MEMOIR OF HANNAH BASSETT: WITH EXTRACTS FROM HER DIARY

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Memoir of Hannah Bassett: With Extracts from Her Diary by Hannah Bassett

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HANNAH BASSETT

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MEMOIR

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HANNAH BASSETT,

WITH EXTRACTS

FROM HER DIARY.

LYNN:
W. W. KELLOGG, PRINTER,
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1917

PREFACE.

When those are removed from us, who by their bright example and humble walk in the way of self-denial, have shed an influence around them for good, it is interesting and encouraging to survivors, to trace the path in which they were led, and to know something of the trials, exercises, and baptisms, through which it was their lot to pass. We believe, therefore, that no apology will be needed in offering this small volume concerning our dear departed one, to the perusal of those whom she loved.

It was not known to any of her nearest connections, until after her decease, that she kept any Diary; and such was her modest and retiring disposition, it would doubtless have been very far from her wish, that it should be made public. Yet many of her friends having expressed a desire to have access thereto, it is apprehended that it

may be best, that a portion of its contents should be made known. With this view, and with a hope that it may tend to stimulate the humble christian traveler to "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus," the following has been prepared for circulation among her friends.

LYNE, 4th mo., 1860.

MEMOIR.

Hannah Bassett was the daughter of Isaac and Ruth Bassett, of Lynn, Mass., and was born on the 10th day of 10th month, 1815.

From memoranda which she has left, and from letters written to her friends, and in view of the solidity of her deportment, it is evident that she was in early life, made acquainted with the tendering visitations of Divine Love, and was convinced of the truth of the declaration, that "except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God,"—and it is believed she was favored to experience that change of heart which she felt to be necessary to prepare her for an inheritance among the sanctified.

She was very conscientious in all her movements, and her concern to walk in the fear of the 1* Lord and to become entirely dedicated to His will was increasingly manifest as she advanced in years. It may truly be said of her, that she was a dutiful and obedient child and an affectionate sister; and being naturally of a social and cheerful disposition and modest and amiable in her manners, she was very much beloved in the circle in which she moved.

Ministers of the gospel and other valued Friends being frequently guests at her father's house, she was particularly interested in their company, and took great pleasure in administering to their comforts and wants. The company and counsel of these Friends, and the care and concern of her parents to train up their children in the way they should go, were, it is believed, blessed to her.

Many were the baptisms through which she was led, and many the trials and conflicts which awaited her, the enemy often tempting her to give way to discouragement, and, as we apprehend, insinuating to her mind, that notwithstanding she had been in good measure favored to

yield herself up to her Heavenly Father, yet, in consequence of unfaithfulness and of short-comings, her condition was beyond hope. But He who regardeth the upright in heart, was near, to preserve her from giving way to despondency, and when the enemy came in as a flood, she was, through mercy, strengthened to raise up a standard against him.

Her constitution was very feeble and delicate, and for many years she was much of an invalid, it being often the case that she was confined to the house and to her chamber by illness. But there is cause to believe that these afflictions tended to wean her from the world, and strengthened her to set her affections upon things above—those things which make for peace.

The writings which she left are confined chiefly to subjects of a religious character, the exercises of her mind occupying the most prominent place therein. Yet it should not hence be inferred that she did not appreciate the beneficence of her Heavenly Father, as manifest in all the works of His hand. She much enjoyed cheerful society,