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INSTRUCTIONS
FOR
Children;
OR,
A TOKEN OF LOVE
FOR
THE RISING GENERATION.

BY THE
REV. ROWLAND HILL, A.M.

EIGHTH EDITION,
Embellished with a Likeness of the Author,
ENGRAVED ON STEEL; AND FOUR ENGRAVINGS
ON WOOD.

LONDON;
PUBLISHED BY PAGE AND SON,
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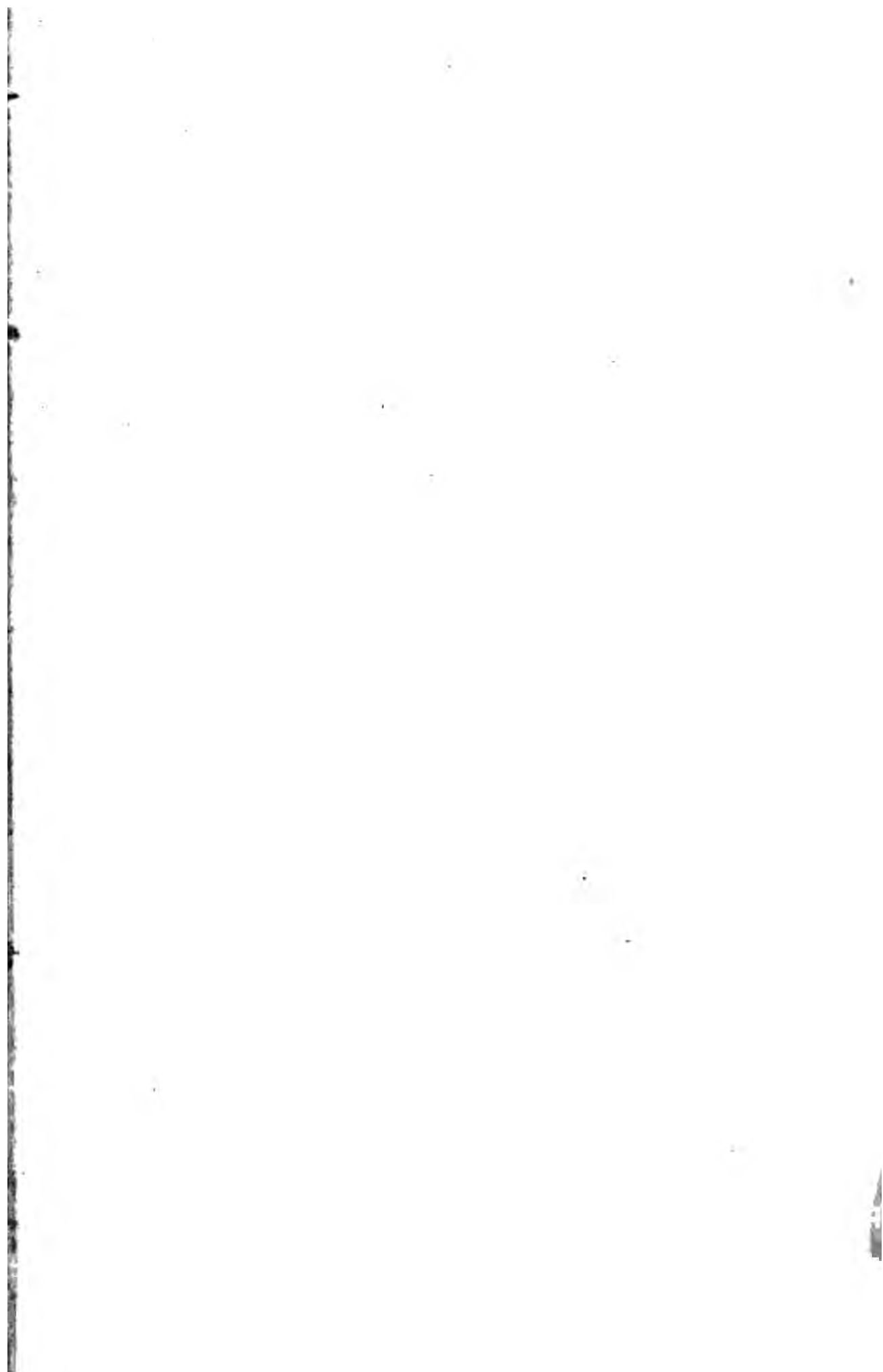
