

**A WHISPER TO A NEWLY  
MARRIED PAIR FROM A  
WIDOWED WIFE**

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A Whisper to a Newly Married Pair from a Widowed Wife by Clara L. Balfour

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EDITED BY CLARA L. BALFOUR.

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EIGHTH EDITION.

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## P R E F A C E.

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IN offering the following hints of advice, it must not be supposed that I speak merely to the newly-married pair; for in those moments of early love, a husband and wife are to each other generally all that could be wished. No! my admonitions extend to that sober period when novelty has lost its attraction, and the ardour of youthful affection has abated.

Previous to a perusal, a mutual promise should be made, that if the husband reads with attention the *Whisper* addressed to HIM, his wife will read, with equal attention, the *Whisper* addressed to HER. And each

should remember, that of all the pleasures that endear human life, none are more worthy the pursuit of a rational creature than those which flow from mutual returns of conjugal love. A happy marriage comprehends all the pleasures of friendship, all the enjoyments of sense and reason, and all the sweets of life. "To live without feeling or exciting sympathy," says Dr. Johnson; "to be fortunate without adding to the felicity of others, or afflicted without tasting the balm of pity—is a state more gloomy than solitude: it is not retreat, but exclusion, from mankind."



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## EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION.

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“A WIDOWED WIFE!” That announcement on the title-page of this little work naturally excites attention and demands explanation. When a person ventures on the task of advising others, in reference to particular duties and situations, we require to know what have been the experiences that authorize the assumption—how far the opportunities of observation have been so extended, or the discipline of life so peculiar, as to render the opinions valuable, and to sanction the self-imposed office of a mentor.

A memoir of the writer of the following pages, by her sister,\* informs us that she was a native of Ireland, of respectable Protestant family and education; that she grew up

\* “A Tribute of Affection to the Memory of a beloved Sister, contained in a Sketch of the Life of Mrs. B——.” Houlston & Stoneman.