

## **Funeral address for Alice Eleanor Salter (1872-1955)**

*A transcript of the handwritten notes for Rev Reg Kissack's address at Alice's [Nellie's] funeral, which were found by her granddaughter and sent to Rev Martin Wellings:*

“There comes a time in the journey up the Thames when you come round the last bend and see the tower and spires of Oxford rising before you in all its beauty. Then you come up the Isis, tie up at Folly Bridge, which owes some of its fame to the fact that here the steam journey ends.

In a sense we have come to that point today, the end of a long life of real beauty.

We who only knew her in the later years of her life think of Mrs Salter as a frail little figure, lighting up suddenly with the love in her eyes; we remember too the great determination in that frail little body; a determination to do good and to serve her Lord and Master.

Those who knew her in earlier years think of the beauty of her home life. My own earliest recollection is of her husband kneeling at this communion rail with one of their daughters and four grandchildren. It is not often that we are able to transmit our Methodism to all our children. There was something very precious in that home that has been handed down from generation to generation.

Then there was her work for this Church which she and her husband served so faithfully and so well throughout their long lives; her Women's Meeting on Monday afternoon; her class for girls in earlier days; her worship here Sunday by Sunday and her kindness to the ministers of this Church year after year.

Perhaps the greatest service she and her husband rendered was the welcome to their home which they gave to young men and women of the university for many years and those in the Forces during the first World War. Never a Summer passed since then, but someone would come back from Canada or Australia and tell of the good times they had at “57”.

Those of who have done it know that success in work among students depends upon the open home. I think it would not be too much to say the idea first began at "57".

Now there are no more Salters at Wesley Memorial, as their old friends go, they may in time be forgotten here, but Folly Bridge will always be associated with the Salter. The steamer turns round there and sets off again next day on a new journey, this time down an ever widening river to the great sea. So, in a sense she has begun a new voyage down an ever widening stream to the great sea of God's home."