

MRS. HATTIE VIOLA ROACH IS NO MORE -- The Peaceful End Of A Useful Life

PAPER READ BY MRS. M. L. MOORE -- RESOLUTIONS BY THE CHURCH AID AND MISSIONARY SOCIETIES.

The sad occasion which has brought together this course of bereaved relatives and sorrowing friends is but the sure and solemn declaration of the brevity of life and that we too shall some day "leave our outgrown shell by life's resting sea." As often as we are ushered into the presence of death, we are made to see as did the Psalmist of old when he said, "we spend our years as a tale that is told" and despite our fear and dread of the grim monster, we are constantly stopping along the path of life and looking around to find that those at our side have slipped away from us to be seen no more. We journey on and very soon another leave us and still another until we find ourselves gone. As with man, so with everything earthly for there is nothing lasting in earth. For this reason Paul warned us to set our affection on things above. With these conditions ever present with us surely if we had not hope in God, we would be of all creatures most miserable.

We feel that the form which now lies before us realizes these things in the early years of her life and started out for that city whose "Builder and Maker is God," and that today she is enjoying the grandeur thereof.

It is not in the mind of an individual to tell what is the course of the life of a human being. Only God knows our destiny. Little did Hattie Viola Roach know that her years of preparation as a student here in this city were only the means of preparing her for service in this vineyard; that her daily contact with the young men and women of the nobleness and sweetness of character that would make her a fit subject to become the generous neighbor that she has proved to be in the community where she has lived; that the union of two hearts would give to the world a young life who we feel the image has been stamped for service; and that the end of her earthly career should find her actively engaged as a faithful member of the Second Calvary Church.

In speaking of her excellence as a Christian worker here, we would mention her large heartedness in the service of her Master. She was too interested in the cause to confine her labors to one particular sphere of church life but in everything where work was to be done she was there to do her part. Her earnestness and unselfish determination to make things count is also worthy of emulation. Surely she must have leaned hard on the Everlasting arm for the success of her endeavors, especially during the closing scenes of her life for it was clearly noticed that for sometime her physical strength was growing weaker. She seemed to have felt the short time that she had to finish her work on earth by the way she went about it. Her thoughtfulness for others as to their welfare and happiness was beautiful in the extreme. The crowning point in her whole life seemed to have been her faithfulness. In the earlier years of her life, she must have acquired this virtue for to her faithfulness seemed a matter of course. She was one of those women who to find at her post was just natural—that's all. Anything else would have been anything but natural. As president of the Church Aid Club, she was held in the highest respect by those that made up that organization. It must have first entered into her mind the need of such a club and from the day of its organization till now it has stood ready to help where help was needed. No call too urgent, no home duties too great, not even physical weakness kept her

from her meetings. What a benign influence she has exerted over the members of this flock! We have suffered a great loss but it is her and heaven's gain. The death angel bade her body cease but it could not touch that noble Christian character which is left on record for us. May we here re-consecrate our lives to his service and feel that all things work together for good to them that love God.

Resolutions.
Whereas God in His wise providence has seen fit to remove from us Sister Hattie Viola Roach and,

Whereas we are deeply grieved and shall feel the loss in every department of our Church, Be it resolved,

That we bow in submission to the Divine will, that we express our sympathy to the bereaved family by sending them a copy of these resolutions commending them to the care of our Heavenly Father who alone can bring peace and comfort to troubled hearts, and

That the same shall be entered upon the roll book of the organizations of the church of which she was a member.

Approved by the Church Aid Club and Missionary Society.

Mrs. Hattie Green.
Mrs. Luvenia Brown,
Mrs. M. L. Moore,

THE LIFE AND PASSING OF MRS. J. A. ROACH.

(By Mrs. N. P. Russell).

On Thursday evening at eleven twenty the news was flashed far and near of the death of Mrs. Hattie Viola Roach, (nee Williams). The suddenness of her death was a shock to every one as she had attended church on Sunday morning last and seemed to be in her usual good health, tho a little weakened from the strain of practice and participation in the sacred Cantata, Queen Esther that was rendered at the Church on Friday evening, the 17th.