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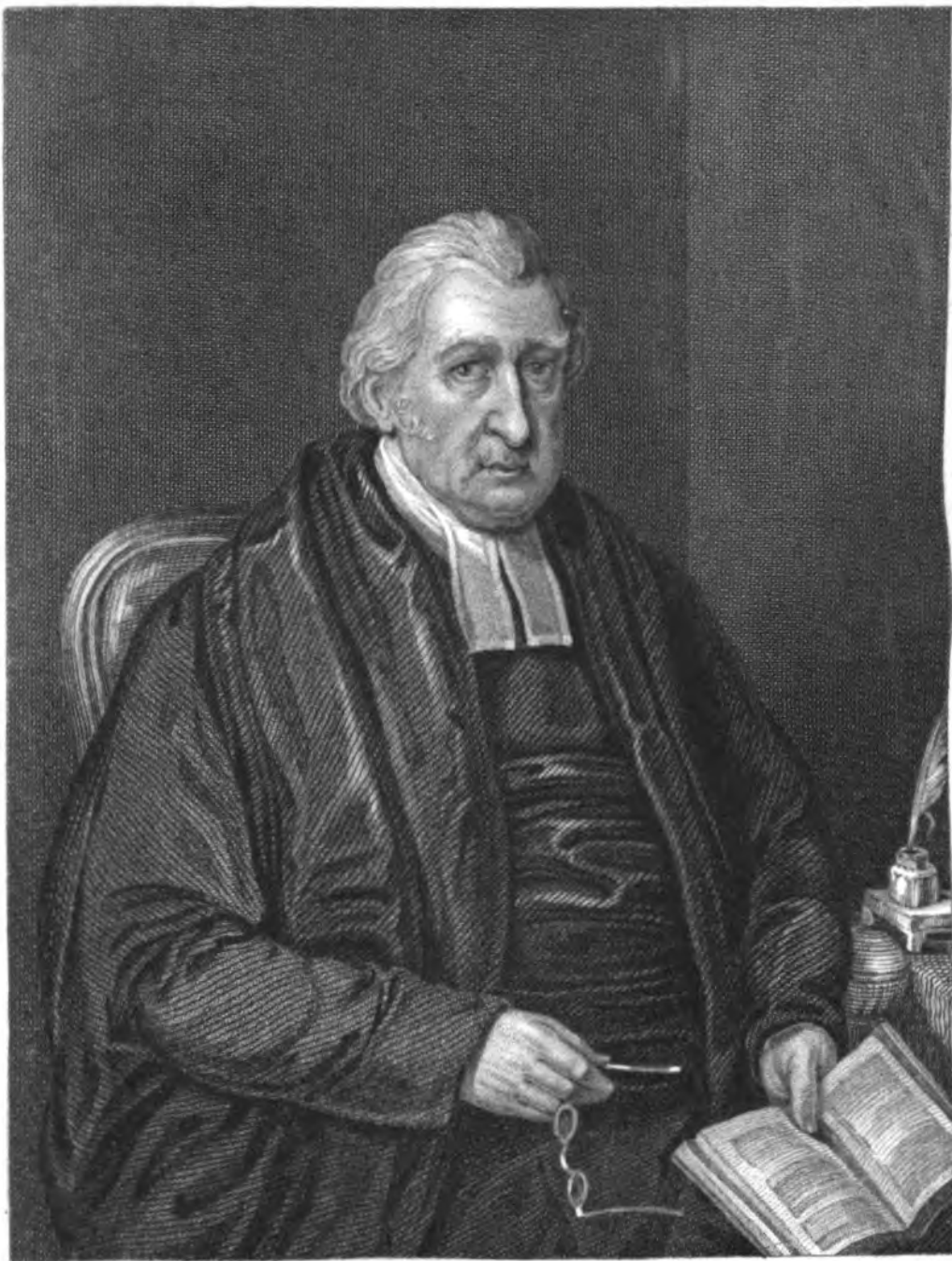
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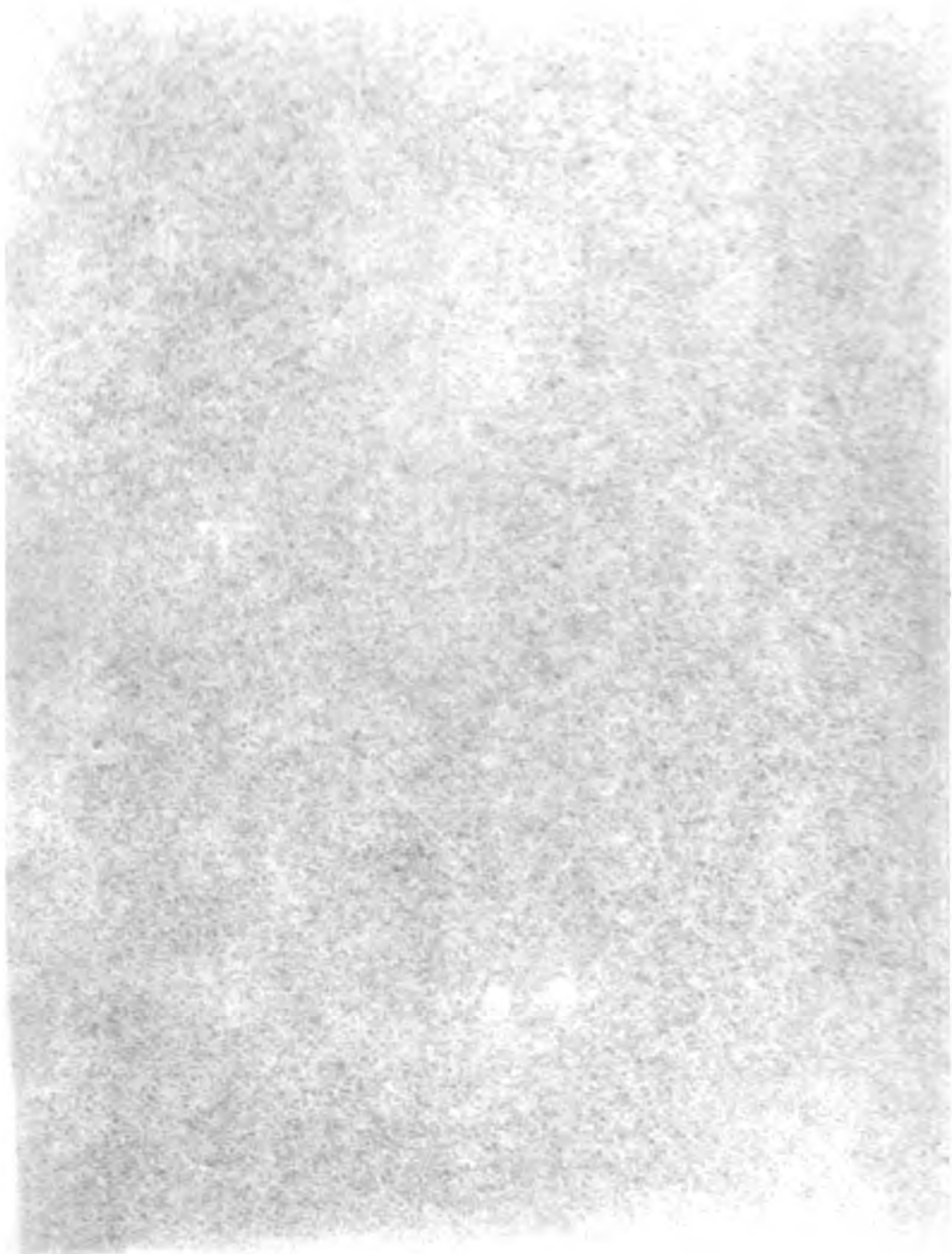


