

Ida L. McLaren

(- 26 Sep 1906)

McLaren. Suddenly on Wednesday night, September 26, 1906 in Baltimore, Md., Idal L. McLaren, beloved wife of Rev. James McLaren. Funeral services in chapel at Congressional cemetery, Saturday, September 29 at 2 p.m. Relatives and friends invited to attend.

The Evening Star, September 27, 1906, p. 7

Fatal Jump From Car

Rev. McLaren's Wife Killed on Bridge in Baltimore

Mrs. Ida McLaren, wife of Rev. James McLaren, pastor of Grace M.E. Church, Hampden, a suburb of Baltimore, jumped and sustained injuries from which she died shortly after 6 o'clock last evening while on her way to the hospital. The accident occurred on the Maryland avenue bridge, as Mrs. McLaren saw her husband fall from a moving car on which she was a passenger. Mrs. McLaren died on one of the Roland Park cars as she was being hurried to St. Luke's Hospital, a couple of blocks away.

Coroner Linthicum decided the case one of accidental death. The body was removed from the hospital to the parsonage, 727 3d avenue, Hampden, last night by Undertaker Marshall.

Rev. and Mrs. McLaren came over to Washington on a pleasure trip Monday and returned a few minutes before the accident occurred. They arrived at Union station in Baltimore and walked through the passageway to Maryland avenue to board the car. When the car came along it was well filled, and some persons were standing.

After making her way to a proffered seat Mrs. McLaren sat down and her husband called to her that he would follow on the next car, which would probably not be so crowded. The car started, and almost at the same time Mrs. McLaren remembered she had no money with her. She called to Rev. McLaren and he ran to catch the moving car. As he tried to jump upon the footboard he fell. Several persons realized he was about to fall and jumped to their feet. The next instant Mr. McLaren was rolling on the bridge.

With a cry which startled everyone, Mrs. McLaren rushed to the side of the car and jumped off. She seemed to fall backward. Mr. Reese alighted and ran to the minister and his wife. Mrs. McLaren lay in the driveway. Her husband was getting up when assistance arrived. Blood flowed from the minister's head, and Mrs. McLaren gave evidence of being seriously injured. Another car had come up in the meanwhile and Mrs. McLaren was placed in it. When she was taken into the hospital Dr. G. Lewis Wetzel made an examination of the body. He said he found no pulse and pronounced her dead. A further examination showed that Mrs. McLaren had sustained a fracture at the base of the skull and that there was an internal hemorrhage.

Rev. McLaren's wound proved to be nothing of a serious nature and the doctors soon attended to it. In speaking of the accident the minister seemed to think his wife's body struck him after he struck the ground. Her head undoubtedly came in contact with the ground. Coroner Linthicum said shock was the primary cause of death.

In another month Mrs. McLaren would have been forty-nine years old. She was born in Fairfax county, Va., her father being Mr. George Barber. Besides her husband, she leaves a daughter, Mrs. Paul Pardew, and a sister, Mrs. Eliza Walson of Washington.

The Evening Star, September 28, 1906, p. 10

Funeral of Mrs. McLaren

Remains to Be Brought to Washington for Interment

Mrs. Ida McLaren, whose death ensued in Baltimore Wednesday evening from the effects of injuries received in jumping from a moving street car to the aid of Rev. James McLaren, her husband, was the daughter of the late George Barber, who resided in Anacostia, where he had large property interests. Mr. McLaren, the husband of the deceased woman, is an ex-pastor of the Anacostia Methodist Episcopal Church, corner of Jackson and Pierce streets, and the couple had been paying a visit to relatives and acquaintances in Anacostia, being on their return to their home in Hampden, a suburb of Baltimore, when the accident occurred.

The remains of Mrs. McLaren will be brought to this city for burial. They will arrive in Washington tomorrow afternoon according to the present arrangements, and will be conveyed to Congressional chapel, where services will take place at 2 o'clock. Rev. Charles O. Isaac, the pastor of the church where Mr. McLaren formerly served, will be one of the officiants. The parents of Mrs. McLaren are interred in Congressional cemetery, and her remains will be buried there, it is understood.

