

THE CANADIAN MAGAZINE.

SEPTEMBER, 1871.

[REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1868.]

H A N N A H.

A Novel.

By MRS. CRAIK, (Miss McLOCK), Author of "JOHN HALIFAX, GENTLEMAN."

CHAPTER V.

Miss Thelluson had always been lamentably deficient in the quality which is called "respect of persons." She tended her servant half the night through, as carefully as if poor Grace had been her personal friend, and lady born. There was, indeed, much of the lady about the girl, which was Hannah's great comfort in having her as nurse—a refinement of manner and feeling, and a fine sense of honour, not always found in her class. For since she had been mistress of a large house, and many servants, Miss Thelluson had discovered to her grief that, in these days, the moral standard of kitchen and parlour was not always the same. Still, in her nurse she had always comfort; and Grace, probably on account of this difference, or from other reasons—now patent enough—had seemed to dislike mixing much with the other servants. Her mistress could trust her thoroughly. She was, indeed, quite a personal friend—as every faithful servant ought to be.

When the poor girl came to herself, she poured her whole sad story into her mistress's patient ear.

"I had no idea I was doing wrong—no, that I hadn't!" moaned she. "Two or three in our village had married their sister's husband. What can a poor working-man do when he is left with a lot of children, but get their aunt to come and look after them? And then, if she's young, or indeed anyhow, people are sure to begin talking. Isn't it better to stop their wicked tongues by marrying her at once, and