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MRS. J. C. YULE.

Clarendon, Orleans Co., New York, was the birth place of Pamela S. Vining, and at Ellicottville, Cattaraugus Co., her early life was spent. To the latter place belong chiefly the influences that first marked her career. There were many things in connection with her early life which were not appreciated perhaps as the best preparation for the work of after years but whose discipline nevertheless must have been needful. Farm life, for example, gave the monotony that was particularly chafing to a high spirited girl, and routine duties which were decidedly among the disagreeables. There were meagre advantages too in the matters of society and education. The district school, it is true, could be attended, but it was closed during a great part of the year. Its teachers were wretchedly incompetent and its appliances, material and mental, were the most primitive and unpromising. If it had any influence at all upon the splendid culture that was afterwards developed, it was in the direction of awakening keener relish for real advantages when these did appear. The farm life at Ellicottville was not without advantages, however, notwithstanding what has been said. The mother influence was there, and for fourteen years the child received all that a well stored mind and passionate love could give. Perhaps the monotony of duties and the absence of other society made the