

## INTRODUCTION.

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The writing of those "Thoughts and Gleanings" has enabled me to endure hour after hour of severe suffering and weariness in the still night watches, when the world around me seemed hushed in slumber, and no sound disturbed the almost painful stillness between midnight and early dawn.

If one soul similarly situated shall gain one helpful, comforting thought from my experience, while passing through the deep waters of physical and mental suffering, I shall not have suffered in vain, neither shall I have written in vain.

I desire to express my grateful thanks for the many kindnesses of my numerous friends and acquaintances during my long continued illness.

May Heaven's choicest blessings rest upon those dear ones, and may they be enriched with all spiritual and temporal blessings.

May God's blessing rest with Divine power in fullness of His love upon this little book, and may He in Spirit and in truth, go forth with each and every copy.

" Knowledge by suffering entereth,  
And life is perfected by death."

*Mrs. Browning.*

" Patience doth conquer by out-suffering all."

—*Peele.*

M. P. A.