

Elizabeth
McIlrath

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9/20/1918

ELIZABETH McILRATH.

Much Loved Lady Goes to Her Final Reward.

Elizabeth Ellen Jane McIlrath was born near Laurel, Iowa, May 30, 1878, and departed this life September 16, 1918, aged 40 years, 3 months and 16 days.

Eighteen years ago she came with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McIlrath, to Grinnell and this has been her home ever since.

Elizabeth, as we all knew her, was quiet and unassuming, of a kind and cheerful disposition, ever ready to go on errands of mercy and thinking always of others before herself. Never strong physically, she had been often afflicted and had known days and nights of pain. Once before she had been at the very portals of Death.

Her life centered about her home and her church. How large a place her home held in her heart,—the home where an aged father and mother, seven brothers and two sisters bow in sorrow today—a home from which two sisters were waiting to greet her on the other shore.

Elizabeth loved her church. When a girl she gave her heart to Christ and that covenant entered into in her home church was held sacred as long as she lived. The passing years but brought deeper consecration as she walked with her Master. What a joy she received from her religion!

Her name is united inseparably with the history of the United Presbyterian church in Grinnell. She has been in the work from the beginning. On July 21 1902 the records show, she was appointed a teacher in the Sabbath School, and now she leaves a sweet class of boys and girls who love her more than I can tell. In those intervening years she did her work faithfully and well. No task was too great, no night could eclipse her faith. She had a noble part in keeping the church altar fires burning. In the years to come perhaps no one will miss her more than her pastor.

Today all who know her would strew flowers upon her casket in loving remembrance of a life for others. We know it is of such the Master says: "They shall walk with me in white for they are worthy."

The funeral service was held at the home on West street Thursday, at 10 o'clock, conducted by her pastor, Rev. W. W. Woodburn, assisted by Reverends Vittum, Lavender and John C. Lincoln, and interment was made in the Laurel cemetery.

The floral offerings were many and beautiful and were tokens of the love and esteem in which she was held by her numerous friends.