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REV. ROWLAND HILL. A.M.

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CHILDREN;
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**Jesus said,—Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to
come unto me ; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.**

MATT. XIX. 14.

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1831.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.



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TO
PARENTS AND GUARDIANS
OF
CHILDREN.

THE education of children is a most serious and important charge, and perhaps as difficult as important; for nature is very corrupted, and sure to make its early efforts against every attempt to promote their real good. To counteract this corrupted principle, and to use every mean for the establishment of the divine nature early in the minds of youth, should be the serious aim of all such as are entrusted with this weighty concern. While it is with man to use the means, it rests only with God to give the blessing. The time of youth, however, must be considered as the most promising

for success. We hear very much in the Gospels of our Lord's notice of children, and of his love to a child-like spirit. This is a good encouragement for such as are entrusted with education; but shall I be understood, if I observe, that all such should be very righteous, but still not righteous overmuch. Children are naturally volatile;—they must be humoured in things that are innocent, as well as corrected for their faults: their educators, therefore, need tempers—firm, though mild and dispassionate;—solid understandings;—and gracious, affectionate, and generous hearts.

To oppose this volatile disposition, is to oppose nature itself;—it rather needs regulation than reproof; we should, therefore, first please, that afterwards we may profit. Though a child should be allowed to be innocently gay, yet all these little gaieties may need a mild controul. Parents and guardians must first be beloved before they can be obeyed, unless by

terror, which only excites the obedience of vile servility, and which, consequently, creates detestation ; and when from the fear of these things the mind is emancipated, the worst of consequences ensue from such an ill judged education.

I, therefore, humbly request those to whom I now write, to join with me in this attempt for the good of the succeeding generation ; to pray for much grace in their hearts, and much wisdom in their understandings, that they may have much success in their undertakings.

It is not in the power of language to reach the evils that arise from a neglect of this duty : carelessness and indifference are the open roads to profaneness and infidelity.

On the other hand, the blessings that have attended religious education are very numerous ; many a parent has been made exceedingly happy in their offspring thereby : and as the residue of the Spirit is with the Lord, the

like mercies are still in store for those who seek him by diligent prayer.

That this little book may be succeeded to the accomplishment of this blessed work, is the sincere prayer of one who wishes to be the servant of all for Jesus' sake.

R. HILL.

Surrey Chapel;

May 2, 1831.

INSTRUCTIONS

FOR

CHILDREN, &c.



DEAR CHILDREN,

I PRESENT you with a little book, containing the best advice I have in my power to give you. I feel a tenderness and love towards children, and rather fear that, in many families and congregations, they are too much neglected.

I am sure our blessed Lord Jesus had great compassion towards them ; he took them into his arms and blessed them, and even reproved his disciples for keeping such at a distance

from him ; and it is very sad if any should keep poor children from Jesus Christ. I will, therefore, now write you a little book, in which you shall have a sermon on purpose for you, made very plain, and easy to be understood.

Then will I give you the histories of some very good and bad children, some of whom lived very good lives, and died very happy deaths; and are now taken to sing with angels the praises of Jesus Christ, and to live with him for evermore.

And lastly, I shall write you a few prayers, that you may be taught to seek to our dear Redeemer, who alone can make you happy and good.

The following picture represents a minister, preaching a sermon to a small congregation of good little children, and I dare say the text and sermon are very like what you are to read, after you have looked at the picture.

And not only this picture, but some others are to be found in this little book, that children may be both pleased and profited while they read.

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A Minister Preaching to Little Children.



“Come, ye children, hearken unto me; I will
teach you the fear of the Lord,” Psalm xxxiv. 2.

A SERMON.

*Come, ye children, hearken unto me ; I
will teach you the fear of the Lord.*

Psalm xxxiv. 11.

NOW from this text, I shall first observe, that the great God who made heaven and earth, and all mankind, sees us wherever we are, and knows all we say and do.

And then I observe, that this God is *holy, just, and good* ; and that he has revealed his blessed law, which forbids us all to sin against him. This holy law, you must all be taught, as written in the ten commandments ; the substance of which is, *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy mind,*

with all thy soul, and with all thy strength ;
and the second is a very loving commandment
also; *Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*

Now this law we should all obey in our hearts and lives : and our first parents, Adam and Eve, lived very happily in the garden of Paradise till they sinned against this good law ; and then they were turned out of Paradise, and lost the blessed favour of God.

For the Lord planted in that garden, such rich fruit as never grew in any garden besides, only forbidding our first parents to taste of one tree, that he might prove their love towards him; but through the temptations of the wicked one, who now dwells in hell, they despised the commandment of God, and ate the forbidden fruit ; and by this their hearts were given over to be corrupted by sin.

They being corrupted parents, their children were corrupted also ; insomuch that we read in the Bible, that their first son Cain became a murderer, and murdered his own good brother Abel, only because he was a better man than himself.

Afterwards we are told how all sinners corrupted each other, and filled the whole world with wickedness ; so that God himself, though all mercy and love, was grieved at his very heart that he had made man, and was determined to punish them by sending a most dreadful flood, which drowned every living creature upon the earth.

But Noah being a righteous man, was saved in the ark, which was a very large ship that Almighty God ordered him to build for himself and his family ; while all the world of ungodly sinners besides, were destroyed for their sins.

