfoot's boyhood. As a boy he attended school at Great Harwood, his pedagogue, to quote again the authority already referred to, was a strict disciplinarian, whose word was law, and who visited the slightest breach of decorum or of obedience with a blow. Schoolmasters were not then prosecuted for using a cane or ruler, and it was thought impossible to teach the rule of three and syntax without the aid of the birch, or some other instrument of corporal punishment. The system had its advantages. It produced a certain sturdiness and robustness of character, which had some beneficial influence on the future of lads, and scholars were sent forth who subsequently became useful members of society, and foremost captains of industry. Notwithstanding the enduring of this hardship, Mr. Lightfoot's childhood was bright and sunny. He was a happy boy. His recollections of home and Great Harwood always awakened gratitude and gladness. As might be expected, his father did not neglect the good and necessary task of perfecting the education commenced at school. John Emanuel became a handloom weaver, commencing in his father's house. The occupation was no less helpful than healthy. Habits of industry, delight in work for its own sake, and the satisfaction of earning money were induced by it, while fortunately the nature of the employment permitted the pursuit of knowledge. Though there was no Act of Parliament making children half-timers, in the well regulated household of John Lightfoot the boy or youth was not required to devote the whole of the day to weaving. A portion of each day was set apart for study, under the superintendence of the scientific sire, and the lad often worked with his book fixed to or suspended from his loom so that the process of weaving cloth and acquiring knowledge went on



together. Till his sixteenth year his home tuition was continued, and much of Mr. Lightfoot's success in after-life be must ascribed to this diligent cultivation of his own mind in early youth.

#### ACCRINGTON AS MR. LIGHTFOOT FIRST SAW IT.

John Emanuel Lightfoot would only be 12 or 13 years of age when his father removed to Accrington, having under his charge as excise officer, Plantation Mills, Baxenden and Woodnook, as well as Broad Oak already well-known in the calico-printing world. The Lightfoots succeeded the Rev. John Hopwood in the old house he had occupied in Black Abbey for many years, and a warm friendship soon grew between the new excise officer and the incumbent. To get some idea of Accrington as it was when the Lightfoots removed from Great Harwood, it will be well to follow Mr. John E. Lightfoot's description as related to the writer a few years ago. The only streets of any importance were Abbey-street, Black Abbey, Grange-lane and Union-street. On the southern side of Abbey-street there were very few houses—the land was then rich pasture and the fields continued down to the old parsonage (top of Peel-street now) where there was a cluster of farm buildings, part of which still remain. Avenue-parade formed the carriage drive to Accrington House, lined with tall trees forming a beautiful avenue. A clear stream ran down the locality now known as Peel-street, with fields on each side. The plot upon which the Market and Town Hall are now built was then meadow land, with a farm building dotted here and there. Blackburn-road was not formed, and a footpath, known by the name of Woodcock Trees, ran from St. James's Church to Union-street, then an important thoroughfare. King-street contained several houses which in those days were considered good-looking. Temple Stairs was a place of some note, as was also the White House (Mr. Fort's) on the other side of the stream. Lower Fold indeed was rather thickly populated, but on the northern side of the present Whalley-road there were no houses between Waterloo and the Park. The site of the present railway station was then un-built upon—it was known as the "Fauce Pits." Nor were there any dwellings until the Brick Houses were reached, then Dunnyshop, and Antley. Spring Gardens in Abbey-street was a well-known locality, and at Daisy Hill there were a number of other houses.

Accrington had then a population of perhaps 3,500 who lived in about 700 houses. It was a mere village, known as Old and New Accrington and governed by vestry with the aid of one magistrate and a parish constable. Four places of worship and five inns were its only "public buildings." St. James's Church, the oldest of the religious houses, has undergone fewer changes than any other building then extant. The church had been enriched by the addition of a steeple and a peal of bells about a dozen years before. The steeple stood from the main building; the wings by which it is now flanked had not been added. Good old John Hopwood was the incumbent, having associated with him all Accrington's best-known and most wealthy citizens. The Baptists had a small sanctuary at Machpelah (Hyndburn-road), with the Rev. John Jackson as minister, the Wesleyans worshipped in Union-street, and the fourth house of prayer

was the Swedenborgian Chapel in Abbey-street, Mr. Geo. Haworth being the officiating minister and also the schoolmaster. The five inns were the Bay Horse, Church-street, kept by James Cunliffe; the Black Bull, Bull Bridge, of which Wm. Dewhurst was the landlord; the George Inn, now called the Black Horse, Abbey-street, kept by Thomas Hull; the Red Lion Inn, Abbey-street, with Jacob Lang as landlord; and the Rose and Crown, now a bee-house, kept by Wm. Lang.

There were not many men of note in Accrington when the Lightfoots took up their abode in the town. Mr. Jonathan Peel was the principal citizen, and lived at Accrington House, then surrounded by everything that was beautiful, and approached by a long, well-wooded carriage drive. Mr. Peel was a man of wealth, and was a great benefactor to the Church, to which he made many munificent gifts, and to the poor. Mr. Thomas Hargreaves, also a liberal man, lived at Oak Hill, which he built. He was the founder of the Hargreaves' family, to whom Accrington owes so much, and head of the great firm of Hargreaves, Dugdale and Co., Broad Oak. The Plantation Mills were then worked by Messrs. Gibson, Swain and Co. Messrs. H. G. Lang and Co. conducted the Woodnook Works, being engaged in the printing trade, and Messrs. W. Lang and Co., carried on business as calico manufacturers and grocers in Abbey-street. The Langs were a numerous family, whose members were prominent men in Accrington. One, Jacob Lang, owned the Red Lion Inn, then the most frequented house in the town; another, Joseph, was a butcher and grocer at Spring Gardens, and one or two others were employed at Broad Oak. Mr. Edward Hepple, the only corn miller (whose mill in Hyndburn-road had been at work for several generations even before his time) took an active part in the affairs of the Church and the vestry, as also did Mr. Rd. Fort, who lived at the White House at the bottom of Milnshaw. Mr. Hartley Davy was prospering in the drapery business in Abbey-street, devoting much time and energy to the work of the Wesleyan body, while John Kenyon, blockprinter and shop-keeper in Abbey-street, was equally active among the Baptist denomination. Accrington had no resident lawyer in those days, and Dr. Edgar Stansfield was the only medical man in the town, and his surgery, close by the church gates in Church-street, was a busy place.

The inhabitants were employed mainly in the printing trade, at Broad Oak, Plantation Mills, Woodnook, Baxenden and at Church, were Messrs. Peel carried on extensive works. Corduroy, or fustian was generally worn by the men, linsey-woolsey by the women and clogs by everybody. The clothes were made up by housewives—there were very few tailors in those days. Mills and cottages were lighted with candles or oil and so were the streets, that is when the thoroughfares were lighted at all. The truck system was in vogue, every workman being forced to buy his groceries and provisions from his employer, the amount of his purchases being deducted from his wages which were paid monthly. Traffic was almost entirely carried on by road, though the canal, opened as far as Enfield a year or two previously, was gradually coming into favour as a means of transit. Coaches ran through Accrington daily, taking up passengers at the Red Lion Inn, Abbey-street. Steam was introduced at Broad Oak about the time of the removal of the Lightfoots to Accrington, but the power loom was not known. Handloom



weaving was in vogue, the weaving being done mostly in the homes of the working classes who received weft from the "manufacturers." There were, however, four or five cotton mills in the town. The post office was at Eaves Bank, and James Cocker, was postmaster. There was one delivery of letters in the morning and the day mail was despatched at half-past one. The postage of a letter between London and Accrington was half-a-crown.

#### IN THE CHOIR AT THE OLD CHURCH.

For some years after their removal to Accrington the Lightfoots attended St. James's Church. John Emanuel had many stories to tell in his after life about the old school which stood on the site of Ewbank Works, and about the old church, where he was a singer. St. James's was the first Sabbath school in Accrington, and the officers had to resort to all sorts of devices to get the lads to attend school, at which the rudiments of education were taught. The boys were located on the ground floor, and the girls occupied the upper room. Good old Mr. Hopwood, the incumbent, conducted a day school there, and this he continued until the new school in Church-street was erected, having among his scholars several members of the Hargreaves family. Mr. Lightfoot joined the church choir the year after the organ—the first in Accrington—was erected. Prior to the advent of the organ, the singing in the chapel was led by the bass fiddle, and in Mr. Lightfoot's early days these instruments were the order of the day at all the places of worship. Blind Tom Barnes was first organist, and concerning him an interesting story related by Mr. Lightfoot himself is recorded. Old Tom Barnes had a capital ear for music, and was accounted a good organist. Of course, he experienced some difficulty when there were new tunes to play, but young Lightfoot was always at his elbow, and read the music to him. Blind Tom was employed at Broad Oak, and had to be at work by six o'clock in the morning. He was often late, and a watch was purchased for him. He soon learned to tell the hour, and, added Mr. Lightfoot, no one could say that Tom Barnes was late afterwards. Mr. Lightfoot had always a liking for the blind organist, and lived to befriend him.

