

**THE YOUNG PASTOR'S WIFE.
MEMOIR OF ELIZABETH ANN
MOULTON: CONTAINING HER
BIOGRAPHY, DIARY, LETTERS,
ETC**

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The Young Pastor's Wife. Memoir of Elizabeth Ann Moulton: Containing Her Biography, Diary, Letters, Etc by Horace Moulton

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HORACE MOULTON

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"A woman that feareth the Lord she shall be praised. Give her
the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the
gates."—Prov. xxi, 30-31.



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P R E F A C E .

THE Biographer presents this brief memoir to the public with unaffected diffidence. This feeling is produced partly by distrusting his own abilities to prepare the work, and partly by a consciousness that it would become necessary to introduce an outline of the result of his own labors in connection with those of his subject, that the readers of the book might the better understand the extensiveness, as well as the results, of those pious and persevering efforts in which Mrs. M. was so zealously engaged for nineteen years. And it is hoped that the great revivals, in which both were engaged, are so presented, that the biographer will not be considered an egotist, sounding his own trumpet; for nothing could be farther from his design. Still it was thought best to present the book in its present form, hoping by this plan, it would be read with greater avidity, and be more extensively useful to all, into whose hands

it may fall, by presenting to the reader a greater variety. It is not pretended that the excellency of our subject consisted in the development of extraordinary powers of mind, or in a brilliancy of talents ; but it is believed that it did consist in deep and glowing piety, in uniform and persevering obedience to all the commands of God, and in constant personal efforts for the salvation of souls. These traits in her christian character will embalm her memory and make it precious, like that of the just. She was one among the number of the saints of the Most High, who in her early experience explored the "breadth, and length, and depth, and height, of the love of Christ," and to the honor of God's grace be it spoken, she was a living witness, for eighteen years, "that the blood of Christ cleanseth from all sin." During this period of time, she spread a knowledge of this full salvation as far as the providence of God, in her situation, permitted.

To that class of christians who are aspiring after all the mind of Christ, and are desiring to carry out all the great principles of religion, by bearing every cross, doing every duty, and enduring hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ, this little volume cannot fail of being very useful.

While rehearsing the vicissitudes, and the many painful conflicts which our subject endured in her brief career, her happy and triumphant death, my heart is animated to seek for higher spiritual attainments, that I, through grace, may overcome every foe, and share the same triumphant death, and enjoy the same glory, that I fully believe she now possesses in the Paradise of God. The narrative, so far as materials could be obtained, is given in the language of our subject. Her letters and diary are so arranged, and connected, with circumstances, incidents, and remarks of my own, as to give variety and interest to the whole, and assist the reflections of the reader.

I cannot close this preface without remarking, that the reasons why this memoir did not make its appearance before, were, the idea of publishing it was abandoned, after some considerable progress had been made in preparing it, on account of having learned that some of her most important letters and writings were destroyed; the scantiness of means, also, together with the "perplexities and difficulties" of collecting, and preparing the book for the press, almost dissuaded the author from his purpose. But,

after much prayer, and more mature reflection, being convinced that the biography would prove an auxiliary to the humble christian in his pathway through this vale of tears, the memoir is at length presented to the careful and prayerful perusal of the public generally.

It is not presumed, even, that the result of his labors is without its faults, but still it is hoped that the attentive reader will say, when its contents shall have been examined, "with all its faults I love it still." And now that this little volume is closed, it is commended to the "Divine Blessing," earnestly hoping and praying that it may subserve the interests of our common Christianity.

THE AUTHOR.

Newbury, January, 1845.

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