

**SELECTIONS FROM  
"PENSÉES FUGITIVES".  
IN MEMORIAM**

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Selections from "Pensées Fugitives". In Memoriam by Helen Jane Gerard

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**HELEN JANE GERARD**

**SELECTIONS FROM  
"PENSÉES FUGITIVES".  
IN MEMORIAM**





HELEN JANE GERARD,  
AET. 65.

SELECTIONS  
FROM  
"PENSÉES FUGITIVES"  
OF THE LATE  
HELEN JANE GERARD.

NAT. 25TH JUNE, 1800.  
OBIIT 28TH APRIL, 1884.

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*In Memoriam.*

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1884.

280. f. 195.

## OBITUARY NOTICE

FROM

*"The Aberdeen Journal" of 29th April, 1884.*

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By the death of Miss Helen Jane Gerard, at No. 6 Chanonry, Old Aberdeen, yesterday, in her 84th year, there has passed away the last survivor of an eminent Aberdeen family. Her grandfather was the Rev. Dr. Alexander Gerard, who was appointed, in 1753, Professor of Natural Philosophy in Marischal College. He had the merit of introducing into the University an improved plan of theological education. In 1756, he gained the gold medal offered by the Philosophical Society of Edinburgh for the best "Essay on Taste". He belonged, says a writer, to a literary society at Aberdeen which numbered among its members Drs. Blackwell, Gregory, Reid, Campbell, and Beattie, men who not only raised the character of the University, but shed a lustre on the litera-

ture of their country. In 1760, Dr. Gerard was chosen Professor of Divinity in Marischal College, and in 1771 was preferred to the Theological Chair in King's College, where he remained till his death, in 1795. He was succeeded by his no less distinguished son, Dr. Gilbert Gerard, who, having acted as minister of the Scotch Church at Amsterdam for several years, returned to Scotland in 1791, and soon after obtained the Greek Chair at King's College, which he resigned for the professorship of Divinity on the death of his father. In 1811, he was appointed to the second charge of the Collegiate Church of Oldmachar; and died in 1815. Like his father, he made several important contributions to the theological literature of the country. His family, of whom the lady who died yesterday was one, gave evidence of great talent. One of his sons, Captain Alexander Gerard, of the Indian Army, proved himself a distinguished scientific traveller; and another, Dr. James Gilbert Gerard, of the Bengal Medical Establishment, accompanied his brother in many of his excursions and surveys among the Himalaya Mountains. Captain Gerard died at Aberdeen in December, 1839. Another son was for



many years minister of Stracathro in Forfarshire. Miss Helen Jane Gerard, who was one of three sisters, added to a fine literary taste great accomplishments as a musician, the harp being her favourite instrument.



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## PREFATORY NOTE.

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It has been suggested that it would be acceptable to many of the friends of the late Miss Helen Jane Gerard, were a selection printed from the short poetical pieces found among her MSS., and already more or less known to those who were on a footing of intimacy with her. Hence the present publication.

For the selection of the pieces the Editor is alone responsible. They have been taken for the most part from MSS. bearing the title of the present little volume; but some original pieces have been added from a book of "Morceaux Precieux"—(partly original,—partly collected);—and a few specimens (mostly early) have been given of her Translations.

The pieces in each branch have been arranged mostly in order of the dates marked upon the MSS.

Not a few of the later pieces were composed, and were written out by the Authoress with her own hand, after she had become totally blind.

ABERDEEN, *October, 1884.*