#### EMPLOYMENT AT BROAD OAK.

The Lightfoots had not been in Accrington very long before employment was found at Broad Oak for John Emanuel, who on the 14th March, 1818, left the hand-loom to enter the service of Messrs. Hargreaves and Dugdale, Young Lightfoot was not sixteen years old when he went to Broad Oak. It was an important era in the history of calico printing. Only two years before steam had been introduced at Broad Oak, the machinery having been driven by water previously. Cut or engraved wood blocks were used; the art of engraving copper and rollers was not generally in vogue. Kochlin, the great chemist, had just discovered the process of Turkey-red discharge, and the process of steaming colours was in its infancy when John E. Lightfoot took his first lesson in the art of calico printing. Mr. Thomas Hargreaves, the founder of the Accrington family bearing the name, was at the head of the concern, his partner, Mr. Adam Dugdale, being in charge of the Manchester end. There were at that time three single-colour machines with printing tables here and there. Seven falls of water, each fall working a wash-

wheel, were also in use, and there were stream pits "up in the Coppy." In the large shop were about 120 tables, in the old shop were other 40 tables, in the brook shop 16 tables and in the long shop 40 tables, making in all 216 tables. As each table required the attention of a man and a boy it follows that the printing tables afforded work for 432 hands. There was also bleaching place, packing room, colour shop, calenderhouse and counting house.

John Emanuel Lightfoot's early days at Broad Oak are thus referred to by the writer in the *Guardian*:—"The youth of sixteen had no thought of the future that was before him when in March 1818, he started at Broad Oak. Had he entered upon his life-work with the resolve to pass through all the grades till he became one of 'the masters,' the probability is that his ambition would have 'over-reached itself,' and it is almost certain that the young dreamer would have had experience of 'the vanity of human wishes.' Instead of vain and aspiring projects, he began life at Broad Oak with the resolve to do his duty, to serve his employers faithfully, and to lose no opportunity or improving himself or his position. In fact at this time the youth thought of becoming an excise officer. His studies were persued with a view of preparing himself for the service in which his father had spent his life. For three years he was engaged in different parts of the works, but chiefly in the grey room, white room, or packing room. During the greater part of these three years he spent an hour at Oak Hill, where he taught one of the younger sons of his employer the rudiments of learning thus fitting him for beginning school life. In March, 1821, a change took place which exerted a marked influence on young Lightfoot's future. The late Mr. Steiner decided to retire from the post of chemist at Broad Oak works, which he had filled with equal honour to himself and profit to Messrs. Hargreaves and Dugdale, to establish the works at Church. On Mr. Steiner's retirement after five years of hard and successful work, the firm asked young Mr. Lightfoot—then only nineteen years of age—to undertake the management of the colour-making department under the superintendence of the late Mr. John Hargreaves." According to the late Mr. B. Hargreaves, Mr. Steiner himself selected John Emanuel Lightfoot as his successor in the laboratory. It was Mr. Steiner who took young Lightfoot from the drying machine to study chemistry, the selection being made probably because he was an educated youth. Young Lightfoot, remarks Mr. B. Hargreaves, "was totally uneducated in chemistry, his thoughts having been turned to the excise, and yet he had to superintend the manipulation of colours. Mr. Steiner had probably done much to effect economy in the colour department, but from the few years he was at Broad Oak, he must have left a deal for his successor to do. It may therefore be imagined that one of the first objects young Lightfoot had in view would be to institute more economy into the colour department, as it was well known great waste and losses accrued from a want of chemical intelligence. It was fortunate that John Hargreaves, who had attained his 22nd birthday, had studied chemistry under Dalton, and had been in the works five years, was at hand, ready to communicate all he knew to anyone he had an interest in serving. John Lightfoot was under John Hargreaves's tutelage for a few years, until he acquired sufficient knowledge of chemistry to be on his own hook."



### A SAD BEREAVEMENT.

Everything appeared to be going well with the Lightfoots in the early part of 1821, and their prospects seemed bright. The year was not far advanced, however, when a change came o'er the scene. Mr. John Lightfoot's term of five years as excise officer at Accrington had expired, and he was ordered to Middleton. Removal from his large circle of friends at Accrington seemed very hard to Mr. Lightfoot, but he was a Government Officer, and knew his duty. Mr. Lightfoot walked to Middleton to find a home, his son John accompanying him as far as Edenfield. He could not meet with a suitable house, but arranged to take one in course of erection, which would be ready in twelve months. Mr. Lightfoot, however, died a few months later at the age of 45, so that the family did not remove to Middleton. The widowed mother and family soon left Black Abbey, and removed to a cottage in Broad Oak works, where, with the aid of a mangle, which did justice to all the clothes in the neighbourhood (and which is in good condition to-day at Quarry Hill) she was able to bring up her six children. Mr. J. E. Lightfoot was the eldest son, and when his father died was a youth of 18 years. An affectionate lad, he was fond of his mother, and assisted her by giving her every penny of his earnings. He felt it his duty, as far as he was able, to fill the void left by the death of his father. This he always did, and on one occasion when Messrs. Hargreaves made him a present in appreciation of his efforts on their behalf, he took the whole of it to his mother, refusing to have any in return. It may be safely said that his devotion and conduct to his widowed mother in this dark period of her life has been blessed a thousand times as it deserved to be. When their work was over the brothers Lightfoot assisted their mother by turning the mangle, and getting through the numerous basketsful of clothes which were almost daily received from homes in the district—mangles and washing machines at that period were as scarce as watches.

### LONG AND HONOURABLE SERVICE.

John E. Lightfoot had entered into a seven years' engagement with his employers at Broad Oak. The death of his father stimulated him to greater exertions—he felt the responsibility the loss of the bread-winner had thrown upon him, and worked with increased energy. It is said that "he soon acquired a large and minute knowledge of practical chemistry, studied simultaneously with a knowledge of the business. His keen eye discerned what was needed, the mind which had been cultured so carefully perceived how the need might be supplied. And before the expiration of seven years he had made several important discoveries, which were of great importance and benefit to his employers, whose interests were as dear to him as his own, and to whom he regarded every discovery made in their service as belonging. Nor were the details of management neglected in the study of chemistry. Mr. Lightfoot proved himself to be an efficient captain of industry, and more than made good the position which he had gained as manager of a department. Another seven years' engagement was made, and yet another. No wonder. The employers were faithfully and zealously served by an intelligent and successful chemist. It would have been surprising if they had not been satisfied with the manner in which Mr. Lightfoot discharged

his duties, and it is honourable to them that they made the rewards of his service equal to its merits. Before the termination of the third seven years' engagement in the colour-making department, Mr. Dugdale having previously retired from the firm, Mr. Lightfoot was offered an interest in the business. He was comparatively young, in the early prime of life, at the time. He was nineteen years of age when he entered into his first seven years' engagement, and consequently was thirty-three years old when he began his third seven years. His youth was passed. He had attained to the maturity of his manhood. Mr. Lightfoot was not the least important member of the firm of Hargreaves Brothers and Co. The general management of the works was entrusted to him—his brother, the late Mr. Thomas Lightfoot, taking the post he vacated—and with what efficiency he managed them the past and present prosperity of the works sufficiently proves. In November, 1855, yet another change took place. The honoured name of Hargreaves, a name with which the rise and well-being of Accrington will be ever associated, disappeared from the firm, and Messrs. Grafton and Co. commenced their singularly successful career, a success which was due alike to the unrivalled business ability of Mr. Grafton and the skilful and careful management of Mr. Lightfoot.

### LIGHTFOOT'S DISCOVERIES.

John Emanuel Lightfoot was about two-and-twenty when he made his first important discovery. He was already accounted a promising chemist, with a bright future, and in August, 1824, he entered into wedlock, taking as a wife a young lady his senior by some six years—Miss Mary Hutchinson, the daughter of John and Ann Hutchinson, who hailed from Warrington. It is rather singular that his wife's father and mother bore the same Christian names as his own parents—John and Ann. Lightfoot's first discovery of note was in relation to the process of rainbowing. It was about the year 1823-4, a memorable period in the history of calico printing. Mons. Sperling had discovered a mode of applying (on paper, he being a paper stainer) several colours at once; the colours blending into each other at the edges produced other tints "similar to what is seen in the natural rainbow, after which the process was appropriately named." The samples brought over to this country won the admiration of calico printers, who, however, were unable for a time to apply the process to their business. There were many difficulties, but they were overcome, and, says Mr. Hargreaves, "the magnificent rainbow emanated from the block-printer's table, the most beautiful productions of the day, and as certain in execution as other styles of printing. In the course of a month seventy printers' tables were at work, and the spring career opened with rich covered patterns, in rainbow stripes of steam pink, blue, green, and orange, afterwards crossed with paler shades of the same colours in rainbowing. The effect of these styles was brilliant in the extreme." The use of steam blue and green to fine engravings originated with Mr. Lightfoot, who also assisted in the bringing out of many varieties of rainbowing, a style which had a most successful run at Broad Oak. In the production of good chintzes (about 1827-30) Mr. Lightfoot played an important part. It was, Mr. Benjamin Hargreaves remarks, important to imitate the Metropolitan printers. "For some time they had



been sole possessors of a fast indigo green, which, after great perseverance, Mr. Lightfoot succeeded in imitating, and even surpassing." Another important discovery in which Mr. John E. and Mr. Thomas Lightfoot were concerned, related to the preparation of cotton warps or cloth by the action of oil and fat in the manner applied by Turkey red dyers. In the colouring of *mousseline de lains*, which had a great sale at one time, the Messrs. Lightfoot were conspicuous. Mr. Lightfoot assisted many employes at the works in various discoveries, and many important innovations, though perhaps not bearing his name, would probably never have been made but for his timely help, always cheerfully given.

