

Marble memorial in the nave floor in the west end of the north arcade to Mrs Elizabeth West – transcript of the Latin.

Literal version

'Right under the/this marble [slab] Mrs.
Elizabeth West, wife of John
West armour-bearer / armour bearer, and mother of these
infants after she had laboured in the birth of her latest
child, she being borne along in the hope of the resurrection,
lay down the remains of her mortality.
in the year of salvation 1694,
aged 27

Tidied up version

Right under this marble slab were laid the mortal remains of Mrs. Elizabeth West, wife of the armour-bearer John West, and mother of these infants after she had laboured in the birth of their latest daughter. She was borne along in hope of the resurrection.

In the year of salvation 1694, aged 27.

Questions/ comments (of the scholar):

- it should read *proximae filiae* not *proxima filia*. The 'e' of the genitive is often elided (squeezed closely in) with the 'a'. Can you spot it here? *in* goes with *partu* (birth) so we really need a genitive here 'in the birth of her latest daughter'
- *laborasset* should read as one word. It is a contraction of *laboravisset*, pluperfect subjunctive of *laboro*. There is no Latin word *asset*.
- *deposuit* is active = 'he/she put down or put away for safe keeping' One would expect passive 'here *are* laid' or here *were* laid' which would be *deponitur* or *depositae sunt* or something similar.
- I think *armigeri* is a title rather than a name.
- *lata* lit. 'having been carried/ borne' I think agrees all the way back with *Mrs. Elizabeth West* If *proxima filia* is as stands and not genitive, it could agree with that (i.e. the daughter)