

**ONE TALENT IMPROVED: OR, THE  
LIFE AND LABORS OF MISS  
SUSAN G. BOWLER, SUCCESSFUL  
SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHER**

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One Talent Improved: Or, the Life and Labors of Miss Susan G. Bowler, Successful Sunday-School Teacher by B. K. Peirce

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**B. K. PEIRCE**

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OR,  
THE LIFE AND LABORS  
OF  
MISS SUSAN G. BOWLER,  
SUCCESSFUL SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHER.

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BY B. K. PEIRCE.

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"And ye, best laborers in this humble sphere,  
To deeds of saint-like charity inclined,  
Who from your cells of meditation dear  
Come forth to guide the weak, untutor'd mind—  
Yet ask no payment, save one smile refined  
Of grateful love, one tear of contrite pain;  
Meekly ye forfeit to your mission kind  
The rest of earthly sabbaths. Be your gain  
A sabbath without end, mid yon celestial plain."  
MRS. SIGOURNEY.

1841  
REVISED BY THE EDITOR,  
D. P. KIDDER.

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## EDITOR'S PREFACE.

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THIS biography has only to be read to be useful. Few memoirs of departed Christians are so well adapted to the wants of the times.

Plain, practical, and simple, it will address itself to every one's comprehension and sympathies. Free from the tedium of didactic works, it inculcates the best of precepts, all illustrated by a lovely and consistent example.

The teacher, and we might almost say the Christian, who does not find this a deeply-interesting and profitable book, will have reason for close heart-searchings, and for inquiring

whether indeed he is aware of the nature and responsibilities of the work in which he professes to be engaged. We rejoice to believe that there are thousands who will delight in the perusal of these pages, and will draw from them instruction, encouragement, and consolations of the most valuable kind.

*New-York, June, 1845.*



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THE LIFE  
OF  
SUSAN G. BOWLER.

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CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION—ONE TALENT, OR THE OBJECT  
OF THE PRESENT MEMOIR.

THE life of a person of ordinary talents, so little known out of the affectionate, but limited circle of household friends, and one whose life was not marked by any striking incidents or personal adventures, might seem, at first sight, hardly to offer sufficient material for even the partial biographer, or to have any good claim upon the time and attention of the reader. And yet, after all, the life of the quiet, unpretending, but consistent and devoted Christian, is, perhaps, the most useful to the general reader.

Examples of *every-day* religion, exhibited in all the humbler walks of life, by saints endowed with no extraordinary gifts, and exciting no marked attention, will affect more happily and profitably the hearts of the great mass of Christians, than the startling experiences, astonish-