

Elizabeth Bell Laurie

(- 6 May 1849)

Laurie. On Sabbath evening, the 6th instant at a quarter before 9 o'clock, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Laurie, wife of the Rev. Dr. Laurie of this city. The members of F street church, the friends of the family and the managers of the different benevolent societies of which she was so eminent a member are respectfully invited without further notice to attend her funeral which will proceed from the church at half past 3 o'clock precisely this afternoon (Tuesday).



Mrs. James (Elizabeth Bell Hall) Laurie
(Picture—Courtesy Herbert Ruckmick)

Laurie. Died on Sabbath evening, the 6th instant, at a quarter before 9 o'clock, Mrs. Elizabeth Bell Laurie, wife of the Rev. Dr. James Laurie, of this city.

After a wasting illness of several weeks and the most anxious solicitude and untiring attention on the part of her family and friends, this estimable lady has passed from our midst; but the light which still radiates from those daily deeds of love and charity which marked the bright pathway she trod on earth remains to shed comfort and hope, in this dark hour, over that forsaken home. Pre-eminent for her piety, she wore its most attractive garb--humility and unostentatious zeal. For many years the presiding spirit of the "Female Union Benevolent Society," the "Dorcas Society," and also connected with the "City Orphan Asylum," her self-

sacrificing devotion to these noble causes--seeking out the homeless, the destitute, and distressed, and relieving their wants--made her influence extensively known and felt; and, whilst many an echoing note of woe will come from the hearts of a numerous circle of friends, by none will her loss be more deeply felt than by that class of suffering humanity to which so large a portion of her time and energies were directed.

But, though her public acts of benevolence were so many and so various, the christian virtues and graces which formed and adorned her character shone most conspicuously in that home where her absence leaves such an aching void; for it was there, where the tender devotion manifested to the interests, the comfort, and happiness of those dearest to her--the self-sacrificing spirit evinced on all, even the most trifling, occasions, as if the chief joy of her heart was, in imitation of her Savior and great exemplar, to minister to others--was best appreciated and felt. Those deeds of love have passed from earth, yet their record lives in the memory of One by whom even the simplest act of kindness is not forgotten, " and will in nowise lose its reward."

To her bereaved partner, advanced in years, and bowed down in affliction; we can but offer the sincerest sympathies of his numerous friends, confidently hoping that he will receive consolation in this his hour of need from Him who is ever now, as of old, near the open grave, to weep with those who weep and to breath forth once again those holy words of consolation; "I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

The funeral services were conducted, on the 8th instant, with great solemnity, in F street church, which was appropriately clad in the deepest mourning. The Rev. Mr. Berry, of Georgetown, delivered a beautiful and impressive discourse, which was followed by most fervent and touching prayer, by the

Rev. Mr. Gurley. A crowded assembly within the church testified their grief on this mournful occasion, and the tears and sobs of the little orphans who came to take a last fond look at the placid countenance of her who had been to them a mother, melted all hearts. Few such funerals have been witnessed in this place, and never perhaps was there a deeper, stronger, or more general manifestation of sympathy and regret than has been elicited by the departure of this venerated christian lady.

A Friend.