

OBITUARY.
REV. CANON STACK.

ONE telegram by last mail conveyed the distressing intelligence that the Rev. Canon Stack had been killed by the upsetting of the Breeza mail coach, about six miles beyond the Willow Tree, in the direction of Murrumbidgee. The accident appears to have happened at a late hour on Tuesday night, June 12; the coach having left Willow Tree, for the postal township of Breeza, with the mails for the Namoi. The passengers are stated to have been Mr. and Mrs. Stack (on their way to see their dying son), with a Mr. Levi, and a lady whose name is not yet known. The coach was suddenly and violently upset in the dark and dangerous road, and was dragged along by the frightened horses for some considerable distance. The unfortunate driver is reported to be severely injured, but a valuable life has been sacrificed in this terrible mischance, which, in all human probability, would never have happened if the coach had not been compelled to travel in the night time. The Rev. Mr. Stack was violently thrown out by the accident, his leg broken, and his body otherwise so dreadfully injured that he died very shortly afterwards. Mrs. Stack and Mr. Levi are said to have escaped without much serious hurt, but the fourth passenger was badly injured. Some settler in the vicinity, named McTaggart, was promptly on the spot, and did all that could be done to help the sufferers by this grievous calamity. The sad circumstances that Canon Stack and Mrs. Stack were on their way to Walgett to visit a dying son has awakened great sympathy for Mrs. Stack and for the bereaved family in the trial that has come upon them. The Rev. William Stack was born in Ireland, where his father was a beneficed clergyman in the then Established Church—a man of good family, and personally

much respected. Mr. Stack completed his education by graduating at Trinity College, Dublin, and having taken orders in his native country he emigrated to this colony, with his family in 1838, (under the auspices of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel), in the same ship which brought out General Sir Maurice O'Connell, and the Rev. Mr. Sewerby, the present Dean of Goulburn. Mr. Stack was first stationed at West Maitland, having the pastoral charge of the whole of the members of his Church on the Upper Hunter; where the manliness of his character, combined with his earnestness in the cause of religion, and his frank and genial manners, made him universally respected and beloved. On the formation of the diocese of Newcastle, Mr. Stack was transferred to St. Peter's, Campbelltown, where he remained, in the uninterrupted and satisfactory performance of ministerial duties, until the year 1855, when he was removed to Balmain. He continued in the incumbency of St. Mary's, Balmain, until the time of his lamented death. The Rev. William Stack took an active part in the introduction of synodical government into the Church of England in the Sydney Diocese, and he ever occupied a prominent position in the proceedings of the Synod, where his expressed opinions always carried a considerable weight. At his instance, rural deaneries were established, by authority, in the Metropolitan Diocese; and, as a rural dean in the district so specially committed to his oversight, he was, up to the last, actively engaged in organising measures for local ecclesiastical improvement and spiritual advantage. He was the first clergyman advanced to the dignity of a Canon by the free suffrages of his clerical brethren—exercised in accordance with the provisions of the Cathedral Ordinance of the Anglican Synod. Canon Stack was the author of several pamphlets on various questions more or less affecting the Church of England in this colony. Amongst these ably written productions, not yet forgotten, may be mentioned a Pamphlet on Education, and a Tract on Synodical Government. He also contributed some years since, and prior to the inauguration of responsible government, certain valuable suggestions for the framing of a political constitution for this colony. Much careful thought was evidenced in these "suggestions," which were very highly thought of at the time by competent judges, whose praise was something more than simple commendation. For many years the Rev. Canon Stack served his Church as a Fellow of St. Paul's College, until he vacated that office on the occasion of his

Canon Stack served his Church as a Fellow of St. Paul's College, until he vacated that office on the occasion of his visit to Europe, for his health, in 1867. His ministrations in this colony extended over a period of more than thirty years. Canon Stack was not only honoured and esteemed by his clerical brethren, and individual friends and parishioners, but was also much respected by members of other denominations to whom he was not personally known. Peculiarly courteous and gentle in his manners he was, at all times, remarkable for the firmness and fearlessness with which he maintained his conscientiously conceived opinions. He was a man of a very refined mind, extensive reading, and deep thought; and, as such, he must long be missed amongst us both as a clergyman and a citizen. In Balmain—where he was untiring in his exertions as a pastor, and his desire to promote the social and intellectual advancement of the entire community—his loss will be severely felt by all. The funeral of the Rev. Canon Stack took place on Saturday, and was attended by a very large number of persons.