O how dreadful must sin be to deserve such punishment at the hand of God ! And as you go on to read the Bible, you will find how soon man's wicked heart taught him to be bad again : and how the Lord sent down fire and brimstone from heaven upon Sodom and Gomorrah ;—how he made earthquakes to swallow up wicked men alive ;—how he ordered the sea to drown all the rebellious Egyptians, for persecuting and abusing those people that he loved, even Israel that he had chosen ;—how

he has made his angels to strike others dead by thousands, for despising his people, and blaspheming his name;—and how even at this present day, he permits bad men to fight till they cover each other with blood;—and how he lets whole armies go to war till they kill one another by hundreds and thousands without mercy.

Now from the bad lives of mankind, you may surely know that their hearts are bad also; for the wickedness of our actions always come from the wickedness of our hearts: none but the wicked do that which is wicked.

And now dear children, let me see if I can shew you somewhat of the wickedness of your own hearts, that our merciful God may give you repentance for your sins, and bless you with his forgiving love, through Jesus Christ; for all children are born in sin, and therefore cannot be saved without his grace and mercy.

First; you have been taught that you should love the Lord your God, with all your hearts, and souls, and minds, and strength; and how

happy are all they that thus love the dear Lord, and are beloved by him.

But how is it that many children had rather go to play, than to the Lord's house to hear his word, and sing his praise: and when at the Lord's house, how little do they attend to what is spoken, but often behave indecently, and thereby set an example to other children, to make them as bad as themselves. O did but such children remember that God hears all they say, and sees all they do, surely they would tremble at their sin, and fear, lest his righteous judgment should overtake them!

Why is it that poor children do not look upon it as a great mercy, that they are relieved from hard labour on a sabbath-day, that they may learn to read their Bibles, and be taught thereby the Lord's great compassion in saving vile sinners, through Jesus Christ.

Again, how very much to be pitied those poor children are, whose most cruel and wicked parents teach them to blaspheme and swear almost as soon as they have taught them to talk! and what sad hearts must children

have, that will learn to speak such dreadful words, although their parents set them the bad example ; and why is it that other children so frequently say, O Lord ! O God ! O Christ ! in a light and thoughtless manner ! Have they not been taught, that those who take God's name in vain, shall not be held guiltless ? And if, as our Lord says, from the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh, sure I am, that children's hearts must be very wicked when their words are so sinful and profane.

Honour thy father and thy mother is another good command that God has given us in his word ; and if children have lost their dear parents, yet the Lord has sent others to take care of them ; and they for their loving care, should be considered and honoured as their parents : but, O how unkind and unloving, how stubborn and disobedient are many ungrateful children against their parents and friends ! It was their parents that brought them into life, and while poor helpless infants, it was their parents that nursed them, and cherished them ; it is their parents that give them all

they eat and drink, and all the clothes they wear: when they command them, it is only because little children are not wise enough to direct themselves, and if they correct them, it is only to shame them for being bad, and to teach them by their loving correction, to go and sin no more.

And should not children love such dear parents as these, who are in the very place of God for their good? O how can they grieve them, and make their very hearts to bleed by their stubborn tempers and rebellious behaviour!

Dear little Moses, who was cast out upon the waters, and just ready to die, by the cruelty of hard-hearted Pharaoh, was no doubt, while a child as obedient as a lamb; and when he became a man, the Bible tells us, he was the meekest man in all the earth; and as our God and Saviour Jesus Christ says, "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth," so the Lord made him as a King in Israel, and he did inherit the earth, and now he inherits heaven for evermore. And if you are as

humble, and as loving, and as meek as Moses was, you shall at last be taken to heaven where Moses is. Jesus Christ, our Saviour, was meek and lowly too, and was subject unto his parents; and now says to you and me, "Come unto me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

