

*A Poem For The Hon. Cynthia A. "Mother" Pratt, M. P.
First Female Deputy Prime Minister
Of The Commonwealth Of The Bahamas
Entitled, "A Familiar Walk"
Written By Mr. Mario A. Newry Jr.
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*I took a Familiar Walk today...
A walk that made me reflect upon
The quote by William Penn. (1644-1718).
"I expect to pass through life but once.
If therefore, there be any kindness I can show,
Or any good thing I can do to any fellow being,
Let me do it now, and not defer or neglect it,
As I shall not pass this way again".
These words came alive in the interview
That I had with the First Female Deputy Prime Minister
Of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.
On the program, "A Familiar Walk".*

*I took a Familiar Walk today...
A walk that reminded me of my Darling mother,
The late Ruth Mae Newry... During this walk,
I reflected upon the fact that the Hon. Cynthia Pratt,
Graduated Suma Cum Laude in 1983,
And was conferred with a Honorary Doctor's Degree
By Saint Augustine's College
In Raleigh, North Carolina In February, 1995.
This accomplishment was equally important to her
As the assistance given to hundreds of Bahamian students
In receiving a tertiary education at that institution.
She became affectionately known as "Mother" Pratt...
What a virtuous woman.*

*I took a Familiar Walk today...
A walk that made me proud to be a Bahamian.
Despite the many events that have been named
In the honor of the Hon. Cynthia Pratt,
She is always about helping the less fortunate of our country.
She captured the Bahamian heart
By making a difference with a generous spirit.*

*I took a Familiar Walk today...
A walk that made me reflect upon Hebrews 10:23
During this walk...
I am reminded how faithful God is.
For you see, the Hon. Cynthia Pratt
Is a born-again Christian, and ordained Minister.
And she expresses in action
God's love in our world today.
"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess,
For he who promised is faithful."*

*Finally, my Familiar Walk rests upon the fact
That the Hon. Cynthia Pratt
Was recognized for her extraordinary contributions
To the advancement of world peace,
And her relentless efforts
To nurture and serve her community...
As I sit with the Hon. Cynthia Pratt,
I am honored to say that during this walk,
The humanitarian aspect of her journey
Inspires me most of all and so many others.*

*Thank you Deputy Prime Minister Pratt
For all that you have done
For the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.*

*God bless you with good health,
A good day today,
A better day tomorrow,
And his special blessings always.*

On behalf of a grateful nation

Mr. Mario Alphonso Newry Jr.