

which the taking of lighter work necessitated, made a serious inroad upon my vital energy. This was followed by a painful year, relieved, so far as human effort could minister, by the earnest sympathy and hearty co-operation of a loyal people, who asked of me the direction of the forces and only such service as my strength would permit me to render. They came so near to me in their willingness to relieve me of any service which they could perform that I have ever since borne them in a loving remembrance. Even the little boys and girls vied with each other in rendering some service which assured me of the genuine sympathy of the home and that my affliction was properly talked over when I was not present. Although that year's cloud was heavy, it had its silver lining, and when the year closed it was found to be one of progress with a very marked change of sentiment to that which characterized its opening. I verily believe