#### MR. LIGHTFOOT AND HIS EMPLOYEES.

Between Mr. Lightfoot and the employes at Broad Oak there was always the most cordial relationship. As a workman in his younger days, as the head of one of the departments, as manager of the great works, and finally as employer he was respected by the men and boys, and was always looked up to as a friend and counsellor. Mr. Lightfoot believed in paying a fair day's wage for a fair day's work, but he was not lavish in fixing the salaries of his men. While he was just to the employes, he never forgot the interests of the firm, he tried to hold an even balance, not a very easy task when so many are concerned. Mr. Lightfoot was punctual. Even after he had grown into an old man he was always at the works at six o'clock in the morning. And he expected others to be punctual too. He worked hard himself, and he took pretty good care that there was not many sinecures at Broad Oak. Evidence of the good feeling existing between masters and men was afforded by the presentations by the workpeople to Mr. Grafton and Mr. Lightfoot in November 1878. The gifts were the outcome of a visit made to the Art Treasures' Exhibition at Manchester, the expense of which was defrayed by the firm. Messrs. Grafton and Lightfoot had given their workpeople previous treats in the shape of excursions to Blackpool and other places, and the men in turn showed their appreciation of their employers by presenting each of them with an elegant silver inkstand valued at 70 guineas. The presentations were made by Mr. James Hindle who had worked at Broad Oak 45 years. The cause of the prosperity at Broad Oak, said Mr. Hindle, might be summed up in the words honesty and integrity, combined with close attention and persevering industry, superior intelligence, spirited enterprise and readiness to adopt improvements in machinery or materials. In his reply Mr. Lightfoot dropped one sentence which was very cordially endorsed of the men. "From the beginning of my connection with Broad Oak" he said, "in the capacity of a foreman and afterwards as manager my feeling has always been to do that which was right to the workpeople." He proceeded to say that he did not believe in treating workpeople as inferiors and with austerity, but with kindness. Urging the men to adopt principles and economy, he said he had always practiced economy himself in his domestic affairs, in his private affairs and at the works.

#### FIRST MAYOR OF ACCRINGTON.

At the first municipal election in 1878, Mr. Lightfoot was returned as one of the candidates for the district in which he had lived many years—South-East Ward. He had not previously taken active part in the government of the town, but had served his fellow citizens as a county magistrate many years, and was so universally esteemed "for his integrity, consistency, liberality and disinterestedness" that popular feeling virtually voted him first Mayor of the borough. It was a very great compliment—the highest honour the town could confer upon him, and he was elected Mayor and also alderman by the unanimous vote of the Town Council on the 9th May, 1878. His appointment was moved by Mr. James Barlow and seconded by the late Mr. Henry Cunliffe. The Council, Mr. Barlow said, were perfectly unanimous in their choice—it had fallen upon a gentlemen who had been in the town over 60 years—a man whose life had been one of the highest consistency and uprightness. Mr. Lightfoot's response was very brief. He had not sought the honour but he should endeavour to fill the office to the best of his ability, being guided by the golden rule "whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you do ye even so to them." Alderman Lightfoot's first appointment was only for half a year, owing to the custom under which all municipal elections take place on the 1st November each year. Before the close of the first term, however, Mr. Lightfoot presented the town with the mayoral regalia, and gave a banquet in the Town Hall, the like of which had not been known in Accrington before. Many interesting particulars in the Mayor's career were brought out during the evening. Mr. Lightfoot's reply to the principal toast was characteristic of the man—it was marked by the simplicity and gentleness which were apparent in his every act and every speech he delivered:—

He had, he said, been in Accrington nearly 64 years. He remembered that it was but a small town with 4,000 or 5,000 inhabitants, and only five public-houses, or one to about 800 persons, whereas in 1878 there was one to every 240 or thereabouts. In his early days he learnt the art of weaving by hand, before the power-loom was heard of, and he found that to be of service to him afterwards in his business. He left hand-loom weaving when it became very feeble and found employment at Broad Oak works, under the late Mr. Hargreaves. Broad Oak was then the leading place, but there were the Peels at Church, Gibson and Greaves, Plantation mill, and other places at Woodnook and Baxenden. His intention was to go into the occupation in which his father had spent all his days, viz., an excise officer. However, these intentions were doomed to be disappointed, for at a very early date of his connection with Broad Oak works his father was called away, dying comparatively young, leaving him (the speaker), the eldest of the family, to assist his mother to keep the rest. By and bye he was asked to take the position which led to his connection with the printing business for so long a period. What he had done in the way of discovery and improvements had not originated by genius, but by hard plodding—pursuing the work in the mornings, and even at that time he got done pretty early in the morning, for he believed in beginning the day well. He only once asked for an advance of wages—when he was a boy—and never asked for an occupation. He supposed there had been a disposition in him to be industrious, and so he had tried to be, and had tried to do his duty. His experiments and improvements were recorded in a proper book and left as the property of his employer, a principle he acted on all his life. Those books were presented to him by one of the partners of the



firm, but when he joined Mr. Grafton he gave them back.

The regalia worn by Mr. Lightfoot and his successors in the civic chair were the gift of the first mayor, the mace was presented by his daughter, Mrs. Bunting. The mayoral chain is of 18 carat gold, full length, and is in the style of the Gothic period. It is particularly rich by an arrangement of double links at intervals, the large links bearing shields surmounted by civic crowns, the former to take the names of succeeding mayors. The badge is pointed in form, and can be attached to the centre link of the chain or worn separately. The coat of arms are here shown in all their beauty. The mace is of massive silver, richly adorned. The top is in the form of a six-arched crown, with embattled parapet. On the solid or vase shaped portion of the head are the borough arms, richly colored, the inscription occupying the reverse on a shield entwined with oak and laurel. The pillar is richly adorned with mouldings, pierced, and filligree work, oak wreaths, and other emblems. The purple robe, with its wide sable border, and the black silk robe for the Town Clerk, were also the gift of the first mayor.

Mr. Lightfoot was re-elected Mayor in November, 1878. Prior to his third election—on the 1st September, 1879—the Town Council presented him with an address and full-length portrait of himself—the former now occupies an honoured position in the library at Quarry Hill, and the portrait forms the principal adornment of the Council Chamber. The address, very beautifully illuminated, embraced the resolution passed by the Town Council, thanking the Mayor and Mrs. Bunting for presenting the town with the mayoral regalia, and also placed on record the sumptuous banquet which followed the presentation. At the top of the address is a miniature portrait of the Mayor in his robes and chain painted in water colours on porcelain, and the border is adorned with representations of the Town Hall and Market Hall. The large painting of Mr. Lightfoot, now in the Council Chamber, is a very artistic and elaborate work. The late Mr. Cunliffe presented the address, and the late Mr. Swain Rhodes the portrait, which Mr. Lightfoot gave back to the town. The same evening Mr. Lightfoot was entertained to a banquet in the Town Hall, the principal toast being entrusted to Alderman Haywood.

If the Town Council had had their way Alderman Lightfoot would have continued much longer as Mayor. He desired to be relieved, however, and urged that the honour ought not to be monopolised by one man. Yielding to his wishes, the Town Council appointed Alderman Barlow in his stead, after the expiration of the third term. Mr. Barlow filled the office for two years, and then Mr. Lightfoot served another year, being followed by Alderman Smith. Meanwhile the borough bench had been created and Mr. Lightfoot's name was added to the commission on the 4th January, 1882. Mr. Lightfoot was 80 years of age when he was chosen Mayor for the fourth time and declined re-election. He continued a member of the Council, however, up to 1889, although he did not take any very active part in the business.

#### PRINCELY GIFTS TO THE WESLEYANS.

By the death of Mr. Lightfoot, Accrington Wesleyans have lost their most generous supporter. His gifts to chapels and schools of the body with which he was so closely identified for nearly three-quarters of a century have been numerous. But for John Emanuel Lightfoot some of the places of worship which now add such beauty to our thorough-

fares, would never have been built. His name appears upon the trust deed of every Wesleyan Chapel and School-chapel in Accrington; is inscribed upon nearly every corner stone of Wesleyan buildings laid in Accrington for half-a-century, and is to be found invariably at the head of subscription lists of building funds. When, in 1882, Mr. Lightfoot completed his eightieth year Accrington Wesleyans seized the opportunity of showing him their "appreciation of his many years of faithful and unremitting services in the cause of Christ, and their gratitude for his munificent liberality to the various circuit agencies" by presenting him with a beautiful electro-plated epergne. In the vestry of Union-street Chapel is a very striking painting of Mr. Lightfoot by Mr. Hudson of Doncaster, presented to the trustees by a few subscribers in May 1877. It is worth while adding that the only mural tablet in Union-street Chapel is one erected to Mr. Peter Lightfoot, Mr. John Emanuel's brother, who died in 1865, and who had faithfully discharged the duties of school treasurer for 22 years.

