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TALES, ESSAYS, AND REVIEWS.

THE BEVERLEYS:

A LIFE SKETCH.

BY MRS. J. V. NOEL

CHAPTER II

After Morning Service the family again met at luncheon.

"How was it you did not come to St. Leonard's, Marion?" asked Claude, as he placed himself beside me at table.

"She was not deemed presentable," broke in aunt Judith, before I could frame a reply. "Not in works of Godliness, but in the garb of fashion must those be arrayed who are permitted to worship with the exclusive congregation of St. Leonard's," she added with affected solemnity.

"Aunt, you are too severe; there are poor people among us," said the Rev. Claude. indignantly.

"Oh! you mean the paupers and charity-children in the aisles those poor outcasts belonging to the Fold, whose presence in their midst the rich sheep barely tolerate."

The girls tittered at this remark, at which Claude himself could not help smiling.

"I wonder, with all your High Church notions, you do not introduce the free-pew system," resumed aunt Judith.

"The congregation object to it. We could never carry it at St. Leonard's. The rector as well as myself would willingly follow the example of ritualistic churches, if we dared."

"I would never submit to it," observed aunt Beverley, haughtily.-