Mrs. Roach had not been very well for sometime but she kept in the go not willing to give up her activities in Church work and other affairs for the upbuilding of the community. He was an energetic woman living all of her time to others he did not live for nor to her self. Her heart and her life were wrapped up in her husband or home, her Church.

In any affair that served to aid in the betterment of conditions anywhere, she was a leader. She was a good daughter, a kind and affectionate wife, a loving mother and sister, and an excellent neighbor. Hers was a sympathetic nature, she was always willing to listen to the troubles of others and to give advice. She ministered to the sick at all times when she was able.

Mrs. Roach did not leave a long testimony, she did not need to—her life was her testimony, as she lived, so she died. A Good Woman, A Christy Woman, beloved by all who knew her.

On the twenty-ninth of April, 1903, she was married to James A. Roach, of Sumter, S. C. To this union two children were born. One of the daughters, preceded her in death, in her infancy. The other, Sylvesta, survived. Mrs. Roach leaves also a mother, and three sisters, two brothers and a host of sorrowing relatives.

Mrs. Roach was born at Anderson, S. C., July 3rd, 1883. She was the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Richard Williams. Her father died at a short while before he attended school at Seneca Institute and Benning College, from both of which she was graduated.

Her last illness was to her husband and her mother were, and she was better. I shall be sadly missed in the community in which she lived, in the home which she loved, in the church of which she was so

IN MEMORY OF HATTIE VIOLA ROACH

It is easy to speak pleasantly of the departed. In reality, so accustomed has the world become in saying the beautiful only about the dead, that we seldom expect anything else. Therefore, when we write often too lightly esteem what may be spoken of in lines, I shall say that only which was true of the subject of this article and when it is read, I want the reader to feel that the picture is not overdrawn.

Too, often in speaking in this way, we are forced to strain our imaginations in order to be effectively heard or carefully read.

It is a fact not often met that we have the opportunity of having known a person from early childhood, taught her in the class room where children unconsciously reveal the traits of that early life; then to be associated with her in the Sunday School and as her pastor where a knowledge of her religious life is had first hand; to live on the same street within speaking distance of her and watch her pass from childhood to womanhood; to know her social life and finally when she has decided to allow her life to blend with his and the two become one and then to be called upon to stand at the altar and perform that sacred rite that unites soul with soul in the bonds of holy matrimony; then to watch such a life in after years, seeing her as partner with her husband in business, as a faithful and affectionate wife, a kind and dutiful mother; to watch her Christian life with her neighbors and in her church—to see one in these varied walks of life ought to actuate the looker-on to be able to speak with authority. Such was my knowledge of Hattie Viola Roach. As a child, in short, from her youth up I can truthfully say that she measured up to all that might be expected of one in the midst of the conflicts of a sin-afflicted world like this.

Therefore, it gives me genuine pleasure not often had in giving these testimonials in memory of Hattie Viola Roach, formerly of Columbia, S. C., but now of sainted memory. Our eyes are too dim and our knowledge of the enthroned is too limited to speak at length about departed spirits. Hence, our words must be few and carefully employed.

If the life lived in the flesh by Hattie Viola Roach was a shadow or forecast of the life that she now lives in the spirit, while the shadow of grief and intense sorrow fell upon her on Thursday evening, to this choice spirit the curtains of glory were drawn, and heaven's sweetest pagans, chanted by the lips of the just made perfect greeted her and upon the pinions of angels she was carried into the presence of Him who wipes away all tears there to abide through endless ages. She is not here. But the fragrance emanating from her beautiful life is a benediction to all who knew her. We grieve when we think that she has left us. But we rejoice to know that her spirit rests in Heaven. Peace to her ashes.

J. J. STARKS,
President Morris College, Sumter, S. C.

active and to which she gave so much of her time.

It can be truthfully said that Mrs. Roach, "So lived that when her summons came to join the eternal caravan that moved to that mysterious realm where we shall take his chamber in the silent halls of death, she did not like the quarry slave at night, scourged to his dungeon, but sustained and soothed by an unflinching trust approach her grave like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him and lay down to pleasant dreams.

TELEGRAMS AND MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE.

Hartsville, S. C.

