LITTLE GENTILE: A DESERET ROMANCE OF CAPTIVE AND EXILE IN THE "NEW JERUSALEM"

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Little Gentile: A Deseret Romance of Captive and Exile in the "New Jerusalem" by Emily H. Moore

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EMILY H. MOORE

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DESERET ROMANCE

OF

A

CAPTIVE AND EXILE

IN THE

"NEW JERUSALEM," MIGNONETTE.

"And Israel shall be a proverb and a by-word unto all people."

CHICAGO: FRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR BY THE RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE, 1879.

To Emma.

C.

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UNIV. OF. California

LITTLE GENTILE.

"Whoever thinks a faultless piece to see, Thinks what ne'er was, nor is, nor ne'er shall be." Wrote England's gifted son, poetic Pope, Who thus denied his sincerest hope. Thus man, ill-fated, in gravitation's chains, Ever strives to soar beyond his allotted range.

Readers, no rare exotic flowers to offer you have I; Only wild blooms gathered 'neath a sullen sky. I've roamed in distant woodlands, in sequestered dells, To pluck the drooping *ferns*, and tiny, sweet bluebells.

Brooklets murmured a rebuke, birds twitted me of stealing;

But, heeding not, I hurried on, my motive still concealing.

Univ. of California

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Little Gentile.

I have sprays of hawthorne, sweetbrier, and thistle, too, Roses, laurel and myrtle, and leaves of mistletoe, And a sheaf of *lilies*, leopard lilies, from the plain, Gaudy in their gold and garnet, sparkling with the rain. "All these I give my readers, trusting that each wit Will judge with the same spirit that the author writ." "Why mourn I not for thee

And with the southern clouds contend in tears."

"Come, Isaline, and hear from stricken heart A tale of grief that bids you soon depart From home and friends.

Fear not, I pray,

For every night there surely dawns a day; And we all must learn, either soon or late, To bear with fortitude the stern decrees of fate.

Come closer to me, child. Our mutual woe Makes doubly dear the treasure that most go; For, Isaline, the unhappy hour has come When you must leave the old ancestral home.

Little Gentile.

Our old estate in one brief day is gone, And we, my love, are penniless and alone.

Your cousin, Annabel, so prostrated by the shock, Is sick abed, and will not endure the mock Of pitying friends. *Poor Annabel* loves you so, It seems almost a sin to let you go. But 'there is a destiny that shapes our ends,' And Isaline will never want for friends; Tho' some prove false, like inconstant Ray, Who quite unexpectedly has gone away; But ere he went, the mercenary dastard wrote An adieu to Annabel—a meagre little note. You pity her, your eyes with tears are dim. Don't worry, child; she does n't care for him.

The avaricious coward, when he heard of our ill luck, Vamosed at once, and had not e'en the pluck To call on us. I bade her give him up forever, And with such worthleseness e'en acquaintanceship dissever.

Little Gentile.

You go, like Ruth of old, 'mong harvesters to glean, And triumph yet will bless our lovely Isaline. My dear, be patient. Will you not hear me through? The last hour, may be, your aunt can talk with you. How time does fly ! Your carriage comes at noon, And you scarcely seem to heed our separation soon.

My plan is this: I have a sincere friend In the far west, and you to her I'll send. An intruding guest with her you cannot be. She invites you, love; her letter here you see.

I this hour foresaw, and in silence did prepare A home for you, whilst battling with despair. *You* are better off to-day than Annabel and me. *Home* and *friends* await you, whil'st on life's sea We're doomed to drift, happy to find a little cot In some secluded place where we can be forgot.

Here is a purse prepared for present needs; And hear, too soon, the prancing feet of steeds!

Little Gentile.

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Your trunks are packed, and there is nought to do. Oh, Isaline, my child, unto yourself be true, Then false to none you cannot be.

Here is a ray

Of Heaven's own light; 'twill guide your way. And should other sorrows unto you be given, Brighter still will burn this Holy Lamp of Heaven."

No more she said; the *coup de main* was made. The long-planned *role* successfully had been played. Some crystal tears, expelled from laughing eyes, Corroborated with as many sobs and sighs.

The schemer watched the carriage roll away, And said, "'Tis done, and I've now no part to play, But be, my own dear self, mistress of Winsor House, Since I've fortunately caught the intruding mouse. The old estate is *here*, not *ours*. But, hush! The balmy zephyrs may have ears, and rush To tell this dark intrigue.

But she is gone, And poor Annabel and I are really alone.