

### An Unsolved Mystery.

Among the Danvers romances there is one of especial pathos, and of still unsolved mystery. In the midsummer of 1788 there arrived at the Bell Tavern, in Danvers, a woman of distinguished appearance, no longer young, and somewhat worn, but still with remarkable beauty. She gave the name of Mrs. Walker, and wished to wait there for her husband's arrival. Weeks passed on, but the husband did not come. In July the lady gave birth to a dead child, and two weeks later she died and was buried in the Danvers' graveyard. Only after her death did her friends, who were seeking her, learn of her sad fate; a stone bearing the name Eliza Wharton was erected over her grave, and year after year a lady and gentleman visited the grave, but came no one knew whence, gave no name, and went no one knew whither. But in Hartford and New Haven, where she had been a reigning belle and the idol of society for many years, her fate was known, and scandal was busy with her name, although she herself had protested with her last breath that she was married, but would not reveal the name of her husband. Her grave became a place of pilgrimage; relic hunters chipped away the stone, and lovers plighted their troth amid the whispering of the unmown grass.

Some years after the lady's death, Mrs. Hannah Foster published a novel, called "Eliza Wharton, or the Coquette," professing to give the true story of this romantic and tragic mystery. This novel had considerable popularity, and is probably still to be found in many old New England libraries. A copy of it fell in the way of Mrs. Dall, when she was a child, and from that time Eliza Wharton haunted her imagination, and filled her at intervals with a desire to know her true story. Within the last two years a series of extraordinary coincidences, aided by industrious genealogical research, have placed in Mrs. Dall's hands facts about Eliza Wharton never before published. These facts she has woven into a story of intense interest and almost unequalled romance; which is also a vindication and eulogy on its subject. Eliza Wharton was a descendant of the English Stanleys, and a granddaughter of Jonathan Edwards. She was a relative of Charlotte Stanley, the unhappy heroine of the novel called *Charlotte Temple*, and came of a race predestined to fascinate and to suffer. Her first accepted lover according to the traditions Mrs. Dall has revived, was a Boston clergyman who died; her second, who treated her shamefully, was also a New England clergyman of wide renown; her last was the unmanned husband who left her to die alone. Mrs. Dall has enriched this narrative with genealogical and personal records of the Stanleys and the New England families related to them; and has also related with vivid picturesqueness the occurrences at the recent scientific associations bearing upon the strange and exciting coincidences which revealed so much to her,—even bringing to her a packet of Eliza Wharton's own letters to Joel Barlow, who was one of her intimate and admiring friends.

Mrs. Dall does not profess to solve the mystery of the concealed marriage; but she tells a great deal and leaves something to be inferred. The book is published by subscription, but can be obtained on application to the printers, Jo'n Wilson & Son, Cambridge. The title of the book is "*The Romance of the Association; or, The Last Glimpse of Charlotte Temple and Eliza Wharton; a curiosity of literature and life.*"—*Boston Daily Advertiser*.