

In Memoriam Service.

THE LATE MRS. SHOTTON.

An In Memoriam service of the late Mrs. Esther Shotton was conducted in the Elmore Methodist Church on Sunday morning last by the Rev. P. E. Mallalien. There was a large congregation present, the building being well filled.

The preacher took his text from the 116th Psalm, 15th verse—"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." The Rev. Mallalien said those words were written of well nigh all the saints who dedicated their lives to God in the past, and those who were familiar with it could recall striking examples where it had been introduced. The many persecutions where people were carried away to martyrdom because they loved Jesus Christ were striking illustrations of the introduction of the words of the text. It was recommended that that verse should be read out at the funerals of all the faithful, and he had selected it for the lamentation, and to say something for the praise of their redeemer, of the love and work of one who was well-known to most of them. A saint of the Lord was always precious to Him, in sickness, adversity, or prosperity, and the Lord was always precious to the saint. If there is any lack of devotion, it is always on our side. Saint was a very much abused word, either in or out of the Bible. Should a man try to lead a good life, the world was always willing to throw the epithet at him that he was a saint. It was a word that was dragged through the filth and slush of human life. When it was used as an adjective, it was meant as loving kindness, and denoted one who was the object of divine love and pity, and faithful to the bond which it implies. God's mercy was showered upon his own saints—"Thy holy ones shall not seek corruption." When used in the plural, the word saint denoted faith always predominating over human pity. According to modern critics, it is illustrated as one of pity, and one who was of the very character of Jesus Christ himself. The late Mrs. Shotton was firm in the faith, and there was a beautiful transparency about her life. She was a type of woman they wanted in the world to-day. The grandest saints the world knows are those in every day life, who in the domestic circle are living the life and character of Jesus Christ. Men and women with soiled hands influence the whole of the environments. Her life which had closed at 81 years had been quietly and silently lived in purity and grace. He did not know of any more grander and saintlier life than hers, and the very hand of God had come into her heart and home. In every circumstance in life, the greatest character on God's earth is a saint's—the philosophers and scientists were out of it. The saint was greater than the sage. It was the pinnacle of human dignity and greatness, and he (the preacher) believed the greatest human inspiration that comes to them was through a saintly life. He commended that saintly life of love and work just departed to those present. The Rev. Mallalien concluded by retracing some of the most important incidents in the life of the late Mrs. Shotton, accord-

some of the most important incidents in the life of the late Mrs. Shotton, according to Methodist custom, and referred to her devotion at all times to religious duties. During the service special memorial hymns were sung, and after the offertory had been taken up, the Rev. and Mrs. Mallalien rendered the solo, "Jesus, lover of my soul," which was a specially favorite hymn with the deceased lady. Miss Smith efficiently presided at the organ.