

## DEATH OF MR. J. D. JONES.

### TRIBUTE TO HIS WORTH.

Mr. J. D. Jones, a well-known citizen of Newcastle for many years, died at his late residence, Newcomen-street, on Saturday after a very short and sudden illness. He was in his study at about seven o'clock, when he was attacked by hemorrhage of the brain. Dr. Nickson and Dr. Beeston attended, but the end came about three hours after, Mr. Jones passing away in the presence of his wife and family, the Dean of Newcastle, and Dr. Nickson.

Born at Worcester, England, sixty years ago, Mr. Jones came out to Australia when quite young, and had lived practically all his life in the Newcastle district. Almost thirty-two years ago he started in business in Wallsend, and that business, of which his brother Mr. Charles D. Jones, is manager, is carried on to the present time. Some years ago he started in Newcastle, in partnership with Messrs. Winn, and ten years ago he began in Newcastle on his own account entirely, the business he then started being carried on now. He leaves a widow and four daughters. In addition to the brother mentioned, Mr. Jones also leaves two married sisters, Mrs. B. M. Wright and Mrs. H. Heder, both of Sydney. Mr. Jones was prominently identified with the work of the Anglican Church. He had been a lay reader at St. Luke's, Wallsend, and for many years was officially connected with the cathedral parish of Newcastle, for a number of years being trustees' warden. He was one of the cathedral trustees, a member of many committees, and was keenly interested in the extensions of the cathedral. During the recent building operations it was no uncommon sight to see Mr. Jones wandering about the building watching with interest the men at their work. He always occupied a seat at the extreme end of the cathedral, and it was a rare occasion for him to be absent either from morning or evening service.

Speaking last night to a representative of the "Newcastle Morning Herald" the Bishop of Newcastle said the late Mr. Jones was a member of synod since 1888, and had held the important office of treasurer since 1899. "He was very much trusted by the late bishop and by myself, representing an enormous amount of voluntary work done for the Church. He was not a brilliant speaker, but he was always listened to with great attention, and had the highest respect of every member of synod. He had a complete mastery of some intricate accounts, which had been growing more intricate as time went on. On Friday morning he was here to see me, and left a long statement for me of an intricate account, which was perfectly clear, and the registrar, the Rev. C. A. Brown, saw him on Saturday morning. The end seems to have come with striking abruptness. He was one of the men for whom death could not be said to be sudden in its proper sense of being unforeseen and unexpected. He was a man of the very highest honour, extremely scrupulous in all business relations. As a citizen, he does not seem to have taken a prominent part, but everyone always knew where he was on all matters. To the diocese his death will be a great loss, and his place will be very hard to fill."

In the course of his sermon at the Newcastle Cathedral last night, the Dean of Newcastle made reference to the death of

castle Cathedral last night, the Dean of Newcastle made reference to the death of Mr. Jones. He said that in the person of James David Jones they had a man who was in many ways entitled to the title of "God's own man." Humble, upright, and conscientious, he would touch nothing that he did not think was absolutely honest and true. He (the Dean) had known him only four years, but even when in small matters they perhaps held different opinions, never had this lessened their mutual friendship and, he (the Dean) hoped, their mutual respect. Ever ready to spend and to be spent in the service of the Church he loved, he had lived always as under the sight of the great Taskmaster, and well had he earned his promotion. He had passed away into the nearer Presence, as he (the Dean) was pronouncing the words "Father, into Thy hands I commend this soul." In that nearer Presence he would learn new lessons of God's love, and new beauties of the faith which he had already learned to love in his life on earth. Strange would the cathedral seem without the familiar personality of J. D. Jones. His seat would seem solitary and empty without him, and yet they did not grudge his promotion to another sphere of work. Well might they say "God be with you, James David Jones, and may He give you that which you have earned, light and peace in the Paradise of God's love."