

Death of Mrs. Koger.

From the Columbia Register of June 4th, is taken the following notice of the death of Mrs. Koger, and sketch of her life:

Mrs. Koger died at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the Columbia Female College... many hearts overflowed with sadness to learn that one who adorned womanhood, one who seemed to fill such a sphere of usefulness had been called from life's labors.

Fanny Smith, the daughter of Mr. W. H. and Mrs. M. J. Smith, was born October 31, 1853. She completed her education at the Columbia Female College in the class of '75. She was married to Rev. J. W. Koger of the Methodist Church in 1880, and went with him to Brazil in October, 1881, as a messenger of the Gospel of peace.

In Brazil she was his co-laborer until the Master of the Vineyard called her noble young husband to lay down his life's work. After his death in January, 1886, she hoped to continue his labors, but realizing that she could no longer stand such a trying climate she came home in October of the same year, with her four fatherless children.

In Sumter County she lived with her mother until the fall of 1894, when she came to reside in this city. She was elected teacher in the Columbia Female College in 1895. Mrs. Koger was a woman of superior mind, clear and accurate. All who came in contact with her leaned upon her calm, quiet judgment, and looked up to her as an example, a model of educated Christian womanhood as friend, teacher and parent.

She had few equals. Those who knew her best, loved her most. Every position of life she crowned with excellence; she was one whom her companions placed above the petty jealousies and spirits of life. She shed the sweetness of her pure nature upon all who came in contact with her. Her constitution was wrecked by her sojourn under a tropical sun, and as truly as her husband gave his life in his Master's cause. So after eleven years of conflict with a weakened constitution she had at last succumbed.

She was permitted to lead her children from infancy into girlhood and boyhood, to teach them the truth as we have it in Christ Jesus. Though her life has closed at this meridian, had she lived the fulness of three score and ten, she would have borne no greater perfection than now she bears, "one who loved God and served her fellow-man."

Mrs. Koger leaves to mourn her, two sons and two daughters, her aged mother, her sister Mrs. J. A. Rice and three brothers, Rev. A. Coke Smith, Rev. C. B. Smith, Hon. E. D. Smith. She will be buried in the old family burying ground, St. Luke's Church yard, Sumter County, to-day.

A PARODY FOR THE PRESENT.

What though a lassie don the breech, Wif' bloomers draw and a' that? We bend in adoration meek And are her slaves for a' that, For 't that and a' that, The wheel bestride and a' that: Blithe Cupid's eyes beed no disguise, She shall be wooed for a' that

Praise for Our Fireman.

More than our town people appreciate our Fire department. This is what the Volunteer Fireman, published in Greensboro, N. C., has to say about our two red squads, which are the pride of our city:

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CHILDREN'S EYES.

Dispositions Sometimes Affected by Trouble of the Eyesight—Benefits of Using Properly Adjusted Glasses—Valuable Advice to Parents.

About two years ago a lady brought two of her sons, aged respectively 9 and 11, to me to have their eyes examined to see if glasses were needed. She had taken this step partially on my invitation and as a matter of precaution, as she was well aware that both herself and her husband had defective eyes, and some of her children were already wearing glasses for troubles which were without doubt hereditary.

"I really am puzzled to know what to do with the older boy. He seems so irritable and cross after a few days at school, and he always seems to be spoiling for a fight. His health seems very good, with the exception of headache after study, but he is not nearly as far advanced in school for his age as is his younger brother."

After making a careful examination I prescribed glasses for the older one, but told the mother that the younger one did not need them at the present time. I did not see anything of the children or the mother for six months, at which time, when meeting the mother, she told me the glasses had worked a marvelous change in her son, and he wore them constantly and could not bear to be without them. He was now picking up in his school work and was better natured than she had ever known him before.

This child is only one of many thousands in our schools today who are having their dispositions ruined and are called dull and stupid by their parents and teachers through no fault of their own. Being perhaps born with a defect in sight, they do not know of any different world from that which they see through defective eyes, consequently cannot relate their troubles to their parents, as they are entirely unconscious of their defect. Therefore I wish to emphasize most emphatically that it is the duty of all parents and teachers to mark very closely any peculiarity that children may have in looking at objects at a long distance or close at hand, such as squinting their eyes, frowning, looking sidewise from partially closed eyes and particularly regarding the distance at which they hold their reading matter from their eyes, for it is natural for a child, or for a grown person, for that matter, who has normal sight to hold clearly printed reading matter about 15 inches from his eyes.

People who have strong eyes usually have but little sympathy for those who are less fortunate in this respect. The necessity of glasses to assist a child in school work, which will put it on a more even footing with the other students, is not appreciated by many parents who are otherwise thoughtful and considerate of the welfare of their children, and who are in many cases undergoing privations that their children may secure an education. Do not be too ready to judge these children as having a fad for glasses or wishing to wear them because some of their playmates do. Better be a little over-cautious in having the child's eyes examined than to take too much responsibility in this matter in your own hands, for no honest optician will advise you to put glasses on a child unless they are sure to prove an advantage.

Another point which I think should be proclaimed loud and long to the different parents is the fact that nine of every ten cases of strabismus (cross eyes) existing among children under the age of 12 can be wholly cured by the very simple and painless method of wearing glasses, whereas if this matter is left until the child has reached maturity it requires a painful operation, which in the majority of cases is not altogether successful then, for it is not alone the matter of appearance that the parents are responsible for. But children who are cross eyed and allowed to remain in this condition any length of time are almost certain to lose the use of one eye wholly or in part, owing to the length of time they are allowed to go in this way. Very few children are born cross eyed, and almost every mother will tell you that this misfortune was due to some sickness, a fall or something of the kind which happened when they were beginning to walk, when in reality the accident or sickness only marked the time that the child first began to use its eyes to discriminate small objects, and the straining of the eyes to see caused them to cross.

Another reason why many children are allowed to grow up cross eyed is because physicians in general practice have heretofore been so grossly ignorant of these subjects that they have informed the mother that the child would probably outgrow this trouble. This is a mistake. Cross eyes are produced by straining the sight and very rarely, if ever, are outgrown. Babies sometimes have the appearance of being slightly cross eyed, owing to the formation of the lids when they are very small. This, of course, may be outgrown. But when parents notice their child's eyes cross temporarily when looking at an object close at hand, even though they remain so for a few moments only, they will use the best of judgment in having the matter investigated at once. Do not think that an operation will do away with wearing glasses in these cases, for glasses almost invariably go with an operation, and you cannot change this matter, however much you may wish to do so.—Dr. W. I. Seymour in Omaha World-Herald.

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