

example of Christian perfection. I could not do so great injustice to her own convictions. But since her death, I have looked back over the whole of my long acquaintance with her, in almost every variety of circumstance, to see if I could recollect an instance in which she spoke of any individual in such a way as to indicate feelings not perfectly Christian, or if I could discover any lurkings of inordinate worldly ambition, or traces of sinful pride, or envy, or undue excitement, or disposition to shrink from duty, or of unwillingness to make any sacrifices which God demanded; and I confess that the tablet of memory furnishes not a single example. What I considered errors of judgment I can indeed remember, but not any moral obliquity in feeling or action. They doubtless existed; but it needed nicer moral vision than I possess to discover them.

I ought to add, that this eminence of Christian character was founded upon a clear apprehension of biblical principles. She thoroughly understood and cordially embraced the doctrines of the Puritans, just as they lie in their massive strength in the Bible—not as they often come forth, alloyed and weakened, from the moulds of a self-confident philosophy. To study these truths was her delight. To explain them to her pupils was one of her most successful efforts as a teacher. Would that I could present on canvas the picture of Miss Lyon, as it lies in my memory, when she was engaged on the Sabbath in the study of Christian truth. I have frequently seen individuals in the somnambulic and mesmeric state, but none of them apparently more unconscious to external scenes than she was when thus absorbed in the contemplation of divine truth. Would that she had left us some delineation of her views and feelings in these biblical trances, and still more of those exercises of soul in her nearer approaches to God,