

ELIZA ELLIOTT

When Eliza Elliott was called to her reward last week, peacefully passing away in her modest Kalispell home, Flathead county lost one of its most worthy citizens. It was our pleasure to know this dear old lady for the past twenty years, and last night when Cashier Chapman returned from Kalispell among other happenings of the old Kalispell town he spoke of the demise of Eliza Elliott. This called up reminiscences of the early days, thirty years ago, when this dear old self-sacrificing, kind hearted woman at all hours of the day or night, thru all kinds of weather, astride a cayuse, rode far and wide to be at the bedside of some poor, sick woman, and for days, if necessary, would remain and nurse the new-born babe and care for the new mother. Away up to Bad Rock canyon, up the Swan river, Smith valley, anywhere, everywhere that mercy called this kindhearted woman, and it was not a question of dollars and cents.

God bless such women! Their sacrificing lives belong to a period nearly passed by. To those who know them intimately their memory is cherished. Many an old timer's eyes must have been dimmed with tears when they read that Eliza Elliott was dead. She knew the natal day and hour of many stalwart young men of Flathead county and her knowledge of the early days, the privations as well as pleasures of the early settlers, would have filled a precious volume. Here and there on the fringe of civilization a few of these old precious pioneer mothers remain and all that is left for us is a sad, fond parting farewell and a tear on the new-made grave.—P. N. Bernard in the Eureka Journal.

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