Reference to the old records of the Anacostia Methodist Episcopal Church indicate that in 1874 the marriage of Rev. James L. McLaren, then the pastor, and Miss Ida Barber, the daughter of a prominent citizen of the town occurred. Until then the charge was looked upon as an appointment for an unmarried man, but since then it has been recognized as capable of providing for minister and wife. The Barber homestead where Mrs. McLaren spent her youth, still stands on Jefferson street, Anacostia, but has passed into other hands.

Rev. and Mrs. McLaren left Anacostia in 1877, but they returned in 1892, when Mr. McLaren received another appointment there. They left in 1897. Mr. McLaren has served as pastor at Gorsuch and North Capitol Street Methodist churches in this city. He is now pastor of Grace M.E. Church, Hampden, Baltimore, to which place they were going when the fatality occurred.

Mr. McLaren and his wife arrived unexpectedly in Anacostia Monday last and went to the residence of Mrs. Eliza P. Walson, the sister of the dead woman at 166 Maple avenue. It was the practice of Mr. and Mrs. McLaren to visit the suburb regularly, as Mr. McLaren had served two terms as pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the town, and they had numerous pleasant associations there. Mr. McLaren called upon many members of the Methodist Church, and Wednesday afternoon, just before leaving for home, took luncheon with Rev. Charles O. Isaac, the present pastor of the church.

Mr. and Mrs. McLaren left Anacostia for Baltimore in the afternoon after 4 o'clock. Their relatives and friends were shocked to learn of the result of their pleasure trip to this city, the first intelligence of which came to Mrs. Walson by telephone about 8 o'clock in the evening. She was told her sister had been badly hurt, and that her presence was necessary. Following the departure of Mrs. Walson and Mrs. George O. Walson for Baltimore came the announcement by telephone of Mrs. McLaren's death. The news did not reach her friends generally until it was read in The Star yesterday evening. Mr. George O. Walson, who was in New York, was notified of the death, and made arrangements to go to Baltimore last night.

A letter was received in Anacostia yesterday from a relative of the family in Baltimore telling of the circumstances of the case, the details being practically the same as printed in The Star yesterday. It is believed that Mrs. McLaren would not have made her sudden leap from the street car had she not feared her husband had been seriously hurt by falling while trying to reach the same car in order to provide her with car fare. When the car appeared it was well filled, and after seeing his wife secure a seat, Mr. McLaren called to her that he would follow on the next car. Then it was that she recalled having no car fare, a fact Mr. McLaren was made acquainted with by hearing her cry out to him. He endeavored to board the car, but was thrown to the Maryland avenue bridge, while his wife, startled at the accident, jumped from the car, with the result stated. She lived but ten minutes after falling, it was

stated, her death occurring on one of the Roland Park cars as she was being taken to a hospital. Mrs. McLaren had been a sufferer from heart trouble for a long time her friends say, and the shock proved too much for her. Mr. McLaren was not seriously injured.

The Evening Star, September 30, 1906, p. 10

Funeral of Mrs. I.L. McLaren

Remains Interred in Congressional Cemetery

The remains of Mrs. Ida L. McLaren, whose death occurred Wednesday evening last in Baltimore as the result of leaping from a moving street car in an endeavor to reach Rev. James McLaren, her husband, who had fallen, were brought to this city yesterday afternoon for interment in Congressional cemetery. The train bearing the body arrived at the railroad station about 1:30 o'clock, and was met by many who were at one time associated with Rev. and Mrs. McLaren in religious work. The pallbearers were Messrs. James H. Dony, Daniel C. Smithson, George W. King, jr., Arthur B. Suit, Frank McLean and Morris Otterback. The body was removed to the chapel in Congressional cemetery, where services were held. The officiating ministers were Rev. H.R. Naylor, the presiding elder of Washington district; Rev. Charles O. Isaac of Anacostia, and Rev. J.E. Amiss. The latter was one of the ministers assisting in the marriage ceremony of Rev. and Mrs. McLaren in Anacostia in 1874.

Mrs. Ada Ober Leech of this city, rendered "Some Time We'll Understand" as the service proceeded. The casket was covered with floral offerings, the tribute of friends and parishioners. Services were also held yesterday morning in Grace M.E. Church, Hampden, Baltimore, where Mr. McLaren is stationed as pastor. Mr. McLaren who sustained severe bruises in the accident which resulted in the death of his wife, went to the home of Mr. George O. Walson, 166 Maple avenue, Anacostia, immediately after the funeral and will remain there for the present.