



WOMEN WHO HAVE WORKED AND WON.

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THE LIFE-STORY

OF

MRS. SPURGEON, MRS. BOOTH-TUCKER,
F. R. HAVERGAL, AND RAMABAI

BY

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'FOUR NOBLE WOMEN,' 'NOBLE WORK BY NOBLE WOMEN'

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PREFACE.

[N bringing before our readers the sketches of *Women who have Worked and Won* contained in the following pages, we could scarcely, even had that been our object, have gathered together a group of lives more diverse as to worldly circumstance. The career of Mrs. Booth-Tucker, that Amazon of the Holy War, who travelled half over the world, speaking to crowded audiences, withstanding hostility, and perpetually in the blaze of publicity, affords the greatest possible contrast to that of Mr. Spurgeon's invalid wife, for whom the violet-like seclusion of an unknown girlhood was but exchanged, with a brief interval, for the life-long hermitage of a sick-room. While Frances Havergal, the darling of a refined Christian home, where love that was almost adoration and devout piety shed their combined rays around her from the first to the last hours of her life, seems at the opposite social pole from Ramabai, the heathen-born, the despised widow of India.

Yet the same Spirit was moving in them all. Conscious that the union of the human soul with its Divine Source is the one condition of a happy, useful life, each made it her chief aim to win others to this blessedness. Their methods differed as widely as their characters and surroundings. Probably each would, in some minor details, have failed to approve of the others, but in the higher plane they were

all one. In fields of usefulness so diverse, all were alike loyal followers of Jesus Christ, and lived

“ . . . through Him
A new, a noble life,
A life in spirit with their Lord,
Above earth's party-strife.”

United also were they in their belief in, and experiences of, the power of prayer. Nothing strikes the reader, in studying one after another of these four lives, more than the similarity of their testimony to the readiness of a loving Father to hear and answer whenever His child calls to Him. Every one of these good women could record instances, commonly called marvellous, of unmistakable answers to individual, and often minutely personal petitions. It was mainly this happy assurance of Divine help constantly within reach of the feeblest, that inspired them to be women who worked, and this perpetual drawing upon strength mightier than their own that at last crowned them, despite the difficulties that beset us all, as women who have won.

JENNIE CHAPPELL.

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