

“ We see the throng of worshippers departing, after having made their sacrificial offerings and paid their vows, or delivered up their accustomed amount of prayer. Among all these, none interest us so much, nor excite our sympathies so strongly, as the ‘poor widow.’ We are anxious to penetrate into her history. How long has she been a widow, and by what circumstance did she become so? Is she still in the Spring-time of life, like Ruth; or has she, like Naomi, ‘no longer any hope?’ Have length of days and many sorrows made her weary of the world and anxious to ‘flee away and be at rest?’ How came she to be so poor that her whole wealth consisted of the pittance with which she had just parted; and how will she sustain life in the future?

“ In answer to the latter suggestion, we can only surmise that she has heard from the great Master the injunction, ‘Take no heed for the morrow,’ and has entire faith that he who provides the young ravens with food, and does not suffer a sparrow to fall unnoticed, will not let her want. We admire such reliance upon the Eternal Providence, and her gift is magnified in our estimation thereby, beyond any which kings or potentates e’er gave. We are anxious to trace her course thereafter. Did she have a home to return to, and kind