

We stayed three or four days at Bath, during which Aunt Beauchamp's spirits revived, and also her colour, and her interest in cards, "For, after all," she observed to mother, "we have our duties to our children, and to society, and there is no religion, at least for us Protestants, in making ourselves scare-crows."

But on the morning we went away, when we went to her bedside to wish her good-bye, she said to mother:—

"My dear Sister Trevelyan, if ever I should be ill, for we are mortal, and my nerves have been so terribly shaken, promise me that you will come and see me. For I am sure you would do me more good than any one."

And so we reached home again, and dear mother thinks,—as Evelyn says no doubt the sun does,—that this is a very warm and genial world.

There was a strange tenderness in Aunt Henderson's manner as she took leave of mother and me; and as we sat in the coach at Hackney, waiting for the horses to start, she came forward again and took mother's hand with a lingering eagerness, as if she had some special last words to say. Yet after all she said nothing, she only murmured, "God bless you both."

And when I glanced back at Cousin Evelyn when we left Bath, expecting one more of her bright looks, she was gazing at mother with a strange wistfulness, and then suddenly she burst into a flood of tears, and turned away.

Can mother, and father, and I have been deceiving ourselves? She says she feels better and stronger, and so often on the journey she used to plan how we would resume all our old habits, and she would rise early again. "There is such life," she said, "in the morning air at home; and then, Kitty, we will read the lessons for the day always together. Perhaps I have not sought the especial blessing promised to the '*two or three gathered together*' as I ought. And you shall read me sometimes one of those hymns of Dr. Watts or of Mr. Charles Wesley. I am an old-fashioned old woman, and I shall never be able to understand why people cannot be satisfied with the Bible and the Prayer-Book, nor how they can speak of their inmost feelings