Jas. A. Roach,
Card announcing untimely death of wife just received. Sad news came as a profound shock to us in your hours of bereavement we extend our heartfelt sympathy. God is an ever present help in time of trouble and may He be your comfort now.

H. H. Butler.

Aiken, S. C., Feb. 27, 1922.

Dear Bro. Roach:—
We feel how feeble words of consolation from us, would be to you in this, your hour of trial. You have possibly sustained one of the greatest losses of man. Mrs. Hill joins me in prayer for all.

Your friends,
Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Hill.

Chester, S. C., Feb. 25 '22.

James A. Roach:
We are in deepest sympathy because of death of wife.
S. L. Finley and Wife.

Greenwood, S. C., Feb. 26, '22

Dear Mr. Roach:—
News of the death of your wife came to us this morning, like a thunderbolt from a clear sky. The People's Recorder was the messenger. You, your dear little daughter and relatives have all the sympathy we can extend. Had we known in time, at least one and possibly two would have attended the funeral. The Southern train, our last chance to go, passed before we read it today.

Respectfully yours
Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Peterson.

Morehouse College,
Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 25, 1922.

Dear Mr. Roach:—
You and Sylvesta have my deepest sympathy in your bereavement. Indeed the news of your loss was a shocking surprise to me. The debt paid by your dear wife is inevitable for all of us and since it is God's regular routine of work I trust you will be able to shun much grief.

Yours,
W. F. Williams.

Rock Hill, S. C., Feb. 24, '22

Mr. J. A. Roach,
Columbia, S. C.
Dear Bro. Roach:—
Intelligence reached me this morning of the sad demise of your loving wife, and I am writing to express my sincere sympathy. A good wife is heaven's choicest blessing to man. I am sure you will miss yours indelibly. But I would remind you that God is able to heal the broken heart and dry the falling tears. And may you look to Him for strength

Mrs. Hattie Viola Williams Roach departed this life Thursday night Feb. 23rd, about 11:30 o'clock, after a brief illness of a few days—rather hours. Although she had been in somewhat failing health for some time, the end came as a result of a brief attack of "acute gastritis." Truly a host of friends were in constant attendance throughout her illness and shared in the hopeful vigil to the end—the sad end. Her mother had arrived the day before in response to a telegram, which for some unaccountable reason she was expecting. The anxious husband and sweet little daughter were all present to carry out the orders of her most excellent physician, Dr. M. A. Evans assisted by Dr. N. A. Jenkins and another specialist and one of the best trained nurses in the hope of restoring their dear one to normal physical condition. But all to no avail. Mrs. Roach had finished her course.

It has been the privilege of but few women to lend so much to so many worthy causes and laudable undertakings in so brief a life. Her whole life was a positive factor for good; and in that it was a most worthy and needed example, at this time especially.

The funeral services were held Sunday, Feb. 26th, at the Second Calvary Baptist Church of which she was a model member at 3:30 o'clock, Hardy and Manigault, Undertakers in charge.

Funeral March, Miss Alma Bailey, Organist.

Song—"I would not live away," Choir.

Scripture Lesson,—Dr. N. F. Haygood of Sidney Park C. M. E. Church.

Prayer,—Dr. J. C. Dunbar 1st, Nazareth Baptist Church Hymn,—Come Ye Disconsolate," Choir.

Telegrams and Messages of Condolence, Dr. R. W. Mance president of Allen University Hymn,—Asleep In Jesus," by Choir.

Sermon: Texts, John XIV 1-3 and Phil. 1:21 by Rev. H. M. Moore, D. D., Pastor.

Remarks: Mrs. J. J. Starks of Sumter, (former teacher of Deceased).

Anthem: "Shes Gone," Choir Paper,—Mrs. M. L. Moore Church Aid of which deceased was president.

Solo,—Face to Face, Mr. E. E. Cornwell.

Paper,—Mrs. N. P. Russell

to stand in this your hour of grief and pain. We extend our sympathy to you in this hour of your sore bereavement.
Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Garrick.

