

"HE CARETH FOR YOU."

If I could only surely know
That all these things that tire me so
Were noticed by my Lord.
The pang that cuts me like a knife,
The lesser pains of daily life,
The noise, the weariness, the strife,
What peace it would afford!

I wonder if He really shares
In all my little human cares,
This mighty King of Kings,
If He who guides each blazing star
Through realms of boundless space afar,
Without confusion, sound or jar,
Stoops to these petty things.

It seems to me, if sure of this,
Blent with each ill would come such bliss,
That I might covet pain,
And deem whatever brought to me
The loving thought of Deity,
And sense of Christ's deep sympathy,
No loss, but richest gain.

Dear Lord, my heart hath not a doubt
That Thou dost compass me about
With sympathy Divine.
The love for me once crucified
Is not a love to leave my side,
But waiteth ever to divide
Each smallest care of mine.

—Selected.

DIARY OF A POOR YOUNG LADY.

(From the German of MARIE NATHUSIUS.)

[Translated for the Church Guardian.]

A TALE FOR YOUNG GIRLS.

(Continued.)

October 5th.

We had to leave at five to catch the train. The rain was still falling heavily. I stepped to aunt's bedside to say good-bye. Jacob waited in the ante-room, Trichen stood with us; we all wept. "Forgive me all the pain that I have caused you, take my thanks for all your work and care for me." What pain there is in parting from those we love! I shall be lonely, they will be lonely. "The life will be gone out of our life, dear Fraulein, when you are gone," said Jacob. And how will it be with me? I lay back in a corner of the carriage, and not having slept through the night I fell asleep. When we drove through a swollen wood stream I awoke, and then I heard the rain rushing through the leaves. My limbs and heart were cold. As the day was breaking we left the hills and woodland, and got into the level grain-country. It had stopped raining. The villages looked dreary, nothing but houses without trees, and to-day everything a grey colour. In one of these villages was our station, where we left the carriage. In the waiting-room we only found a few postillions and peasants. Jacob watched me as a hen does her chicken, and ordered tea for me, but I only took a cup, and left him the rest. Some time afterwards carriages drove up, and a number of gentlemen came in. They seemed to be staring at us and whispered together. I felt frightened. Jacob said: "They think it is one of the Princesses travelling incognito; it does not happen every day." I had to laugh. But when the marvellous engine was rushing away with me, and carrying me away in such dreadful haste from Jacob and from all I loved in the world, I felt as if my heart would break. But I controlled myself, I would not give way. I spoke to a lady and inquired about the stations, so that I might not miss the right one. The staring and whispering went on; some people who walked up and down the platforms when we stopped always looked curiously or laughingly into the windows. I reflected what could be so remarkable about me, for as even the good woman opposite looked shyly at me I could not doubt that I was the object of attention. It might possibly be my blue plaid dress, Trichen has lengthened it with a piece of black satin, and the sleeves too, but it was covered with my grey shawl; it could only be the bonnet! I was very sorry that Trichen had put that feather on it, but she had covered a shabby place with it. I had to get out at a solitary inn. I wanted to conquer my timidity. I had my trunks and parcels handed out; but when the porter

himself seemed to be smiling at me I looked very dignified, as aunt had advised me. That helped me. The man even carried my travelling-bag into the room. No carriage had come yet, the train rushed away. I was utterly alone in the cold inn-room, and looked out into the grey, desolate, rainy country. My heart swelled, my lips trembled, but with our Lord's help I overcame it.

"Alone, and yet not quite alone."

Only patience, He is here too in the strange, dreary world, He has hearts here too in which He dwells, He will draw hearts to me if I can trust Him; oh, yes, He will do it all, only patience. I hesitated whether I should order coffee, it was past noon, but I was afraid of the expense, and ate my bread and butter. Aunt had imagined that I should be received here ceremoniously, that I should have had refreshment provided for me, and then been taken on my journey. I thought so too. It was the first disappointment, I fear more will follow.

Some time afterwards there came a shabby, splashed carriage, with horses and a coachman to match. I could hardly believe that it belonged to Frau von Schlichten, but so it was.

(To be continued.)

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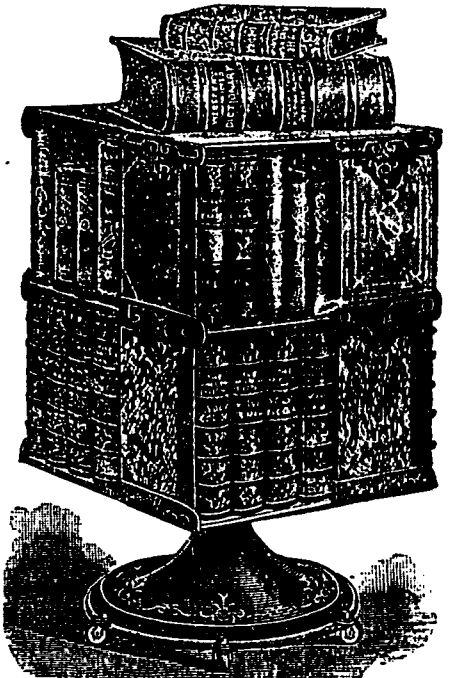
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