The name of John Emanuel Lightfoot is found in the books of the Accrington Chapel (Union-street) as far back as the year 1826. Two years prior to that date, the chapel trustees had purchased a portion of the poor house nearest the chapel for £117, and had spent £150 in addition upon alterations. The alterations had been completed when Mr. Lightfoot appended his name to the Trust accounts for the first time (March 20, 1826), along with Joseph Pretty, Hartley Davy, and Robert Clegg. The membership of the Accrington Society (at that time in the Haslingden circuit) was 140, and the quarterage amounted to £8 10s., but owing to trade depression and other causes, the number sank down to 89. Steady progress was made during the next few years, and Mr. Lightfoot had the satisfaction of witnessing the enlargement of the chapel, owing to lack of accommodation, in 1834. So rapid was the society's progress that a third minister was granted to the Haslingden circuit, and the Rev. W. Bullivant was the original occupant of the first minister's house in Accrington—one of a row of six houses standing between Union-street and the Railway Hotel. The centenary of Methodism in 1839 was celebrated in the Haslingden circuit in various ways, and a number of members contributed to the general fund. Accrington Wesleyans were not a rich body, but they were able to get together a very respectable sum, Mr. and Mrs. Lightfoot heading the Accrington list with a subscription of £6 10s. The present chapel in Union-street was opened in 1846, and in 1859 the old organ was re-placed by a much larger instrument. Mr. Lightfoot was treasurer to the fund, and at a meeting of trustees offered to give £500 towards the extinction of the chapel and organ debt if the friends would contribute a further sum of £300. "The challenge was very gratefully and cheerfully accepted," and the amount raised. When the organ was enlarged in 1863, Mr. Lightfoot gave £80. The same year witnessed the formation of the Accrington circuit with a membership of 649. Mr. Lightfoot was the first steward appointed (his colleague being Mr. John Haworth), and he held office up to his death. Accrington contributed handsomely to the Methodist Thanksgiving Fund in 1880, Mr. Lightfoot and Mrs. Bunting sending £500.

Mr. Lightfoot was closely connected with Wesley Chapel and School from their foundation. To the fund for the erection of the chapel he promised £1,000, and afterwards increased his gift to £1,125. His daughter, Miss Emma Grace Lightfoot (now Mrs. Bunting) laid the corner-stone in April, 1865.



When the building account closed in 1868, it was found that the edifice had cost £7,136, and there remained a debt of £1,100. Mr. Lightfoot generously contributed one-half the amount (£550), and the debt was wiped out in the following year. Mr. Lightfoot was appointed one of the society stewards when the classes at "Wesley" were constituted a separate society in 1869. Wesley Chapel and School have been greatly improved since their erection. Mr. Lightfoot, at a cost of £165, erected a wall enclosing the trust property, and later still purchased the Syke-street property for £300, and this he also presented to the trustees. In 1878 he paid for an organ for the school (cost £135), and when, two years later, it was decided to erect a lecture hall, he generously promised £500 towards the cost. One of the corner stones was laid by Mr. Lightfoot.

Antley friends also have every reason to be grateful to Mr. Lightfoot, who gave them the site upon which their school is erected, paying £340 for it. The duty of laying the corner stone was discharged by Mr. Lightfoot who performed a similar function at the ceremony connected with the chapel, to which he subscribed handsomely. He laid the foundation stone of Scaitcliffe School Chapel in July 1876, and interested himself in Cambridge-street School-chapel, paying the expenses attendant upon the fitting up of a cottage for the first school there. One of the corner stones of the new school was laid by Mr. Lightfoot, who also befriended the Ragged School in Jacob-street, of which his wife laid the foundation stone. Mrs. Bunting, his daughter, laid the foundation stone of the new portion in 1882, built upon land given by Mr. Lightfoot.

Mr. Lightfoot's generosity was not confined to Wesleyan Chapels in Accrington. In 1877 he paid a debt of £574 owing upon the minister's house in York-street, Oswaldtwistle, and many Wesleyan chapels in other towns are obligated to him for very generous contributions.

The late Rev. W. Bunting, who married Mr. Lightfoot's daughter, was a native of Uttoxeter. About two miles south of the town is the Woodlands noted for its picturesque scenery of hill and dale and rivulet, situate on the borders of Needwood Forest, and adjoining the celebrated Bagot's Park, with its gigantic oaks and herds of deer and goats. For upwards of sixty years service had been held at the Scounslow Green Farm, and Mr. Bunting became much attached to the locality, and often visited it, in company with his wife and Mr. Lightfoot. On more than one occasion Mr. Bunting expressed a hope that a sanctuary would be erected. Shortly after his death a favourable opportunity presented itself by the handsome gift from Mr. John Minors of a very eligible piece of land from the Knypersley Hall estate, and situate at the junction of four roads, with a beautiful green in the front. It was then that Mr. Lightfoot complied with his son-in-law's wish by erecting an exceedingly handsome edifice. The memorial stones were laid by Masters W. Lightfoot Bunting and W. Towers Mynors, and on Whit-Sunday, 1877, the Bunting Memorial Wesleyan Church was dedicated, the services being conducted by the late Rev. J. F. Broughton. A tablet has the following inscription:—"This church was erected by Mr. J. E. Lightfoot, J.P., of Accrington, Lancashire, and presented to the Wesleyan Connexion in memory of his son-in-law, the late Rev. William Bunting." With this close connection with the neighbourhood; the name of Lightfoot is held in reverence. Mr. J. Payne Hall, the steward writing to Mrs. Goodwin, on Wednesday, ordered that a beautiful wreath should be sent to Quarry Hill, as a

memento from the Woodlands. "We only regret," he adds, "the great distance which alone prevents a deputation being present at the last rites of our old and valued friend."

#### MR. LIGHTFOOT'S GENEROSITY.

To many agencies for the spread of religion and education, both at home and abroad, to almost every charitable object, Mr. Lightfoot was a generous contributor. He subscribed handsomely to the Mechanics' Institution Building Fund, and gave a sum of money annually for the Lightfoot prizes. In politics he was a Liberal, and he was nearly always selected to nominate members for the Town Council, the County Council, and even for Parliament for his district. The party of progress has lost a warm friend, for though he did not take a very active part in its affairs, he was always ready to help. He was generous to a degree, and many institutions will miss him. Some of his gifts have already been enumerated, but they form only a fraction of the money he subscribed. In September, 1879, he gave a life-boat, named John and Sarah, and said to have cost £600, to the lifeboat station at Banff, Scotland, and a handsome morocco-bound bible, with the owner's name inscribed in illuminated letters and the donor's autograph, to the crew, 20 in number. Mr. Lightfoot's demise is universally regretted, and when his death was made known flags were hoisted half-mast on every public building in the town.

#### PUBLIC REFERENCE.

Before proceeding to the ordinary business of the court on Wednesday, Alderman Smith, the chairman, referred to the loss the town had sustained by the removal of one whom he might designate her chief citizen. When the town was incorporated Mr. Lightfoot was first Mayor, and he occupied that position not only during a portion of the year, but for two successive years, and then again after an interval of two years. The duties of the chief magistracy were never discharged in a manner more thoroughly approved of and appreciated by the people than when he sustained the honourable and dignified position. He need not refer to his personal character and christian life. He believed the whole town thoroughly appreciated the generous, consistent and honourable course he had pursued. While it was generally known that he was in sympathy with everything that was good, and that he helped every branch of the christian church, it was only those identified with one portion of the church who would know to what extent that generosity was exhibited. He had very frequent opportunities of seeing the extent of it, and they all deeply grieved the loss the town had sustained. Still he had attained a venerable age, and had he survived a few days longer he would have completed his ninety-first year. In his case, he thought, as referred to by the wise man, he was "truly wise," and literally realised the wise man's saying, "Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left hand riches and honour." He had come as a ripe shock of grain to the garner, and while they lamented their loss, he was quite sure they all deeply sympathised with the family at Quarry Hill. He was sure the bench and friends would wish to express their condolence with the family.

Mr. Aitken, on behalf of the legal profession, supported the remarks of the chairman as to his character. He had not had the honour of practising before Mr. Lightfoot, but he was the gentleman who was almost first in Accrington to welcome him (Mr. Aitken) in the position he had honour to hold. He was sure the whole of the profession would mourn his loss as one of the leading citizens of the town.



## A RESPECTFUL TRIBUTE TO A GOOD AND USEFUL TOWNSMAN.

[BY THE REV. CHAS. WILLIAMS.]

When I came to Accrington in the spring of 1851, Mr. John Emanuel Lightfoot was in the meridian of life; he had not completed his fiftieth year, and shared with Mr. John Hargreaves, Mr. Steiner, and Mr. James Grimshaw the honour and the duty of local leadership. The town looked up to him and held him in highest esteem. The rich acknowledged his worth, while the poor regarded him, as well they might, with grateful affection. Mr. Lightfoot and Mr. Benjamin Hargreaves were then, and remained to the last, the chief philanthropists of Accrington, ever attentive to the appeals of the destitute, tenderly sympathetic with them, and generous in their gifts. During the forty-two years in which I have known our town, Mr. Lightfoot has remained one of its foremost men, a man all of us have delighted to honour. I am thankful for the privilege accorded to me in the request to pay a tribute of respect to so good and useful a townsman.

