

**MEMOIR OF THE LATE
MRS ANN
JOHNSTONE, WILLOW
PARK, GREENOCK**

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Memoir of the Late Mrs Ann Johnstone, Willow Park, Greenock by Mrs Ann Johnstone

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WILLOW PARK, GREENOCK.

"THE MERCY OF THE LORD IS FROM EVERLASTING TO EVERLASTING UPON
THOSE THAT FEAR HIM, AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS UPON CHILDREN'S CHILDREN."
PSALM CIII. 17.

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GLASGOW: W. COLLINS, AND D. ROBERTSON.

LONDON: HAMILTON AND CO.

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MDCCLXVII.

1067.

TO THE
FAMILY OF THE LATE MRS JOHNSTONE,
THE FOLLOWING RECOLLECTIONS
OF
THEIR MOTHER,
ARE,
WITH UNFEIGNED ESTEEM AND AFFECTION,
INSCRIBED,
BY
THEIR OWN AND THEIR PARENTS' FRIEND.

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PREFACE.

THE following brief Memoir was originally printed for private circulation. The writer would never have presumed to give it to the world, had not its publication been urged both orally and in writing, by a number of Christian Friends, whose opinions she felt to be entitled to respectful consideration. With great reluctance she at length yielded to their reiterated solicitations; and, the family having kindly given their consent, she now, with the utmost diffidence, sends forth this little volume, praying that its perusal may be blessed by Him, to whose glory the subject of it lived, and rejoicing in whom, she died. As a specimen of many similar communications, addressed to the writer, she selects the following, the perusal of which, she trusts, will lead her readers to the conclusion, that she was not altogether without excuse, in consenting to submit to the public eye, what has been to her indeed a labour of love.

A distinguished minister* in Glasgow wrote thus:—

“ 22d July 1845.

“ MY DEAR MRS —,—Excuse me for being so long in offering you my warmest thanks for the truly excellent biographical sketch you have been enabled to prepare. I have read it with many tears,—tears of joy and delight. You had an excellent subject prepared for you by the grace of God; and the delineation of it has led you to pour forth exuberantly your mind and heart. She was indeed a daughter of the ‘King,’ all glorious within, her clothing of wrought gold. The King himself greatly desired her beauty. No wonder that you who saw it so much, admired it so highly; and now she has been brought with gladness and rejoicing into the King’s palace, whither you, as one of her many companions, are to follow her. You thought much of the daughter here, you will think still more of her there; but most of all, of the King himself, appearing in his matchless beauty, in the land afar off. * * * My chief design in this note is to press the duty of sending forth a large edition of the Memoir. It is not only adapted to please, but to profit all classes:—Christian females,

* The Rev. Dr. Hough, who has since joined the glorified society in heaven.

by showing what they may attain and accomplish by the grace of God :—Christians of all classes by presenting captivating views of the pleasures of holiness, of close walking with God, and high attainments in religious experience :—Christian ministers in the same way; and even those who are Christians only in name, by showing them how remote from vital piety they are, and leading them to Christ for life and all things. * * *

“Every one who has read the volume asks, why is it not published? I take the liberty of pressing the same question, and of entreating, that for the glory of Christ and the edification of his body, it may go forth in hundreds and thousands.—Ever yours respectfully and affectionately.”

Another minister writes :—

“MY DEAR FRIEND,—I shall not occupy your time by stating what I think of Mrs Johnstone’s Memoir, having done this already. My object in writing you now is to press upon you, as a matter of duty, the propriety of publishing the work. I trust none of the family of our beloved deceased friend will object to this being done. Mrs Johnstone would have shrunk from anything of the kind, had she been living. But you know how entirely she held herself at the disposal of her Saviour, and

how desirous she was, that he might be glorified in her and by her. The narrative of the rich and abundant grace manifested in the life and death of herself and her lovely daughter, is fitted to produce a deep and salutary impression, and if good is to be accomplished by its publication, which no one can doubt who has read the deeply interesting narrative, then I am sure she would not have interposed her *veto* to prevent the good from being done. I might say much more on behalf of the suggestion I have made, but deem it unnecessary, as I trust both yourself and the family of Mrs Johnstone will overcome all the feelings that may stand in the way of conferring a precious gift on many, who, through means of its perusal, will, by the divine blessing, be led to receive God's unspeakable gift.—Believe me to be, most truly yours."