



### LIGHTS AND SHADES OF LIFE.

SOME of the bright spots in life are derived from unexpected sources. We meet in our intercourse with society some who's sentiments agree with our own, and a magnetic influence seems to be exercised over corresponding ideas; and we find great pleasure and benefit from conversing with them. Many good traits in character are lost from not being appreciated; many a bright gem sparkles for a moment and is lost to view. If by kindness we would assist in bringing out the nobler sentiments of human nature, and not by carelessness or discouragement put it down, our lights would shine on the pathway of many a darkened life.

To the young this is of great importance; the journey of life is before them, and at the best, thorns are often thickly strewn therein. But to these who have passed the summer of life it matters not so much, for they have found that to tread the path of duty is to pass through an ordeal of conflicts; and as the shades thicken, a clear head, a firm step, and a true heart is required to carry them safely through. If, like the soldier into who's hands the colors of his regiment is entrusted, nobly guards them at the risk of life and brings them off the field: so if our duty is plain, faithfully let us perform it, leaving the result with an All-Wise Creator.

A. J. R.