### A SUCCESSFUL CAREER.

Mr. Lightfoot was well-born, if his parents were not rich and influential. Character and intelligence tell far more than circumstances in parents. His father served the crown as an excise officer, and, happily for our friend, was sufficiently educated to understand the value of education, and did his best to equip his sons for the battle of life. The early days of this century witnessed a quickened interest in the training of young people. Raikes, Lancaster, and Bell were calling attention to the importance of Sunday and day schools, and even George the Third had given expression to the wish that every child in his kingdom should learn to read. No doubt in his first home at Gisburn and afterwards at Great Harwood, John Emanuel Lightfoot received as much and as good instruction as was attainable in those times. I have heard him speak gratefully of his child-life, though it was not without what we should now consider hardships and difficulties. The fact that he was taught hand-loom weaving, that the young boy was a wage-earner, that he wore the yoke in his youth, was not a hindrance but a help to him. The habits of an industrious life were formed by the time he was in his teens, and in 1818, when he came to Broad Oak Works, he was ready for laborious service, and fit to undertake responsible tasks. Bright and steady, thoroughly devoted to the work in hand and trustworthy, efficiently educated, considering the opportunities of the second decade of the nineteenth century, and quick to learn, the youth commended himself to his employers, won their confidence, gradually but surely worked his way upward, until at last, on the retirement from Broad Oak of Mr. Steiner, he became manager of the colour-making department. Mr. Lightfoot was on the high road to fortune. More and more he impressed the Messrs. Hargreaves with a sense of the value of his services. At last he became a member of the firm, and remained in it when Mr. Grafton took the place of Mr. Hargreaves. In a good old age, after a most successful business career, he left Broad Oak Works, spending the evening of his life in well-earned and peaceful repose. The secret of Mr. Lightfoot's success is not a mystery. He was not afraid of work. Diligent, pains-taking, con-

scientious in the performance of duty, early at his daily labour, and a plodder, he made the best possible use alike of his ability and opportunity. Onlookers might suppose that fortune favoured him. Scarcely so. He rather by dint of persistent toil and close attention to business forced the hand of fortune, who acknowledged his merit and rewarded it. More than most men Mr. Lightfoot trod the path of duty, and, like many other heroic souls,

On with toil of heart and knees and hands,  
Through the long gorge, to the far light he won  
His path upward, and prevail'd.

### A CAPTAIN OF INDUSTRY.

Mr. Lightfoot was one of the noblest of our captains of industry. Accrington has reason to be proud of its leaders in this department. Mr. Steiner, Mr. John Bullough, and many others have not only marshalled their forces with skill, but also led them to victory. It has been to their honour that they have won the confidence of their workpeople, and established between themselves and those who served them mutual trust and goodwill. Mr. Lightfoot was a conspicuous example of this fairer and brighter side of an employer's life. In 1872 the number of people employed at Broad Oak was 1,010. I have always and uniformly heard Mr. Lightfoot spoken of with gratitude by his workpeople. He was their friend as well as their master. They delighted to serve him, for they knew that he took a personal interest in them. I do not undervalue credit and reputation on the Exchange, nor do I regard as worthless dross the wealth acquired by successful men of business, but above these, and next to the approval of one's conscience, and the commendation of the Divine Lord, whose stewards employers are, I should rank the respect and gratitude and affection of those who work for them. And these were enjoyed by Mr. Lightfoot. He was a captain of industry, trusted and loved by those who served under him.

### SIMPLE, BUT SHREWD.

Contrasting qualities were combined in Mr. Lightfoot. He was simplicity itself, not double-minded, but whole-hearted and singularly single in his aim. A godly sincerity characterised him. In many respects there was a somewhat remarkable resemblance between him and his friend, the late Mr. John Mercer, the chemist. I had the great privilege of some acquaintances with both these good men. They were unsophisticated, exceptionally simple in their manner of life, their way at looking at truth, their views of public duty. But they never seemed to me to be any less keen and shrewd in judgment. With large knowledge, especially of whatever concerned their business, they associated not a little acuteness of intellect. Such men are "the salt of the earth" and "light of the world." To have knowledge and not to be puffed up by it, to keep abreast of the age and yet to walk humbly, to be strong and meek, to be trustful and devout as any child of light, and at the same time wise in one's generation as the sagest of the children of this world, to combine these contrasting qualities is a rare excellence. Mr. Lightfoot attained to it, and I think it was one of the chief charms of his character.

### A PRINCE AMONG PHILANTHROPISTS.

Mr. Lightfoot was generous in his gifts, more particularly to the Wesleyan Methodists and to the poor, though he was not unmindful of the claims of others, and was ever ready to take his share and to help in any and every good work. I know nothing of the extent of Mr. Lightfoot's wealth. It may be the case that many a widow or labourer, who gives out of poverty, gives more liberally than Mr. Lightfoot



gave. Our judgment in this matter is always marked by inadequacy of knowledge. What remains over and above, after gifts, really determines, along with the motive, the value in the sight of God of what is given. But as compared with other well-to-do and rich men Mr. Lightfoot was unquestionably and emphatically generous. He will be sorely missed by our Wesleyan friends. He gave to his church, or rather to his Saviour through the church, with a willing heart and an open hand. And to the poor. He was in this respect to the mendicants of Accrington what the patriarch Job was to the needy of his locality. They were accustomed to way-lay him as he passed from Broad Oak to his house and returned to the office. Nor did they seek alms in vain. He gave readily, perhaps a little too indiscriminately. But this was only a small sort of the help he rendered to those in distress. He sought out, and employed others to discover, cases of real need. Unostentatiously, and unknown to the public, he scattered benefactions. "When the ear heard him, then it blessed him; and when the eye saw him it gave witness unto him; because he delivered the poor that cried, the fatherless also, that had none to help him. The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon him, and he caused the widow's heart to sing for joy." It is quite true that "the more he gave away the more he had." But then it should be remembered that the acquisition of wealth as often makes men indifferent to as interested in the less favoured, that gold narrows and hardens even more frequently than it broadens and softens the human heart. Mr. Lightfoot shared his plenty with others, and practised the Christian Socialism which says "What is mine is yours." He believed, and not unreasonably, that the Giver of all good rewards ten-fold all that is given in His service and to His poor.

#### OUR FIRST MAYOR.

The Town Council of Accrington did well to elect Mr. Lightfoot the first Mayor. They have never more truly represented the town than in the selection thus made. It was a fitting and graceful tribute to a life-long devotion to duty, to pre-eminently valuable services, to high character. Other honours have been showered upon Mr. Lightfoot. He was both a county and borough magistrate. He will long be remembered in Accrington, and our children's children will hand down the tradition that the first and most honoured Burgess of the recently created Corporation was loved by all the town.

#### A CHRISTIAN.

In days like ours it is a noteworthy fact that Mr. Lightfoot was a very decided, an ever consistent, and an earnest Christian. I have no doubt he often confessed that by the grace of God he was what he was. Those who knew him most intimately are the most convinced that he sought first "the kingdom of God and His righteousness," that with him religion was "the one thing needful," that his great purpose in life was to live Christ, to "adorn the doctrine of God his Saviour in all things." He was a thorough Wesleyan, loyal throughout and always to Methodism, faithful to his convictions, but withal Catholic. Many years ago he came on a Sunday afternoon to a public service at Blackburn-road Chapel, in which I preached a sermon from First Corinthians, iii, 22 and 23. The next day he sent me down the Rev. W. Arthur's work on "The Tongue of Fire," with the remark that he entirely agreed with me in the belief that every divinely given man belongs to all Christians, and that therefore William Arthur was as much mine as his. His breadth made him a Non-

conformist in religion, and in politics a Liberal. He desired all to share alike both in spiritual and secular privileges. He was no enemy to the Church of England, but loved good men of every creed, as every Christian should.

#### FROM 1893 TO 1802.

It is impossible not to glance back from the grave to the cradle. In Mr. Lightfoot's case the distance is considerable, more than ninety years of pilgrimage measure for us the journey from the cradle to the grave. How unlike the two periods. In 1802-Test and Corporation Acts were in force; Parliament was unreformed; popular education was in its infancy; Lancashire was only beginning to be prosperous; the slave trade was rampant; Europe was preparing for its conflict with Napoleon; England was threatened by the great Corsican with destruction. Many and significant changes have taken place since then. Immense progress has been made in industry, in civil and religious liberty, in education, in religion. Mr. Lightfoot often testified to me that the former days were not better than these, that the present excels and is superior to the past. And to whom do we owe the change, the progress, the bettering of the condition of the people? Mainly to men like Mr. Lightfoot. We thank God for such men.

Knowing his deeds of love men questioned not,  
The faith of one whose walk and work were right,  
Who tranquilly in life's great taskfield wrought,  
And side by side with evil, scarcely caught  
A stain upon his pilgrim garb of white.  
His daily prayer, far better understood  
By acts than words, was simply doing good,  
So calm, so contrast was his rectitude  
That, by his loss alone we know his worth,  
And feel how true a man has walked with us on earth.

