

smoothing down our hair as it used to do every night ; but it could not be, she had entered into her rest ; and for us, her beloved ones, the days of darkness were come. Darkness came on apace ; with what different aspects this darkness comes, and how differently do we greet his coming. In happy cheerful homes he is welcomed with light and with song, the bright coal fire is stirred, crimson curtains are drawn snugly round, and children's bright faces look sweeter and brighter for the surrounding gloom. But to us, poor lonely children, in that cold large room, he came step by step, slowly and surely, enlarging each object as he enveloped it in his misty shroud, and making our hearts beat with a dread of we knew not what.

The rain which had fallen without intermission during the day, now increased almost to a tempest, while the wind passed by with a low moaning wail, as if a sick spirit were borne on its blast, and ever returning to raise the branches of the surrounding birch trees and dash them with a dull flapping noise on the dripping windows, the very elements had conspired to show us more forcibly our loneliness and desolation.

“ We will always love each other, Violet.”

I believe there are whispers of God to the soul ; I do not think that the Holy Ghost is shown forth to us in the Bible merely to make up the number three in the Godhead ; I believe there is a divine, penetrating life power, which comes from the Eternal Father upon us ; I believe that our sense of truth, our thoughts, and our experience in this world, are influenced by the immediate touch of the mind of God upon our mind : and so it was that in the power of the Spirit these words passed from Willie's lips into my heart, kindling there a sense of perfect safety and protection, in the abiding love of my young brother, boy as he was.