

CHAPTER IV.

THERE are three ways in which we may get to know a human soul—love, personal converse, and correspondence. Love opens the door of the heart, and puts the eyes on the watch to catch what is good and noble, and even the symptoms of wrong, which give us pain, in the beloved one. Personal converse enables us to trace the subtle changes to which the character is subject, and to note the harmony of proportions, and general tone which distinguish it. Correspondence gives us an insight into the settled habits of thought, when the mind plays freely without check or stimulus from contact with another mind. We cannot truly be said to know anyone until in addition to our personal converse, we have had experience of him in a long course of letter writing. I have often been struck by the startling difference between the image conceived in my mind of one whom I had known only by meeting him, and the