

# THE LIBERAL.

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IN MEMORY OF MRS. AGNES TRENCH-NICHOLS.

Sad the news that greet us, from a distant shore,  
Telling of another, passing on before,  
That the mystic curtain, which obscures our sight,  
Like a pall of shadow shutting out the light,  
Has again been lifted by the hand of death,  
That another loved one might pass underneath;  
As from view she vanished, loved ones stood ap-  
palled,  
That what God had given should have been re-  
called.

Short the illness, warning, none of danger near,  
Swiftly came the message, filling hearts with fear,  
While the loved one sleeping, all unconscious lay,  
Breathing out her spirit peacefully away.  
The last words she uttered, while in conscious-  
ness,  
Cheering to remember, in grief's sore distress;  
That her thoughts should centre on the word of God,  
Where His love and mercy shed their beams abroad.

"Give me Beattie's bible, 'tis my greatest need,  
She has marked the verses, she wished me to read,  
On the eve of parting, it she gave to me,  
Wishing me to read it, and my guide to be."  
Just one month preceding to the very day,  
Her devoted sister sweetly passed away,  
And the grief it caused her, thus from her to part,  
Filled her soul with sadness, pierced her loving heart.

In nocturnal visions, she was heard to call,  
As if holding converse 'er the spirit wall,  
"I am coming Beattie, I will soon be there,  
I can hear you calling, 'tis your voice I hear."  
Ministering Angels, as she drew near home,  
May have hovered near her, as her escort come,  
Bearing her so gently, stilling all her fears,  
O'er the gloomy precincts, of this vale of tears.

Many still remember, in the years gone by,  
All about the sisters who so peaceful lie  
Here they grew together in their childhood glee,  
Grew to comely maidens as you'd wish to see:  
Till they were divided making each a home,  
Drifting farther, farther, as life's changes come,  
But their hearts united, distance could not move,  
Beat in fondest measure 'midst of love.

Though in life divided, death has joined the twain,  
Safe in heaven with Jesus ever to remain,  
Joining in the chorus while the Seraphs sing,  
Worthy is the Saviour, earth's atoning King;  
Gazing full of rapture on the "sea of glass,"  
Learning more of Heaven as the ages pass;  
Youth and health abounding feel no wasting breath,  
Life eternal finding, through the gates of death.

Richmond Hill, March 4th, 1889.

I have been suffering with a bad stomach for a number of years and neglecting myself very much. I have no pity for you because you no right well that a dose of Birkett's Pellets will cure you. Birkett's Liver Pellets, are a positive cure for sick head ache, 50 doses for 25 cents, sent by mail to any address. Dilworth's Drug Store, 170 King St. East, Toronto.

### Richmond Hill and Vicinity

No. 32.

### Love at First Sight.

To the Editor of THE LIBERAL

A little over twenty years ago there came into our village a beautiful girl of about fifteen summers, a perfect stranger to all our people. She was of a prepossessing demeanor and her sedate manner and amiable way of speaking to those around her, won for her the sympathy of those who were disposed to be kind to strangers. For reasons best known to herself she gave an assumed name, by which she was always known amongst us; her real name and the place she came from we never knew. The only reason she gave for her singular appearance in our village was that she desired to live a religious life, to which her friends at home were opposed.

Sufficiently communicative on any other subject she was reticent as to her antecedents, and her first reply would all ways settle the inquisitive. Independent and self-reliant, she had no desire to be a burden on others; she had resolved to maintain herself, and requested a position as servant in some respectable family. This was secured her by those who were interested in her welfare, which she filled with great satisfaction, performing her duties in a quiet unassuming way.

Her first Sabbath out was spent at the Methodist Church—she became a scholar in the Sabbath School and was exceedingly attentive. She soon manifested that her statement in reference to a search for religion was a serious one, for she early became an earnest enquirer and a diligent seeker after an experience that would give her the peace and joy she sought. In the Sabbath School, under the instruction of a kind and faithful teacher and the pious counsel of a christian lady, she was pointed to the way of salvation. With a heart full of love to the Saviour, and with a countenance lit up with joy, she often testified before the members of the church in our religious services that she had found what she long had sought. The young girl remained in our village several months, and her exemplary conduct was such that it left no doubt as to the sincerity of the profession she made. From Richmond Hill she went to Toronto in search of a situation. Acting on the advice of a friend, she applied at the residence of a well-known photographer, who was in search of a housekeeper. The gentleman answered the ring of the door bell himself, and was evidently startled when his eyes fell upon

the face of his fair applicant. Controlling himself he listened to her request for employment, invited her in and gave her the situation. It was soon seen that the gentleman was remarkably interested in his young housekeeper. She was sent to school, where she studied in earnest to make up for lack of previous opportunity and made rapid proficiency. He then sent her abroad for further accomplishments, and ultimately made her his wife. The secret cause of all this interest in this strange and beautiful girl was many years before, in some far away village, the artist had taken the girl's photograph when a little child—attracted by its innocent beauty. From the negative he had finished a picture for himself, hung it up in his studio, admired it until his admiration had warmed into love, so that his thoughts were continually going out after one whom he thought must be approaching womanhood. When the object of his many thoughts stood at his own door and applied for a position in his own house, he recognized her, took her in, educated her and made her the mistress of his home. She became a member of one of the leading city churches—lived a life of piety and usefulness, being prominent in the "Sewing Circle," and other organizations for the relief of the distressed.

Surrounded by all that wealth could procure—residing in a palatial residence, and in the midst of prosperity—she was not forgetful of the past, but when the opportunity offered visited our village, called upon and thanked those who had befriended her when a friendless girl—a stranger in a strange place.

But her days were few. Not all the comforts of a luxurious home, nor all the skill that wealth could obtain, could prolong a life wrapped up in a constitution naturally frail, in which, perhaps, the seeds of consumption had long been sown. To the grief of all surrounding her it was found that she was early marked for the grave. Her countenance still retained its loveliness,—Death had set its imprint upon her fair brow, yet the beauty of that face was heightened as upon it rested the glow of resignation to the Divine Will.

She was under the pastoral care of the Rev. S. J. Hunter, who has since passed away, who administered to her the consolations of the gospel in the dying hour. Some time afterwards the rev. gentleman told the writer that in all his experience as a minister in death bed scenes, as he stood in the room of that dying christian—looked upon her face, radiant with joy, and listened to her happy expressions in anticipation of the bliss that awaited her—he never felt so near heaven, for he fancied that he could almost hear the flutter of angel wings as they waited to bear the spirit of the dying saint from earth to the realms above.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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