WAR WITH THE SAINTS: COUNT RAYMOND OF TOULOUSE, AND THE CRUSADE AGAINST THE ALBIGENSES UNDER POPE INNOCENT III

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War with the Saints: Count Raymond of Toulouse, and the Crusade Against the Albigenses Under Pope Innocent III by Charlotte Elizabeth

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CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH

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AND THE

CRUSAD,E

AGAINST THE ALBIGENSES

UNDER

POPE INNOCENT III.

RY.
CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH.

Milustrateb Bolifon,

NEW YORK; DODD, MEAD & COMPANY, 751 BROADWAY,

PREFACE.

The present volume is the last work which proteeded from the pen of Charlotte Elizabeth. It occupied much of her time and thoughts during the last eighteen months of her life; and the story and her earthly existence came to a close almost at the same moment.

The work presents a singular instance, also, of a literary labor persevered in, and carried to a completion, under circumstances of the most painful character. Shortly after she had commenced this narrative, an ailment which ultimately proved to be cancer, showed itself, which terminated her life on the 12th of July, 1846. Her mental vigor, however, was scarcely diminished by it, even up to the very close of her days. In her Personal Recollections, the methods she had recourse to, during her illness, are thus described:

"She continued to conduct her Magazine; and to effect the mechanical operation of writing, she inwhich was immediately constructed by a clever carpenter. It consisted of two rollers on a frame; on the
lower one many yards of paper were rolled, and a.
fast as she filled a page, writing with the frame resting on her knees, a turn of a small winch wound off
the manuscript to the upper roller, and brought up
a crean surface of paper. In this manner she would
write papers for the press, and letters to friends,
measuring three, or four, or six yards in length.
Dictation was very difficult to her; no pen but her
own could follow her thoughts with sufficient rapidity, nor did she resort to this mode of writing, until absolutely compelled to it, during the two last
months of her life."

It was by the help of this machinery, that the present volume was written. But these labors, performed at such a sacrifice of physical comfort, to which her enthusiastic soul, devoted to the cause of Truth, impelled her, are at an end. For the closing hours of one whose remarkable character invested even ordinary seenes with such absorbing interest, the reader is referred to her recently published memoir, which closes with this paragraph:—

"She also directed that no stone should be laid over her; but that her resting-place should be marked by a simple headstone, dictating the epi taph, which, with the addition of the date, has been thus inscribed:

HERE

LIE THE MORTAL REMAINS

OF

CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH,

THE

BELOVED WIFE

OF

LEWIS HYPOLYTUS JOSEPH TONNA.

WHO

DIED ON THE 12th OF JULY,

MIDCCCXI,V'.

LOOKING UNTO JESUS.

CONTENTS.

	C	IAP'	TER	I.				120
THE CHURCH OF (HRIST	IN T	IE TY	VELF	CH CE	STURY	3	1
	CI	IAP	FER	II,				
ANTICHRIST	•	•	•	•	•	Ħ		45
	CF	IAPT	ER	ш.				
THE CRUSADERS	:22				*:		5	9.
	CF	IAPI	ER	ıv.				
THE CAVERS	•	•	•	•	50	٠		151
*	Cl	HAP.	FER	v.				
THE LADY OF LA	VAUR			•		•	٠	179
	CI	IAPT	CER	VI.				
THE WEARING O	UT		Ç.		2		•	219
	CH	APT	ER	VII.				
conclusion .	•	•	٠		•	•	•	259
AFFENDIX .		•						302
	1	50	100				2.5	