

**"DEAR OLD
GEORGETOWN," OR
MEMOIRS OF MRS.
MARTHA ELIZABETH SMITH**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9781760573393

"Dear old Georgetown," or Memoirs of Mrs. Martha Elizabeth Smith by N. M. Ragland

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N. M. RAGLAND

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MARTHA ELIZABETH SMITH**

"DEAR OLD GEORGETOWN"

OR

Memoirs
of
Mrs. Martha Elizabeth Smith



BY
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Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Press of
Christian Board of Publication
St. Louis, Mo.

PREFATORY NOTE

THIS memorial to Mrs. Martha Elizabeth Smith was written at the request and with the help of her sister, Mrs. Sarah E. Cotton. The preparation of the little volume was a labor of love. The writer, while pastor of the church in Sedalia, of which General Smith and his daughters were members, was often in their home, and came to know and to love them as sincere and devoted friends. He was also with the family during the last sickness and the death of General Smith, and on the occasion of the funeral made the address. These incidents are recited that the reader may understand that the author has spoken out of the inspiration of sacred memories which have grown brighter and sweeter with the changing years.

June, 1915



MRS. MARTHA E. SMITH

TO MY SISTER

(From an old album of my girlhood.)

As gazing on thy unsullied heart
I'd pause before I rashly traced
A prayer, a hope, a wish or thought
Where it could never be erased.
So now I falter ere I stain
This leaf of purest white,
So thrillingly intense the strain
My heart would here indite.

Yes, sister mine, thy sunny smile
From memory's twilight dawn
Has beamed upon the shadowy aisle
Through which my path hath worn.
To brighten every joy I knew,
To gild each passing cloud,
With heart forever warm and true
And spirit justly proud.

Yet, when I'd strike this harp unskilled
To speak the ever murmuring love
Which for aye! its cords have thrilled,
Those cords refuse to move;
And trembling with the weight intense
Of feeling's fervid glow
Sends up its prayer for God to bless,
What can the heart do more?

Georgetown, November 29, 1853.

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