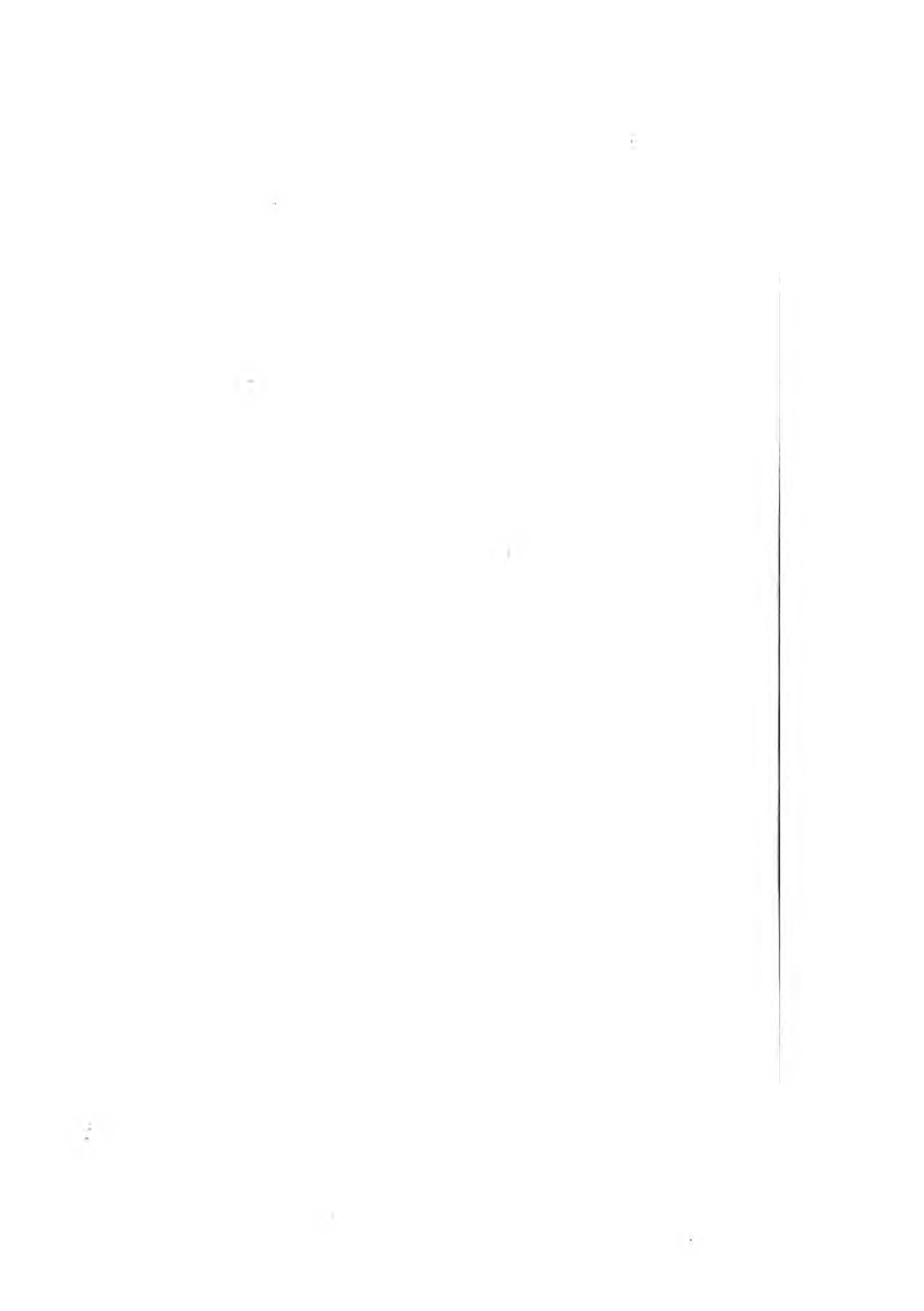
And now children, again, remember that all God's creatures, even among the brutes, love the hand that feeds them; does not your very dog love you when you give him something to eat? If you do not therefore love your dear parents that give you food and all things, you are worse than the very dog that you feed.

My horse that I bred from a playful colt, that carries me hundreds of miles, to tell the love of Jesus Christ to poor sinners, loves me because I now and then give him an apple, a handful of corn, or a loving pat: he does just as I bid him, comes when I call him, fondles me in the stable, and plays with me in the field. I scarcely ever beat him, because he so seldom deserves it; and if he thinks he has done wrong, he immediately submits; and

Feeding a Favourite Horse.



“ My horse that I bred from a playful colt that carries me hundreds of miles to tell the love of Jesus Christ to poor sinners, loves me, because I now and then give him an apple, a handful of corn, or a loving pat ; he does just as I bid him, comes when I call him, fondles me in the stable, and plays with me in the field.”



though this horse has seven times the strength of myself, yet he never hurts me : and will you, dear children, grieve your parents and be worse than a horse, that is nothing better than a brute !

