

Mrs. Elizabeth Travers Lewis

... and the Brecknock Family.



IT IS the object of this sketch to call to our affectionate remembrance the character and bearing, the presence, as far as may be, of a Virginia gentlewoman of the old *regime*, who was one of ourselves, whose life, lived among those we knew, helped to make them what they were, and what we so greatly loved. It is no small thing so to have lived that, after nearly a century has shut us away from the sight of the world, descendants or kinsfolk who never saw us should turn with loving reverence to look upon our life-work, should gratefully acknowledge its worth to themselves, and draw from it lessons of faithfulness to those whom it is their office to influence, and the hope that years yet to come shall show the fruit of their labors, when they, too, shall seem, but only *seem*, to have passed away. Such a life was that of Elizabeth Travers Daniel, of Crow's Nest, in Stafford county, afterwards the wife of Dr. Richmond Lewis, of Brecknock. Except her impress on the character of the only one of her children who long survived her, only some old letters, only some remembrances of her, traits handed down by those who knew her, only this remains; and yet such an impression of depth of nature, unflinching integrity, devotion to duty, of all that was lofty and dignified, reaches us, that we love to dwell on her