

AUTHOR'S OBITUARY



The late Annie Park Smith was the third child of Peter and Elizabeth Park. She was born at Uley, in Gloucestershire, England, on the 7th of March, 1856. Her father died some years ago but her mother is still living, enjoying that sweet peace and blessed hope which naturally closes a long life of loving service of her God. The sweet lovable disposition of the author of this little book made her a general favorite wherever she was known. She was the first child of the family to gladden her mother's heart by giving herself to God. This important event occurred when she was about eleven years of age. One evening she requested permission to remain with her mother after the other children had retired, that she might have a quiet talk with her. The privilege being granted, as soon as they were alone and the house quiet, she said, "Mother, tell me about Jesus!" With a heart full of gladness and tears of joy running down her cheeks, the godly mother pointed her child to the Lamb of God. That night Annie accepted Christ and became a child of God. In a few weeks she united with the Primitive Methodist Church and through life continued steadfast in the faith. When only thirteen years of age she became a teacher in the Sunday School and from that time till her death she ever did what she could for her Savior. When about eighteen years of age she first met her future husband, J. W. Smith. Their acquaintance soon developed into an engagement for marriage. During the term of engagement her betrothed crossed the Atlantic, spending nearly two years in Canada and the United States. Other young men sought to win her hand and heart. But they found her faithful to her absent lover. Her mother, to whom she went for counsel, advised her to await his return, because she was sure he would be true to his troth and make her a good husband. Time proved the wisdom of this course. When twenty years of age they were married and for over twenty-six years they lived in each other's love in a most happy home. A long illness made it necessary to seek a change of climate and Mr. Smith brought his invalid wife to Hamilton, Canada. Here, hoping against hope, he watched over her with most assiduous care and anxious love. After some months, by the blessing of God, she began to recover and in due time regained her health. With great joy and proud