

MRS. F. E. CAMPBELL - DIED SATURDAY

PASSED PEACEFULLY AT GRO-
TON HOME FOLLOWING
ILLNESS

A gloom like a thick pall settled over the entire city Saturday morning when the sad intelligence of the death of Mrs. F. E. Campbell spread from home to home. Her failing health which dates from last spring, but which had become a matter of serious concern only lately, was noted with sorrow on every hand, and the news that she had passed away came as a shock.

Cornelia A., daughter of George Cliftland Bell and Caroline Bell, was born at Columbia Station, Lorain county, Ohio, September 24, 1857. Removing with her parents in 1860 to Elsie, Clinton county, Michigan, where she grew to womanhood. In November 1882 she went to Orange City, Iowa, where she met Frank E. Campbell, to whom she was united in marriage at Sebley, Ia., on June 27, 1883. After her marriage she resided in Orange City, Ia., until October, 1888, when the family removed to St. Paul, Minn., where they remained until November 1889, when they came to Groton, South Dakota, where Mrs. Campbell resided until her death, which occurred at 2:10 a. m., January 27, 1917—aged 59 years, four months and three days.

Surviving her are Frank E. Campbell, of Groton, her husband; Dwight E. Campbell, her son and Pauline, his wife, of Aberdeen, and grandson, Dwight E. Campbell, Jr., of Aberdeen and Mrs. James Breyley, a sister, of Cleveland, Ohio.

Mrs. Campbell after her conversion and baptism became very active in the work of the church, taking upon herself the work of a Sabbath school teacher by gathering around her a class of boys whom she taught for a number of years until they approached manhood. She was not content simply to teach these but she took a personal interest in each one not only in the school but also by inviting them to her home that she might become better acquainted with them, the better to minister to their spiritual needs. She was an ideal Sunday school teacher in many ways, solving herself the little and later the difficult problems which arose in the class and thus relieving the superintendent of much responsibility and care. Her activities were not confined solely to the Sunday school work as she soon became interested in the great work of the church missions, giving herself whole-heartedly to this larger interest of the church not only in the local society but in the church at large. She made an exhaustive study of all the benevolent work of the church as carried on by the different missionary boards so that she knew the work of each agency, its field of labor, and many of the features of their activities little enquired into by the ordinary worker. She soon became sought after for leading the work of missions in the Presbyterian society and in 1899 became president of the Aber-

deen Presbyterian Missionary Society, having oversight of all the auxiliaries in this large Presbytery. Here she exercised the same thoroughness and painstaking care as marked her whole life, as every meeting was arranged for a long time in advance and all the auxiliaries brought into active co-operation to make these effective. Twice Mrs. Campbell accepted the presidency of the Presbyterian society, serving in that capacity in all nearly seventeen years, laying it aside only as continued ill-health made it absolutely necessary. She was privileged and honored to represent the missionary societies of the Presbytery at the meeting held in Des Moines, Iowa, and thus became acquainted with the women leaders of national reputation in that branch of the church work. She was continually laying plans and deriving means of increasing the efficiency of the different auxiliaries and the local work, being instrumental in establishing a scholarship in the Laura Sunderland Memorial School in North Carolina which scholarship is held by the local society at the present time. During the past year or two Mrs. Campbell was compelled to lay aside much of the work for which she was so peculiarly fitted but never lost interest and was often sought to lend advice and assistance in furthering the great work which she had planned and carried forward so successfully.

It has been said of her: "She was one of God's noblest. Loved by all who knew her—loved best by those who knew her best. As a neighbor, a friend, a sister, a mother, a wife, she filled every place ideally. She made her home a haven of loved and she laid her sacrifice there in great joy. All the beauty of her life was simply the expression of her Christian faith. She lived her religion as an heir of the grace of life. She was faithful, faithful unto death. Hers is that inheritance which shall never pass away." To which we say, Amen.

The writer has known Mrs. Campbell since his early childhood.

There are intuitions of childhood which do not reason, but which discriminate carefully and unerringly between that which is harsh and cruel and that which is kind and gentle, and as we review the memories of childhood we are confronted with pictures painted upon the canvass of former consciousness that only kindness and gentleness was expected and received from Mrs. Campbell, and later years have in no way altered our early impressions.

To the bereaved the Independent would express its sympathy, but no words seem adequate. No laudation of life and works can bridge the desolation of a broken home. That must be the work of the softening hand of time and of Him, who "though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death," shall be our comarter.

The funeral occurs from the home and church this afternoon. The business houses of the city will be closed during the services and it will be truly a season of mourning throughout the whole community.