

OBITUARY OF JOHN LITTLE
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MR. JOHN LITTLE.

Mr. John Little was born at Cumquinton, in the county of Cumberland, in the year 1811. His life as a young man was upright and moral, but it was not until he was twenty-seven or twenty-eight years of age that he found peace with God. After a severe spiritual conflict, extending over six months, he came fully into the light of God's favour. This was in Liverpool, under the Wesleyan ministry. He immediately became a member of the Church of his conversion, giving himself fully to the Lord and His work. His wife joined the Church at the same time, and both continued consistent Christians until God called them home.

Mr. Little arrived in Victoria in 1851, spending the first twelve months of his colonial life in Geelong. Thence he removed to Ballarat, which became, with one or two intervals of absence, his residence until his death in February last. Like most comers from the old country at that time, he became a gold-digger, in which pursuit he was fairly successful. After some time he went into business in Bridge-street. In all his business transactions, as indeed in every part of his life, he was a man of thorough integrity and uprightness. To this he added great kindness and sympathy. In 1882 the chief sorrow of his life befell him, the death of his beloved wife.

Mr. Little had no taste for public affairs. In municipal matters he was always contented to do his part as a private citizen; but in the Church he was an active and successful worker. As trustee, steward, and class-leader he did faithful service. He gave much time and thought to preparation for meeting his classes. God's Word was his text-book, in the study of which, and in prayer, he spent most of the afternoons before going to the class-meeting at night. He was an unfailing attendant at the prayer-meetings of the Church, in which he took great delight. Again and again on the Sunday evening he cheered the preacher by his sympathy and active help in the after-meeting. During the last two years his Christian experience was especially rich and bright, and throughout the few weeks of the illness which proved fatal, he was continually enabled to rejoice in God his Saviour. One of his last utterances to his son, Mr. William Little, was "A dying man tells no lies. I can call God to witness that Christ is mine."

After membership with God's people for over half a century, Father Little passed home on February 27th, 1890. E.W.N.

It is assumed the Spectator newspaper was a Ballarat publication. This cutting was located in Ballarat in an archive of material about William Little.