

# CHURCHMAN'S MAGAZINE

AND

## MONTHLY REVIEW.

---

---

VOL. I.]

MARCH, 1870.

[ No. 9.

---

---

TALES, ESSAYS, AND REVIEWS.

---

### THE BEVERLEYS:

A LIFE SKETCH.

BY MRS. J. V. NOEL.

---

#### CHAPTER I.

A visit to the city! What pleasure in anticipation filled my mind, as I sat down to write an acceptance to the kind invitation of Mrs. Beverley—my mother's half-sister—to spend some weeks with her in London! I had lived secluded from the world in a remote part of England, and this visit to the Metropolis was very delightful, as it would break in upon the monotony of my dull retired life. The journey by rail was novel and alarming; it was my first experience of such rapid travelling; however, I arrived safely in Hyde Park Square, and was received with much kindness by my aunt and cousins.

Aunt Beverley was still a fine-looking woman, though the mother of a grown-up family; but her experiences of life had been pleasant. Blessed with a kind husband and ample means, she had passed smoothly over the sea of life, without as yet experiencing those storms which wreck the happiness of so many. She had two daughters and one son—the latter a clergyman lately ordained and appointed assistant minister to the fashionable Church of St. Leonard's, which the family attended. He was a tall, handsome young man, possessing considerable talents, but priding himself, it seemed to me, not a little on his intellectual superiority. Such was my first impressions of Claude Beverley. Afterwards I learned to esteem him highly.

The Misses Beverley were pretty stylish-looking girls, with an