

DEATH OF THE DOWAGER LADY AFFLECK

Our readers will most of them have become aware before this time of the decease of Lady Affleck, the wife of the Rev. W. Whewell, D.D., Master of Trinity College, which it is to-day our duty to chronicle. Lady Affleck was the daughter of Francis Ellis, Esq., of Royal Crescent, Bath, and was first married, in 1834, to Sir Gilbert Affleck, who died in 1854. She subsequently married the present Master of Trinity College, and it was at Trinity College Lodge that on Saturday last she expired. Her ladyship had been ailing for some weeks, and during the last two or three weeks of her life her illness had assumed such a character as to render its fatal termination not altogether unexpected or sudden. For some days her ladyship had been prayed for in the College Chapel, and the prayers of the congregation had been asked for in her behalf up to the night of her death.

We will not allow ourselves to say anything that may sound fulsome respecting the virtuous deeds of the dead. The amount of good she did was equalled by the quiet unostentatious way in which it was done; and this of itself would be the strongest protest against fulsome vulgar praise. It is, however, only scant justice to her memory to say that her hand was ready to do every good work—that she gave liberally of her means to assist in every plan to promote the moral and material welfare of those whose fortunes as regarded this world might not be so prosperous as her own—and that the extent of her large-hearted charity was only known to herself.

The parish in which Trinity Lodge is situate, All Saints, will feel her loss severely—she took a lively interest in everything in the parish, and it may be remembered that only very recently she laid the corner-stone of a new church, which has since been completed and is now in use for divine service. We will not risk the breaking of our resolution by saying more on this point, though we are convinced that there are in this place scores who could testify to what we have said and to much more besides.

Every respect for the memory of the deceased and sympathy with the bereaved Master was shewn in Trinity College; and it was very well known throughout Cambridge that it was no slight loss which the venerable and esteemed Master had sustained.

The funeral took place yesterday (Friday), when her ladyship's remains were interred at the Cemetery, Mill-road, in the same vault as those of Dr. Whewell's first wife. Shortly after 11 o'clock the procession left the Lodge. The college gates had been closed all the morning, and the Great Court was simply empty when the procession started. Such of the Junior Fellows and Undergraduates as were in residence, had previously taken places in the Chapel, where the first part of the Burial Service was read.

The funeral was made as strictly private as possible, none but members of her ladyship's own family, and the four Senior Fellows of the College being invited, though, as we have said nearly all the members in residence, and many others walked with the procession to the Cemetery. The Burial Service in the chapel was read by the Rev. E. W. Kirkby, B. A., one of the Chaplains of the College; and from the chapel the procession

crossed the Great Court, to the Queen's Gateway, where a hearse and four were waiting, together with a number of mourning coaches as well as private carriages. On the route to the cemetery the various shops were either in part or in whole closed, and similar marks of respect were discernible in the case of private houses. In Trinity-street, all the places of business, with the exception of perhaps one or two, were closed. At the cemetery, which was reached shortly after 12 o'clock, there was a large concourse of persons, most of whom wore mourning. The procession was headed by the undertaker (Mr. Bulstrode) and his assistant, followed by two mutes, then the hearse and four, next three mourning coaches, a private carriage with the family servants, and five or six private carriages of friends. As the former part of the Burial Service had been performed in the college chapel, the coffin was not taken within the cemetery chapel. The service at the grave was read by the Rev. J. W. Taylor, M.A., Incumbent of All Saints.

The outer coffin was of oak, covered with black cloth, and bore the arms of the deceased on a large brass inscription plate, impaled with those of the Master: the plate bore the following simple inscription:— "Everina Frances Affleck, wife of William Whewell, died 1st April 1865, aged 58 years."