#### THE FUNERAL.

##### AN IMPOSING DEMONSTRATION.

The funeral, which took place on Thursday morning, was the occasion of a striking demonstration of the regard in which the deceased gentleman was held by the townspeople. It was of a public character, and among the most imposing ceremonies of the kind ever witnessed at Accrington. The Corporation, the police, the borough and county magistrates, the workpeople of Broad Oak, and religious, educational and political institutions of various shades of thought were represented in the procession, and the streets along which the cortege passed were thronged with spectators. Broad Oak Works were closed for the whole day, several mills stopped during the morning, and business in the neighbourhood of Abbey-street and Blackburn-road was entirely suspended.

Half-past ten was the hour fixed for the cortege to leave Quarry Hill, and the various bodies that had arranged to take part in the procession assembled some time previously. The following was the order of the procession:—

- Borough and County Police.
- His Worship the Mayor, and the Corporation.
- Magistrates.
- Employes of Broad Oak Works.
- Officials of Wesley chapel and school.
- Local preachers, leaders, trustees, stewards, and Sunday school officers from other chapels in the circuit.
- Hearse.
- Mourning carriages.
- Private carriages.
- Members of congregations and other friends.



The police were under the charge of the Chief Constable (Mr. Beattie), who also officiated as marshal of the procession, and Supt. Campbell. Among the members of the Town Council present were the Mayor (Alderman Whittaker), Aldermen Hindle, Entwisle, Haywood Kenyon, Lee and Moorby; Councillors E. Higham, Duxbury, Broughton, Ormerod, Maden, Haythornthwaite, Jno. Duckworth, Jas. Duckworth, Cunliffe, Rawson, Ratcliffe, Grace, Evans, Cronshaw, Horsfield, Whittaker and Wilkinson; Messrs. Bockett and Newton (Corporation officials.) The Mayor of Haslingden (Mr. T. B. Hamilton), was also present. The magistrates were represented by Messrs. R. Rushton, A. Ashworth, D. Tunks, W. Lupton, J. E. Riley, R. H. Rowland, W. Smith, Jno. Lord and D. J. Shackleton. The employés of Broad Oak were very numerous represented. They included the managers and foremen of the various departments, and a number of old hands who were identified with the works in Mr. Lightfoot's early days. Among the officials of Wesley chapel and school were Messrs. Eber Priestley and John E. Stuttard, the chapel stewards; Wilson Broughton and Geo. Riley, port stewards; James Grimshaw, trustee; J. W. Barlow and R. Hodgson, Sunday school superintendents; P. Barlow, secretary; J. H. Binns, treasurer; L. Bradley and T. Chadwick, visitors; Miss Alice Kenyon and Miss Lord, female visitors; and Messrs. Jephthah Priestley, Geo. Whittaker, Thomas Kemp, R. Moore, F. Bleazard, W. B. Walker, J. T. Waite, and Geo. Whiteside. Mr. Richard Stuttard, an old gentleman approaching 90 years, and who can claim acquaintance with Mr. Lightfoot when a lad, was a conspicuous figure among the Wesley friends. The local preachers in the circuit were represented by Messrs. R. Harrison, J.P., of Whalley (the oldest local preacher in the district), W. Haworth, J. Grimshaw, S. Fielden, R. Hodgson, B. Holden, J. Crabtree, H. Coupe, T. E. Nuttall, J. Bentley, E. Priestley, J. Townson, T. Sidgreaves, J. T. Fishwick, W. J. Heys, J. Birtwistle, R. J. Alston, J. Lord, W. T. Wilkinson, B. Taylor, H. H. Crawshaw, R. Brown, A. E. Spencer. From the various chapels and schools in the circuit there were present:—Union-street: Messrs. J. W. Foster, Catlow, T. Whittaker, G. W. Holden, John Smith, C. Cronshaw, G. Watson, Clayton, J. Barlow; Cambridge-street: Messrs. Walsh, Terry, Southworth, and Kirkbright; Antley: Messrs. T. Barrett, Edwards, Whittaker, Ward, Grimshaw, A. Spencer, and Varley; Mount Pleasant and York-street (Oswaldtwistle): Messrs. Gibson, John Haworth, Boothway, Ratcliffe, Watson, Hargreaves, Pearson, Jennings, H. Haworth, J. Haworth, and H. Grimshaw; Hannah-street: Messrs. T. B. Atkinson and J. Holden; Green Haworth: Messrs. H. Mellilieu, Hindle, and Willan; Ragged School: Messrs. Woodhouse, Holland, Lord, Kirkbright, and George Haworth. Various other bodies were represented in the procession. The Rev. Dr. Stephenson, ex-president of the conference, sent an intimation of his regret at not being able to attend, but the Children's Home at Edgeworth, of which Mr. Lightfoot had for many years been treasurer, and in which he took a deep interest, was represented by Mr. Mager. The Mechanics' Institution was represented by Messrs. John Rhodes and J. W. Tattersall (along with Councillor Cunliffe); the Liberal Club by Messrs. E. Woolley, J. Barlow, and J. Birtwistle, and Mr. Tom Barlow attended on behalf of his father. Amongst other friends we noticed in the procession, or at the service afterwards, were the Revs. F. H. Williams and J. Pitchford; Messrs. A. Clayton, J. Simpson (Hapton), A. Stanesby, and John Entwisle.

Following these various bodies and friends was the hearse, containing the coffin. The latter, however, was almost hidden from view with wreaths. It was a plain oak coffin, with heavy brass mountings, and bore a simple inscription, engraved on the shield, of the name of the deceased, and the date of his birth and death. Afterwards came the mourning carriages, the mourners being in the following order:—

Mrs. Bunting, Mr. L. Bunting, Mr. J. E. Bunting, and Miss Bunting.

Mr. E. W. Bunting, Miss Taylor, Mr. Thos. Hartley Mr. Thos. Bunting, Mrs. Broughton.

Mr. Thos. Lightfoot, Mr. S. Foster, Rev. G. Oyston, Rev. P. Neill.

Alderman Smith, Mr. N. Clayton, Mr. Thornton, Mr. F. F. Grafton.

Mr. Clegg, Mr. R. Crossley, Mr. John Haworth (Avenue-parade), Mr. John Haworth (Southport).

Rev. E. Greensill, Dr. Clayton, Rev. Z. Robinson, Rev. J. B. Every.

Revs. W. Brunyate, T. J. Choate, J. B. Jones, and W. Hothersall.

Revs. A. H. Woodnutt, G. Ranton, Dr. Randles (Didsbury College), J. W. Genge.

Revs. T. P. Spencer, T. Hepton, T. Rodgers, G. Holbrey, S. C. Hall, and D. Heaton.

The private carriages followed, and the rear of the procession was brought up by members of the Wesleyan congregations and other friends. The private carriages were those of Mr. John Stott (Haslingden) Alderman Smith, Mr. John Anderton, Mr. James Barlow, Mr. John Riley (Hapton), Mrs. Walmsley (Paddock House), Mr. Arthur Appleby, Mr. Wm. Haworth, Mr. J. E. Riley (Arden Hall), Mr. John Blake, Mr. J. S. Grimshaw, Mr. W. H. Smith (Haslingden), Dr. Clayton, and Dr. Fox.

The interment took place in the family vault at Union-street Chapel. All along the route to the chapel—Abbey-street, Blackburn-road, and Union-street—the streets were thickly lined with people, the shops closed, and the blinds drawn.

#### SERVICE AT UNION-STREET CHAPEL

On arriving at the chapel, the police and members of the Corporation opened out, and allowed the mourners, the employes of Broad Oak Works, and the members of the Wesleyan body to enter the chapel first. The body of the chapel had been reserved for those taking part in the procession, the public being admitted to the gallery, and the sacred edifice was well filled. Within the communion rails were a large number of wreaths, the sweet perfume from which scented the whole chapel; and the coffin, also covered with wreaths, was placed at the foot of the pulpit. It was a most impressive spectacle. Printed forms of service had been issued, the front leaf bearing the words: "John Emanuel Lightfoot, born April 28th, 1802, died April 23rd, 1893. He walked with God, and was not, for God took him." The service commenced with the saying of a hymn "Hark! a voice divides the sky," portions of scripture were read, and the choir rendered the beautiful anthem "God is a spirit" (Sterndale Bennett).

The Rev. Z. Robinson then delivered an address. He said the occasion on which they were assembled was not merely a memorable, but a great one. There had passed away from them one who for nearly 80 years had been most closely and livingly associated with the town of Accrington. In the growth of its municipal life, in the opening up and development of its varied industries, and in the shaping of its religious fellowship and religious thought—in all these things John Emanuel Lightfoot had been for more than half-a-century, a leading figure, perhaps the most prominent personality in the whole of these years. To many of them, the friendship of Mr. Lightfoot was a sweet charm, and his conversation and the spirit of his whole life were always an inspiration for a high level of character. The life amongst men and women of Mr. Lightfoot was a flower of rare loveliness, of rare sweetness, and they were all thankful that its fragrance and beauty lingered so long and quietly with them. All those who came in contact with it, felt its beauty and fragrance, and not merely was it appreciated by the immediate circle of his personal friendships, but it shed its beauty on all the phases of our human life.



