

[Southard, Effie LaTrace]

In Memoriam, Effie LaTrace Southard

In the passing of this rare spirit, the church, of which she was such a devoted member, has lost one whose place it will be hard indeed to fill. She was a leader in every sense of the word, to whom we all looked for advice and council [counsel]—knowing that to every subject she gave her best and earnest thought.

We felt, as she stood before us, a wonderful sense of her dignity and earnest Christian spirit. If in church she was such a power, how much must her fine personality been felt in her home. There her gentle graces shone at their best. To the husband [G. Clarke] and daughter [Miriam], bereft of her stimulating presence our hearts go out in a very especial manner.

Her early life too was one of devotion to her work, and the pupils under her charge to this day feel the inspiration given them during their work under her guidance. As we think of her last days of suffering [from breast cancer] we feel we are treading upon holy ground. Those days were spent mostly in communion with her Heavenly Father to whom she looked for the patience so wonderfully granted to her and which sustained her to the end. It cannot be that such a noble life, so rounded out to completion, will have been lived in vain, but must be ever an inspiration to us all for better thinking, and tend toward a larger and richer living.

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Transcribed on 19 Aug 2012 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY