

**IN MEMORIAM, ABBIE
B. CHILD: APRIL 1840,
NOVEMBER 9, 1902**

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VARIOUS

**IN MEMORIAM, ABBIE
B. CHILD: APRIL 1840,
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A worthy woman who can find? For her price is far above rubies.

Strength and dignity are her clothing.

She openeth her mouth with wisdom, and the law of kindness is on her tongue.

Many daughters have done worthily, but thou excellest them all.

Grace is deceitful and beauty is vain; but a woman that feareth Jehovah, she shall be praised.

Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her works praise her in the gates.

~~827~~

In Memoriam

Abbie B. Child

April 8, 1840

November 9, 1902



"Enlargement waits upon her every sense;
Time, with its grudging limits, is forgot;
Space infinite, tasks endless, daunt her not;
Heaven's largess scorns Earth's scanty measurements."



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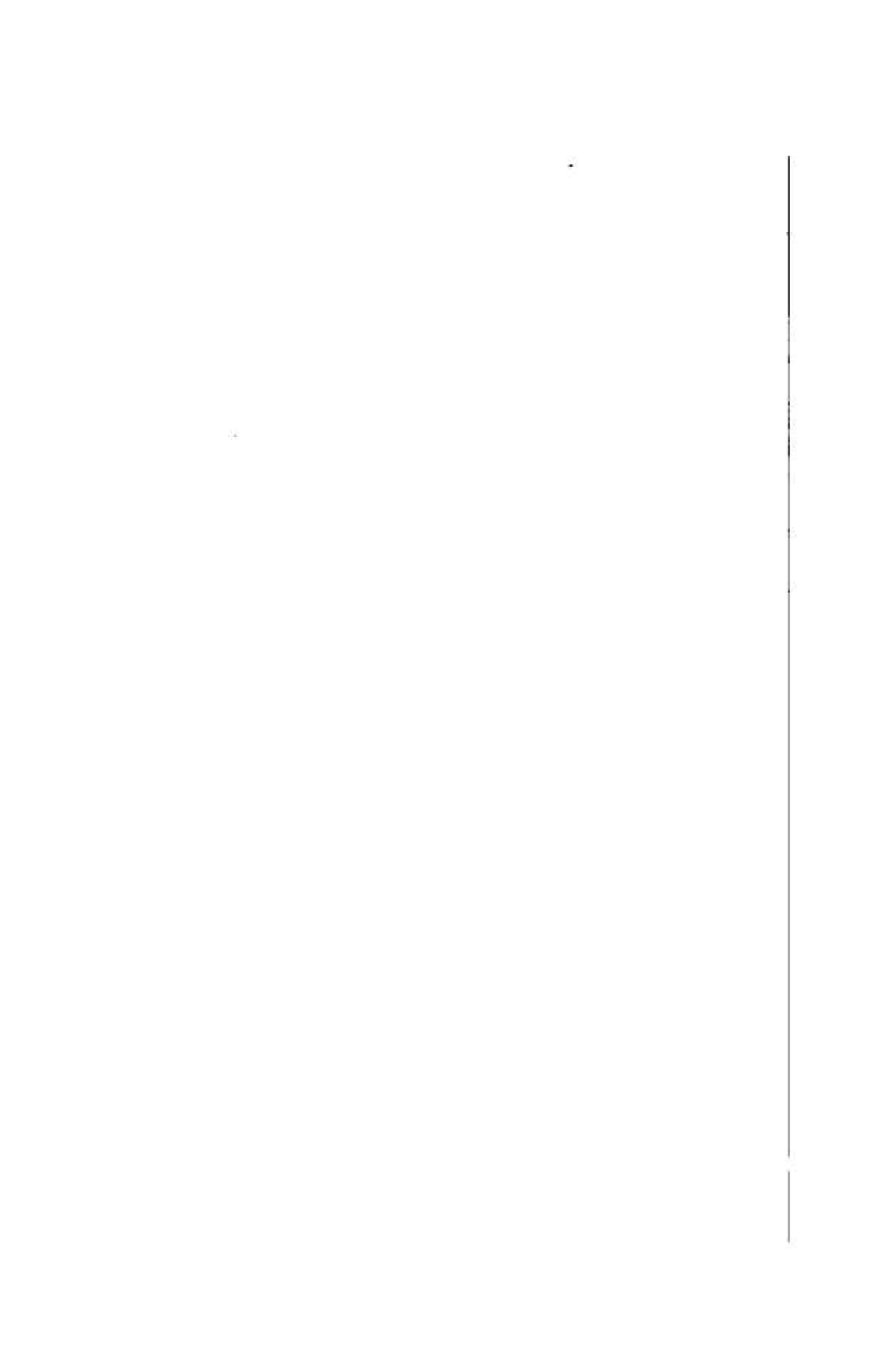
Life Record.