There was hardly any point of life that Mr. Lightfoot did not touch, and he threw into everything that he touched the spirit and halo of his own character and life. Looked at humanly and socially, Mr. Lightfoot's life might be regarded as one singularly fortunate. In all his life—at the beginning, as well as in its progress—he was impressively a child and a man of the people. He began with them, and he never left the people, and all the honours of his life—his social honours—were those that the people, with generous hands, gave him. And he valued them because they were the people's gifts. They knew how he began life—that he became a large employer of labour, and acquired an enviable amount of wealth. Then, when the town of Accrington reached its municipal majority, and was deemed worthy to have the powers of self-management, the first to be thought of to embody its strength and its honour was Mr. Lightfoot, as the first mayor. And the Methodist church, of which he was a member all his life, gave to him generously, with reverence, some of the highest honours that it had to give to its laymen. It might be questioned whether any of them had ever known a man who had a wider circle of friendships in which he had such a reverent regard and the people gave him, with unrestrained hearts, their confidence and their esteem. There were times, too, when the generous hospitality of his home was freely given to titled nobility, and when they looked upon his life as centreing in itself these successes and distinctions, they might well say "What has the world more to give?" But they must not stop there. Mr. Lightfoot not merely had these, but he had the responsibilities that came with them, and the temptations that must always be associated with them. He felt the responsibilities and he felt the temptations. There were men who had gained these social distinctions and had trifled with their responsibilities. Mr. Lightfoot betrayed no trust in the whole of his life. He was a faithful man. There were men who had gained these honours and had been swept away by those temptations. Mr. Lightfoot felt the temptations but he stood with Christian integrity, and, amidst wealth and high associations and great responsibilities, he preserved the beautiful honesty and purity of a man and a Christian. There were shadows over Mr. Lightfoot's life. There was hardly any sorrow of a personal and a family kind that did not sometimes come to him, but the ship of his life was steered straight on and never varied its course until he came at last to find his head in the arms of Jesus Christ. There was nothing more beautiful and sacred than to see a life that began as his began, and shaped all its course, amid the temptations, perils, responsibilities, and sometimes agonies that come to our human life, and yet slowly but really perfected itself in the sight of all men and in the beauty and the character of Jesus Christ. If Mr. Lightfoot had been present that morning, what would he have said? He would have referred to the honours that they gave him; he prized them; he would have referred to the successes that by their help he had attained; he prized his successes, but he would have said to them, with an emphasis that was peculiarly his own, "My dear friends, by the grace of God I am what I am." No man of clearer head, of stronger will, of deeper passions, ever walked the streets of Accrington, but he would have said "It is by the grace of God I am what I am." To know that the supreme and eternal Father loved him was to him more precious than gold, yea, than much fine gold. In concluding, Mr. Robinson, in feeling terms, tendered the sympathy of the congregation to the bereaved family.

The hymn, "Give me the wings of faith," was then sung, and afterwards an eloquent prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Randles, in which he rendered thanks for the noble life of Mr. Lightfoot. The other ministers who took part in the service were the Revs. J. Bourne Jones, T. P. Spencer, W. Hothersall, and T. J. Choate.

The coffin was then removed from the chapel, and the final rites gone through at the grave side, the officiating ministers being the Revs. J. B. Jones and A. H. Woodnutt. Four police officers, under the charge of Inspector Sinclair, acted as the bearers.

Wreaths were sent by the following friends:—Mr. F. W. Milnes, Accrington; Major and Mrs. Macaulay, Kingston-on-Thames; Mr. W. H. Smith, Haslingden; Mr. E. Mucklow, junr., Bury; Mrs. F. W. Hill, and Mrs. Dr. Sutcliffe; Misses Hutchinson, the ministers of the Accrington Wesleyan Circuit, the family at Quarry Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Haworth, Southport; Mr. and Mrs. Crossley, Bentcliffe; Mr. Smith, Spring Hill; Mr. and Mrs. Browning, Accrington; Mr. and Mrs. S. Foster; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Rawson, Accrington; Mount Pleasant Chapel and School; Mr. and Mrs. Smith and family, Avenue-parade; Mrs. Wignall and family, Blackpool; Mr. R. T. Haworth, Accrington; the servants of Quarry Hill, and Mrs. Coates; Mrs. Martin, Eaton Bank; Mr. and Mrs. Newton Clayton, of Selvey; Mr. and Mrs. Clayton, Siddlesham; Dr. and Mrs. Clayton; the Bunting Memorial Church, Woodland, Uttoxetter; Mrs. John Lightfoot, Accrington; Mr. John Riley, Hapton; the Officers and Teachers of Ragged School; Wesley and Cambridge-street Schools; Alderman Thomas Whittaker; Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Leese; Mr. and Mrs. Watson Smith, St. Annes; the Children of Park House; and the Local Preachers of the Accrington Circuit. The wreath forwarded by the Mayor was accompanied by the following:—"The Mayor (Alderman Thos. Whittaker) desires to place this wreath upon the coffin of our Father, the first Mayor of this borough, whose name is treasured in its archives and whose influence liveth. 'He being dead, yet speaketh.'"

The arrangements for the funeral were entrusted entirely to Mr. S. Horton, Blackburn-road, and were carried out very efficiently, everything being conducted in the most orderly manner.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE AT WESLEY.

### THE REV. W. BRUNYATE'S TRIBUTE.

On Sunday morning, a memorial service was held in the Wesley chapel, Abbey-street, the preacher being the Rev. Wesley Brunyate, formerly a minister of the Accrington circuit. There was a large congregation. The pulpit was partially draped in black, but the effect was relieved by a beautiful arrangement of flowers, in the form of an anchor, which was suspended in front of the pulpit. The service throughout was very impressive. The music had been carefully selected and was of an appropriate character. Miss Annie Haworth sang "I know that my Redeemer," and Mrs. Shorrocks "O rest in the Lord," while among the hymns rendered by the congregation was the one commencing "Jerusalem, my golden home," said to be Mr. Lightfoot's favourite. Mr. B. Riley presided at the organ.

The Rev. W. Brunyate selected as his text the words "For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep (Acts xiii, 36). After briefly sketching the character of David, and pointing out the significance of the phrase in the text "he fell on sleep," the rev. gentleman referred to the subject which had brought so many there that morning. John Emanuel Lightfoot, he said, is gone, is no more to brighten by his presence this place, no more to tread these streets, no more to cheer the hearts of the poor and weary of this town, and no more to bless and guide the home at Quarry Hill. For a week we have all been talking about him. What shall we say about him now? In speaking of Mr. Lightfoot we are greatly relieved at two or three



points. In the first place you knew him, and for his position in your respect and heart, he is not dependent on what we may now say about him. In the next place a great deal has been said, and so well said, that it would be folly now to repeat it. Both your papers have generous notices, and we especially commend to you the full and carefully written articles of the *Observer* of yesterday. Further, in speaking on the subject we have nothing to reserve. Sometimes in lives of which otherwise we ought to speak in high honour, there lie back somewhere facts and flaws which we are afraid to bring back again to recollection, and which charity bids us leave out of sight. They have been removed further and further away by the growing years, and have been atoned for by subsequent honour and long service. We know these flaws are there but may not now be spoken of. In the life of our friend there is nothing of this kind. From end to end the line is straight, the page unstained. There has been nothing to forget nothing to omit, no gaping breach in any part of the moral wall to hide or to rebuild. In this respect for a life so long, so diverse in position in its beginning and end, we know almost none like it. On these grounds it is easy to-day to speak of your departed townsman and friend. Yet not less are we under the strictest obligations to speak with care. Some may say, if Mr. Lightfoot could speak, he would say, "Say nothing." If anything we may say was for his own gratification and honour only, that is true. But if anything we can say can be for our good, or for the honour of the Lord he served, Mr. Lightfoot would be now as he always was, ready to sacrifice his own feeling for our service. In this respect we are free to speak, so long as we do it with right purpose, and becoming modesty. How Mr. Lightfoot served his generation (and that along the line of the text is our point) you know. He began at the beginning, and when a mere boy helped his mother in the struggle of widowhood and with a large family, wholly dependent on her daily toil and thrift. Afterwards he wholly supported her, and made her way to the grave smooth with generous hand and dutiful affection. He served the church faithfully from his teens to ninety. He was a class leader for 70 seventy years, and died in stewardship. Almost every office a layman could fill he filled. He was a Methodist by choice, we love to think of him as ours. He loved the Methodist hymns, and sang them with sweetness all his life. He loved the Methodist theology, the Methodist means of grace, and the Methodist preachers, young and old. He was happy when he gathered them about him, and they were happy with him. But both his heart and intelligence were catholic. If he could not have been a Methodist, he could have worshipped God in the church of any of you, and his aid was given to every evangelical movement. His own beliefs were fixed and definite, but he did not think it needful to believe as everybody else did to respect their character and appreciate their work. In every relation in which he stood to the great industrial firm, with which he was associated, he served with unflagging energy and with unbending fidelity. Did you ever know a more loyal and faithful servant? Do you ever expect to find a more just and considerate master? What he was to those who shared with him the responsibility of one of the largest places of business in the county is not for me to say. I only know the language of unqualified respect and cordiality, with which in his freest moments he always spoke of them. He rejoiced alike in their honours and in their good name. But there is one circumstance I cannot forbear to mention and to emphasize—that is, the perfect ease with which various of his workpeople always worked with him in his church relations. I have seen them with him in all kinds of church meetings—meetings naturally calling into play a great variety of opinion, but never once saw one of these men give indication of the slightest unpleasantness of restraint, or ever take with him the slightest liberty. Such a combination of

