Obituary for Mrs. Sarah Ann Walker

Sarah Ann Walker

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Died, in Holly Springs, Miss., on the morning of the 14th of May, Mrs. SARAH ANN, wife of R. L. Walker, and daughter of Col. Wm. Byars, of Washington Co., Va., where she was born.

The visitations of death are so frequent, that few beyond the narrow limits of the domestic circle ever pause to shed a tear, or reflect for a moment over the closing grace of buried hopes. As the leaf falls in autumn or the pebble sinks beneath the water's surface, so friend after friend departs, and pass away from human view. It is pleasant, however, to know that notwithstanding the prevailing obliviousness of Earth as respects the pious dead, they are not forgotten. Their record is on high. "The Righteous shall be hold in everlasting remembrance." A partial fulfillment of this gracious promise is seen in the humble monument which the hand of Christian affection rears, or the lines which it traces as a record of departed virtue, but more fully, in those entries which God himself has made in the Book of Eternal Life.

Mrs. W. was naturally possessed of a feeble constitution and from early life her health was delicate and precarious. As a consequence perhaps, by the divine blessing, her mind was early turned to the important subject of her personal salvation. In due time she consecrated herself with the Presbyterian church in whose bosom she had been reared and of which she remained a consistent and devoted member till called to join the General Assembly and church of the first-born which are written in Heaven. Though at a stranger to a state of firm health, throughout the long and tedious years of her suffering, she ever exhibited in the presence of her friends unusual cheerfulness and great buoyancy of spirits. She never murmured, while her natural vivacity and cheerfulness were manifestly tainted by an ever present and ever increasing interest in divine things. Her character was of the finest mould unifying great tenderness, simplicity and benevolence which rendered her a great favorite in the circle of her numerous friends. In her Christian character she exhibited great meekness and patience with a steadiness of devotion that was alike removed from either that cold indifference or fitful enthusiasm which often mar the Christian profession.

Her piety was of a decided cheerful character, but at the same time solid and steady, and not easily disturbed by the winds of temptation or adversity. She prized religion for its truth and purity and its abundant consolations and supports. But these graces of her Christian character, it pleased God, to severely try by personal affliction and those ills and reverses which are incident to this ever-changing world; still by the help of divine grace she endured as seeing Him who is invisible and rose superior to them all.

Though, as stated, the subject of much suffering arising from continued ill-health, she never murmured, but quietly and meekly submitted to the will of her almighty Father. Of her peaceful and happy end her friends entertain no misgivings, although her death was so sudden as to preclude the possibility of much conversation. It is matter of special regret, that it occurred in the absence of both her husband and pastor. But God was with her and having finished her course, she has gone to receive her crown. "Blessed are the dead, who die in the Lord."