REV. JOHN DOUGALL.

Quite a shock was felt in Maitland on Wednesday morning, June 14th, when it became generally known that the Rev. John Dougall had died on the previous evening, at his residence, East Maitland. The deceased clergyman, a man of earnest work, had been ailing with a cold for some little time past, but notwithstanding he visited Wallsend to assist the Rev. Mr. Humphries. By this time he had become unfit for travelling, but having previously promised the Rev. J. S. White, of Singleton, to go up and assist at a tea-meeting, he went, and attended the tea-meeting, on Tuesday, 6th June. At Singleton he became so ill that Mrs. Dougall was sent for. Longing to be at home, on Saturday a bed was kindly made up for Mr. Dougall in the guard's van of the luggage train, and he returned to East Maitland—so very ill that it was feared he would not survive the journey. He was now suffering from inflammation of the lungs, but lingered on until 5 o'clock on Tuesday evening. Mr. Dougall had been only a short two years stationed in Maitland, having previously lived in Sydney; but he had in that time become known and respected, and liked, to a wide extent very rare in such a short period. In his own communion, the Presbyterian Church, he has always borne the character of a good, earnest minister. Outside it, in the general world of charity and philanthropy, he had become a great favourite. Endowed with good ability, and having an easy flowing style of oratory, he united great humour with great pathos, and could move an audience at pleasure to cheerful laughter or to tears. And unlike many witty men, no unkindly satire was ever uttered by him. He was nearly the only public speaker in Maitland, who, frequently making his audience indulge in a hearty laugh, never wounded the feelings of any—whose wit was entirely free from personality. The deceased gentleman was forty-six years old, and leaves a widow. We understand that Mr. Dougall's chest had been more or less affected from the time when he suffered some internal injuries through a buggy accident in West Maitland. The remains were brought to Sydney, and interred in the Necropolis.

THE HON. GILBERT ELLIOTT.

This gentleman, for many years a resident in Sydney and formerly Speaker of the Queensland Assembly, and latterly a member of the Upper House in that colony, died suddenly in Toowoomba on Friday evening, the 30th June, from an attack of *angina pectoris*. He was in Brisbane apparently in his usual health and spirits on the previous Wednesday, on which day he left to visit his son at Toowoomba. The venerable gentleman was between 70 and 80 years of age, and had passed a most eventful life. Entering the artillery branch of the service at an early age, he entered Paris as a subaltern with the "army of occupation" in 1814, and afterwards saw some service. He will be remembered in Sydney as Sheriff, Police Magistrate at Parramatta, and as a City Commissioner, and also as having sat in the Assembly for a short time prior to separation. He was returned to the first Parliament of Queensland in 1860 for Wide Bay, and was at once selected Speaker, a post which he held for ten years, and although he was advanced in age, he was never absent from a single sitting of the House. About five years ago the members of the Assembly presented him with his full-length portrait, which, in an unframed state, still orna-

members of the Assembly presented him with his full-length portrait, which, in an unframed state, still ornaments the Speaker's room, at Parliament House. If his family will surrender it, it may yet ornament the walls of the chamber. Mr. Elliott belonged to the family of Elliott, of Stokes, in Roxburghshire, one of whose ancestors was made a Knight Banneret on the field at Scone, in 1613, and he was also connected with the Minto family. Some years since, while Speaker, he was offered the honour of knighthood by the Queen, but refused to accept it. In December last year, an Act was passed through Parliament, conferring upon him a pension of £400 a-year for life, in consideration of his past services; and he was gazetted to a seat in the Upper House. The public funeral of the deceased gentleman took place at Toowoomba, and was largely attended.
