

and their successes, their multitudinous cares and the bustle and strife and worry, to the feet of the Master. And all were for the nonce clothed in some spiritual garment, that had nothing to do with their outer raiment, some fair and white, some richly sown with gems, or dull and meagre, seamed and frayed.

Those who knelt saw presently a touching sight. It was a blind woman whose clothing might have been squalid and even ragged, but for its neatness and the evidence of careful mending. By the aid of a very little child, she made her way to the altar rail, where tapers, the offerings of the faithful, were blazing on stands, and feeling with a hand that was deft and sure of touch, though wrinkled with age, she chose from the box a taper of the largest size, and having placed it securely in position proceeded to light it. Those who did not know her, trembled lest some accident should occur, but those who had seen her before felt quite reassured. The hand was sure and steady and the glowing faith and ardor of the soul gave spiritual sight to the eyes long closed to the things of earth. Her story brief and touching was well known to almost every member of that congregation and may be resumed somewhat as follows :

The woman who was deprived of her sight, when comparatively young, by an accident, had been left a widow and had to support her three little ones as best she could, by the weaving of straw baskets and broad country hats, an art which she had learned in her native village, somewhere in the Province of Quebec, and to which she added the sale of a certain kind of little cakes which were very much appreciated by her customers. She had always been devout and bringing up her children in the love and fear of God, she enjoyed since her husband's death, a comparative calm and peace, for her marriage had been an unhappy one and she had borne many trials with a truly Christian faith and resignation.

One night she had gone to bed very tired and slept unusually sound. Near her was her youngest child, three years old, and they occupied a little room on the ground floor, while above, up a narrow and crooked pair of stairs, slept the other two children, who were respectively five