C. P. T. White.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 25, '22

My dear Bro. Roach:—
With a bowed head and a sad heart, we write you these lines of sympathy on the death of your devoted wife. I know words are inadequate to remove or mitigate the dark cloud that shrouds your heart. But remember that "The Lord of Hosts is with you and the God of Jacob is your refuge." I feel that you have lost a devoted wife and a helpmeet in deed, the City of Columbia, a business leader whose place will be hard to fill, Second Calvary Baptist Church a faithful worker, a devoted Christian but our loss is heaven's gain. You have our prayers and we pray God that He will give you sustaining Grace and that you may be able to say, "Thy will be done."

Yours in deep sorrow,
Rev and Mrs. N. F. Haygood.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 26, '22.

Dea. J. A. Roach and Family,
Dear Sir:—
My heart goes out to you in sympathy on account of the sickness and death of your wife. I regret that I can't attend the funeral. God will take care of you and yours.
Dea. D. D. Mozie.

Solo,—One Sweetly Solemn Thought," Mrs. Mamie Summers.

Remarks,—Dr. D. F. Thompson, pastor of 1st, Calvary Baptist Church and Dr. R. W. Baylor.

Song,—Sister Thou wast mild and lovely."

Song,—Fade, Fade each earthly joy, Jesus is mine."

Rev. Richard Carroll was absent on account of a previous engagement and reached the city too late to be present.

The services were concluded at the Randolph Cemetery.

The mound was a veritable bank of the loveliest of flowers, and as lovely as they were, they but faintly expressed the high esteem in which Mrs. Roach was held by the innumerable host of her friends and acquaintances.

She has gone from us but her life will remain a bright and beckoning light to higher and nobler living while she enjoys the blessed inheritance of the redeemed saints.

Among the out-of-town visitors were: Mrs. Lena J. widow of the late Rev. Richmond Williams of Seneca, S. C.; Mrs. Roach's mother; Miss Katie Williams of Atlantic City N. J.; Mr. Roger Williams of Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Rosa Hamilton and daughter of Atlanta, Ga.; Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Williams of Seneca, S. C.; Mr. and Mrs. James Williams and daughter of Atlanta, Ga.; Mrs. Rosa Williams of Seneca, grandmother of deceased; Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Roach, parents of Mr. Roach; Mrs. Lila Towns, Mrs. Annie Patterson, Atlanta, Ga.; Misses Ida and Lila Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Malchai Duncan, Boykin; Mr. Andrew Roach, Mrs. D. M. Dye, Heath Spring, S. C.; Mrs. Corrine Durant, Sumter; Mr. and Mrs. James Bates of Camden, Mr. Arthur Murray, Smithville.

Mrs. Dr. J. J. Starks of Morris College, Sumter, Mr. R. W. Vestberry, Mr. S. Howard, and Mr. T. B. Wright of Sumter, Mrs. E. C. Thomas of Seneca and Rev. L. M. Keitt, Charleston, S. C.

The floral offerings were numerous and lovely and came from far and near as well as the messages of condolence.

The following acted as pall bearers: Messrs J. H. Goode, J. Z. Asman, C. H. Simons, L. A. Hawkins, G. H. Hampton, D. L. Starks, H. E. Taylor, L. B. Woods.

R. W. Jackson.

Sumter, S. C., Feb. 25, '22.

J. A. Roach:
We extend our sympathy to you in this hour of your sore bereavement.

Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Garrick.

Sumter, S. C., Feb. 24, '22.

J. A. Roach,
Heidt Street,
Columbia, S. C.

We are pained to hear of the death of your dear wife. Want to attend funeral.
Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Starks.

Saturday.

Dear Mr. Roach:
Just read a letter from Mrs. Nelson telling me of Ola's death. My, I can't find words to what a shock, for I had heard nothing of her being ill. I am so sorry and you have my heart full of sympathy in this terrible trouble.

All the children join me in sympathy and I am sure Henry will be terribly shocked when he hears of it.
I am real nerveous and can't say more.

Always,
C. E. Dougherty.

Washington, D. C.

Chester, S. C., Feb. 28, '22.

Dear Mr. Roach:
Ola's death came to us as a distinct shock, for we had just parted a few days ago after a real jolly meeting.

We deeply sympathize with you and your dear little daughter in this great affliction,

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