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ABBIE BULLOCK CHILD was born at Southbridge, Mass., April 8, 1840. She was the daughter of Hon. Linus Child, who was a member of the Prudential Committee of the A. B. C. F. M. from 1859 to 1870, and she inherited the intellectual strength and acumen of her honored father. Her mother was also deeply interested in the work of foreign missions, and with Mrs. Albert Bowker and Mrs. Rufus Anderson was one of the charter members of the Woman's Board of Missions, which was incorporated in 1869, a year after its organization. Miss Child was graduated at Maplewood Institute, Pittsfield, Mass., in 1858. She became connected with the Woman's Board of Missions as Home Secretary in 1870, and ever after was a familiar and honored figure in all missionary circles in New England, in America, in all Protestant Christendom. Next to Mrs. Albert Bowker, the founder of the Board, she has been the most prominent leader in building up this great organization, in administering its affairs at home and in guiding its successful work abroad. She has been almost as well known in the missionary circles of other denominations as in her own, and her name has been familiar in foreign missionary societies around the world. She was the official representative of her Board in the World's Conference in Exeter Hall, London, in 1888, and read an important paper there. She was the chairman of a committee formed at that conference for the more effective prosecution of work for women in all lands. She took a leading part in preparing for the Ecumenical Conference on Foreign Missions in Carnegie Hall, New York, April, 1900; and was one of the notable members of the conference. She was there made chairman of the committee to provide plans for the United Study of Missions among the Christian women of the world. For thirty-two years Miss Child had been the Home Secretary of the Board and editor of *Life and Light*, and she had made her missionary zeal and information constantly felt throughout the whole constituency of the Board. In 1888 she visited the missions in Spain and Turkey, and in 1895-96 she made a journey around the world, visiting especially the missions of the Board in India, China and Japan.

*General
C. H. ...
...*

**Funeral Services at
Central Congregational Church, Boston
November 12, 1902**



Funeral Services

Miss Child returned on Friday, November 7th, from the annual meeting in Washington, was at her desk in the Board rooms on Saturday, and after a good night's sleep, arose Sunday morning, November 9th, with the intention of going to church. After a brief conversation at the breakfast table, she was carried away in the arms of her friends. A weak heart had occasioned anxiety, but there had been nothing to arouse apprehension that the end might be near.

The sky was overcast in Boston on November 12th, the day of her funeral, but the clouds were not heavy. Looking up we were sure that could our vision pierce the soft gray veil we should see a sky of radiant sapphire, filled with glorious light. Something like this was the mood of those who gathered in Central Church, to pay tribute of honor and farewell to one gone out of sight. We could not forget the bewildering, aching sense of loss and pain, but our hearts were filled with solemn joy and thanksgiving for her. Akin to this, too, were all the words spoken; because we love her we must rejoice that she has gone to the Father.

Many women who were bound to her in that near and blessed tie that grows in long service of the Master had come from near and far, longing for one more touch of our leader, and most of our Branches were represented.

A wealth of exquisite flowers, snowy chrysanthemums, roses white, pink and crimson, blended with palms of

Memorial to

victory, covered choir gallery, pulpit, lectern and platform, and told the love of many friends. As we waited, the soft organ music filled the room, and we found ourselves praying, "Lead, kindly Light."

The pallbearers were Dr. Barton, Dr. Daniels and Mr. Wiggin of the American Board, with three personal friends, Dr. Stone, Mr. Leach and Mr. Houghton.

It was only a little group of the household circle that followed the casket; most of her kindred had welcomed her to the land of light, but every one present was a mourner, and the stricken sister must have felt a throb of sympathy as we rose, standing till those nearest were seated.

Dr. J. L. Jenkins, a life-long family friend, led us in a tender prayer of invocation, and Miss Ricker sang Mendelssohn's most comforting word, "O Rest in the Lord." Dr. E. E. Strong read Scripture quotations so apt that one said they seemed to have been written for Miss Child. Dr. Judson Smith then pronounced a brief eulogy, full of praise, yet so just and discriminating that there was not one word too much. After the singing of "Pilgrims of the Night," Dr. E. L. Clark, for many years her pastor, spoke words of appreciation of her noble, Christ-like character and service, dwelling on her work and influence in her own church, and closing with prayer and benediction.

The organ seemed to speak the thought of us all when it gave forth triumphantly, "For all thy saints who from their labors rest," and we went out as from heaven's gate, with hearts comforted and inspired to better service.

H. F. L.