freedom and respect is probably seldom found. How Mr. Lightfoot served his fellow-citizens you have not been slow to observe. You never suspected him of selfishly seeking a distinction, you never knew him to let down the dignity of any office you called him to, and ungrudgingly you conferred upon him every honour you had to bestow. In times of anxiety, when interests seemed to clash and feelings ran high, you never failed to trust the chief magistrate of your town, and we never heard of a bitter word you ever said of him. If times of storm and stress be still to come, may there never lack the presence of such men. On a yet wider scale, Mr. Lightfoot aided the various philanthropies he found around him. Bible Societies, Missionary, foreign and home, Children's Homes, he supported generously. He was interested in the welfare of our sailors, and presented a life-boat for their safety at Banff on the stormy coast of the far North of Scotland. He served his generation not with financial help only, but gave time and service and thought and sympathy of every kind. His was a life breathing the atmosphere of peace wherever it appeared, and in service was as rich and beautiful. In the benevolent use of money he was punctiliously conscientious and systematic. He gave by rule. When he earned but 15s. a week he gave a tenth to the cause of God. When the means increased the proportion increased, till the tenth rose to a third, and the eighteen pence a week rose to sometimes thousands a year. For a considerable number of years that proportion was maintained. All his own habits were simple, there was no lack of good taste, but he lavished nothing on himself. Many men, probably most of us, would have thought it permissible to affect a more lavish style of life; he preferred a higher good, and to let his fellow-men eat of the sweets of his own success. As he looks back from the higher state, we do not think he repents his choice. But more than Mr. Lightfoot ever said or did was the man himself more than learning, or zeal, or wealth, or genius is character—we all have our own idea of what makes manhood, and your views on that may not be mine. They need not be, but speaking for ourselves we have never known a character more harmoniously balanced, of greater completeness, or of more symmetrical beauty than that just taken from us. How gentle, how decided, how genial, how undemonstratively resolute; what "sweet reasonableness;" how inflexible in righteousness, how generous in judgment, how faithful in friendship. If we want a living translation of the Sermon on the Mount, can we now say that we have never had it? At first meeting with Mr. Lightfoot the wonder was where some of those strong qualities were which enabled him to achieve what he did, but as we came to know him they began to appear, and a combination of power not at first sight suspected revealed itself. His benignant face, his clear cut feature, his white and silken hair, his cleanly ways, his cordial grasp and greeting, who could know him long without trust, respect, veneration and love? To some of us whenever we feel about in our lives for a Christian model, this man amongst the foremost is sure to appear. Let us see how it was that this character arose, and that this life work was done. The text supplies the thing we need. It was "by the will of God." To have taken God out of Mr. Lightfoot's life would have been to leave him desolate. To have suggested to him that he attained what he did by any help but the divine would have been both to affront and pain him. You may say he did not know—it was a delusion. We only reply, blessed delusion, wonderful lie, to grow such truth and goodness. You will hardly wonder if we prefer his 70 years of trial and success to the cheap cavils of this kind. Mr. Lightfoot was converted to God in his early teens. His father led him to the class meeting at Rishton when he was five years old. He told me how well he remembered sitting on a little stool at the end of the row of eight or ten venerable and godly men, while his father gave them



counsel as each man needed. But he did not then make that final decision which resulted in his conscious trust in the Saviour and his life-long peace. His earliest and life-long friend was Dr. Booth, who practiced honourably for many years in London, and predeceased him by but a few months. There are beautiful letters now in the keeping of the family from this most worthy and good man. It was he who first led his young friend again to the class meeting and to the fellowship which lasted till death. They were a veritable David and Jonathan. At 20, Lightfoot himself became a leader, and ever after was foremost in every kind of church benevolence and work. His life was too busy a one to admit of wide acquaintance with books, but he was always fond of reading and a lover of various knowledge. He read his Bible systematically, and through many times. His habits of secret devotion were methodical and well known—known often in ways he did not suspect and did not intend. In this respect he lived on the strong wheaten bread of the spiritual life, and drank the "living waters" directly from the fountain. His Sabbaths were conscientiously guarded, and spent "in the spirit," in the sanctuary, and in good works. He took care not to be too pre-occupied to attend the week-night services. He never set to work to discover how many of these he could do without. He relished them, and after the work and cares of the day, they were a restful joy to him. His religion at home was as sweetly human as it was obviously divine. As God blessed his family he blessed Him back again in the family. Whatever came or went there must be family prayer, and thus a rule of order was maintained, and all the highest sanctions called into play. Sometimes waves of almost overwhelming sorrow swept his home, he felt his responsibility for all about him, so in the family circle sought and found the needed help. A family without an altar would have been to him a blank intolerable. Every Sunday he gave catechetical instruction to his children. When he was an old man and his grandchildren came to live with him, it was a beautiful sight to see him take them to him every Sabbath afternoon and begin again the good old habit of so many years before. They will not forget it. Yes, Mr. Lightfoot was a godly man. It was by the "will of God that he served his generation"—a will which was his authority, his rule, his strength, and to which in everything he deferred. It has been said—and no doubt with much truth—that it is hard to grow old gracefully. The weight of years often makes sad havoc of the light and sweetness of religion. If youth has its thoughtlessness and passion, age has often been querulous and sour. But was age less a thing of gracefulness and attraction in our friend than had been his manhood and youth? Mr. Lightfoot was a gentleman by instinct—that is, he had naturally an intelligent self-respect, and a sensitive regard for the rights and feelings of others. This did not forsake him as years advanced, but made old age venerable and beautiful. In him things worked together. There was in the grain of the man a constitution of native harmony and grace, and this, sanctified and strengthened by the influence and sanctions of piety, bore the stress of time, and lasted to the end. But Mr. Lightfoot had some, perhaps, exceptional advantages. We are forbidden here to more than suggest the never-failing and wise filial devotion which softened so much his closing years. In this regard a great and mysterious sorrow had its large compensation. Our departed friend was singularly happy in his married life. He was a worthy husband, worthily mated. But for this he could not have borne the

strain and done the work he did. In this respect he was sanctioned and sustained, not a few times incited to the best works of his life. We read a letter only two days ago which showed the lofty spirit and purpose in which he sought the hand of one who cheered his life for so many years. I can say to you young people about me that, if you could get that letter, and incorporate it into your own life, you would have saved many of those domestic mistakes and sorrows which are so sadly possible to you. Then again Mr. Lightfoot had a worthy parentage. His father was evidently a man of fine spirit, and of deep religious feelings. He filled an office of trust, and was the companion of public and educated men. For his father Mr. Lightfoot never failed to cherish the most respectful gratitude. He spoke of him often and with evident pleasure and pride. Of his mother we do not hear so much. Her lot was hard, and she must have been a brave and godly woman to face and master the difficulties she did. In estimating Mr. Lightfoot facts such as these must be fully taken into account. They claim no small portion of the honours he won. Such helps do not fall to the lot of all. Nobody had a deeper sense of their value than Mr. Lightfoot himself. Let us not, however, go away with the idea that circumstances account for everything. By the help of God, Mr. Lightfoot was the maker of himself and of his position. When but a youth he looked his duty straight in the face, and strove hard to do it. His life was no mere chapter of accidents. He was good, but never so good as he meant to be. He did much, but longed and tried for a good deal more. He embraced the will of God, be it what there might, and submitted his own. After his eyes were once fully opened, he never intended to live for himself, or to seek a life of gratification and ease. If heaven purposed these, let them come, but they were not his end. He would have been ashamed and unhappy to make them so. He meant to be a Christian, meant to his duty, and trustfully prayed and toiled for these with all his might. He sought first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and God added, or threw in, the rest. When it was thrown in he accepted it in humble and cheerful gratitude, and used it with loyal fidelity. Now he has fallen on sleep. This well describes his end. On the Friday he was up and cheerful; on the Saturday he did not rise, but was quiet. He had neither pain nor fear. The approach of death so far as anybody knows never disturbed him. He never mentioned it, but let himself sink into it, as a weary child sinks on the breast of its mother. To him to die seemed as natural as it had been to be born. On Saturday night, I think it was, he smiled graciously upon his child, and by her help once more quoted correctly the first verse of the beautiful hymn, "Jesus, lover of my soul." On Sunday he seemed to slumber and knew little—perhaps almost nothing. At midnight the "Son of Man" was evidently coming and came. He died as tranquilly as affection itself could desire. But it is sleep—there is rest now; no pain, nor sorrow, nor crying. It is sleep which goes before the greater awakening. "He that believeth on me shall never die," and "if he sleep he shall do well—Thy brother shall rise again." We need not trouble ourselves to rejoice just now, the sense of our loss is fresh and keen upon us. It is "remembered that we are dust." But we cannot lament and cry in distress. "He walked with God, and if he be not," it is because "God has taken him." We can bow down in thankfulness, we can "glorify God in him," and wait in submissive patience, and assured hope, till we see him again.