Mr ACHILLE BAZIRE

Let us pause for a minute or two on this last journey with all that remains of our friend on earth.

Mr Bazire was only 59. Another victim of the Great War. You have read his biography with all his awards and decorations elsewhere. There is no need to recall that to your mind.

We Methodist Ministers live under a constant disadvantage - we never remain in one Church long enough to be able to really get to know the various interesting personalities in our vicinity as we would like to know them. It took longer than 2½ years to know Mr Bazire, but it only took me one visit to be greatly attracted. He was unlike everybody else I knew. His personality was distinctive, it was unique.

He was for 22 years Private Secretary to Lord Moulton. I had to find that out for myself - he did not tell me.

Mr Bazire was a scholar. He knew much - but how delightful he was with all his knowledge. He was so unassuming - he neither reminded you of his learning, nor yourself of your ignorance.

He was very proud to belong to the Savage Club. It was surely reciprocal. Yet he was no "Savage" - a most courtly, hospitable, warm-hearted, gracious Gentleman. It was a sheer delight to drop in to tea. He could never explain to my satisfaction why he belonged to the Savage Club.

The Scouts, too, had his unstinting loyalty. You know more of that, for his interests ran over many years. It is fitting that you are taking part to-day. You have lost a loyalist, your strong champion.

May the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, The Comforter, be with us all evermore.