And as children love stories I will tell you another. Walking through my field on a winter's morning, I met with a lamb, as I thought dead, but taking it up I found it just alive ; the cruel mother had almost starved it to death. I put it into my bosom, and brought it to my house, there I rubbed its starved limbs, warmed it by the fire side, and fed it with warm milk from the cow. Soon the lamb revived ; first it feared me, but afterwards it thoroughly loved me. As I mostly fed it with my own hand, so it followed me wherever I went, bleating after me whenever it saw me, and was always happy when it could frisk around me, but never so pleased as when I would carry it in my arms.

But you, dear children, have had more love from your parents and friends than ever my lamb received from me ; what ungrateful

hearts must yours be, if you do not love your parents and friends ten times better than ever my lamb loved me.

And let me now remind you of a still better story : Jesus is a shepherd, the shepherd of souls ; and of him it is said, he carries the lambs in his bosom, and gently leads those that are with young. If you desire to love Jesus, I dare say your parents will let you read that blessed book, the Bible, though good children alone wish for such a favour ; there you will hear such things of the love of Christ to poor ruined sinners, as I hope will melt your eyes to tears, and your hearts into love.

I intended, at first, to prove to poor children the sinfulness of their hearts ; if we have been a little prevented by some alluring stories, we will now proceed.

God says, thou shalt do no murder ; now no one can commit murder but through passion and anger : how dreadful then to see children fall into such passions, that even in their play they strike each other as though they would be glad to murder those with

whom they fight. O, that such may remember what the Bible says, that he who is angry with his brother, is a murderer ! What a merciful and good God to forbid such tempers ! and what wicked hearts must poor children have to do such things when nothing but love should rule their lives.

Again, is it not said, thou shalt not steal ? An apple, or even a pin, should not be taken away from any to whom they belong, without their consent, for they who begin to pilfer little things may soon become common thieves : they will then rob on the highway, break into people's houses, till they are brought before the judge, who will, for their wickedness, order them to be hanged, with ropes about their necks, till they are dead.

Other children are sad liars ; and when they have done wrong they are ashamed to own it : therefore, in order to hide one sin they commit another, by covering it with falsehood. Even of their own parents some will tell lies, by saying it was their faults that they did not come to school, or to the worship of

God sooner, when the fault was all their own; because they loitered at home, or stopped to play with some other wicked children in the way. O, how dreadful to tell a lie, when God's word says, that all liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone. How grievously they are tormented.

Such are some of the sins that children commit against God's holy law : but, alas, for them, these are not all.—Pride is another sin, very displeasing to God : and nothing makes a child appear so ugly and hateful as when proud of its fine clothes and foolish dress ; the best of our clothes can never make us so fine as the lily or the rose ; for Solomon, in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these. Adam and Eve never wanted clothing till they lost their innocence, and then they found themselves naked to their shame ; so that the very clothes we wear prove us to be sinners before God.

Besides, how could children get any clothing if all they wear was not given them by

their parents ; so that little children are like little beggars, they would go naked and be starved to death, but for the goodness of their parents.

And does not the same holy law forbid us to be obstinate, stubborn, and self-willed ? and yet, how often do children resent the good advice of their parents, though given out of love, because they know not how to direct themselves.

And now let poor and unhappy children stop and consider what a state they are in, for the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men. And it is further said in the Bible, that the soul that sinneth it shall die ; and that the wages of sin is death,—yea, the death both of body and soul to all eternity ; and as they never can recal the time that is past, so they can never do away the sins they have committed ; therefore, as it is their duty to obey, they can have no merit ; and, as they have sinned against God, they can have no righteousness of their own.

Then how can such poor sinners be saved ? Does the child feel that he or she has done wrong ? And is such a child grieved for sin and penitent before God ? Then to that child I will next tell of the wonderful love of God in the salvation of sinners by Jesus Christ.

The blessed Jesus lived with God, his glorious father, from all eternity, and is himself also God over all, and blessed for evermore : all worlds were made by him ; and the heavens themselves are upheld by the word of his power.

After we poor sinners had ruined ourselves by sinning against him, he pitied us, and determined to save us, by coming down from heaven to this world in which we live. Here he was born, and his parents being very poor, he was first laid in a manger ; and there the angels of God came down from above and adored him, while humble shepherds were the first that waited upon him.

After this the wise men came from far to worship him, and brought him their presents of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But we,

poor sinners, can bring him nothing but our unworthy hearts. Children, I beseech you, give Jesus Christ your hearts, and if he makes them like his own how blessed you will be.

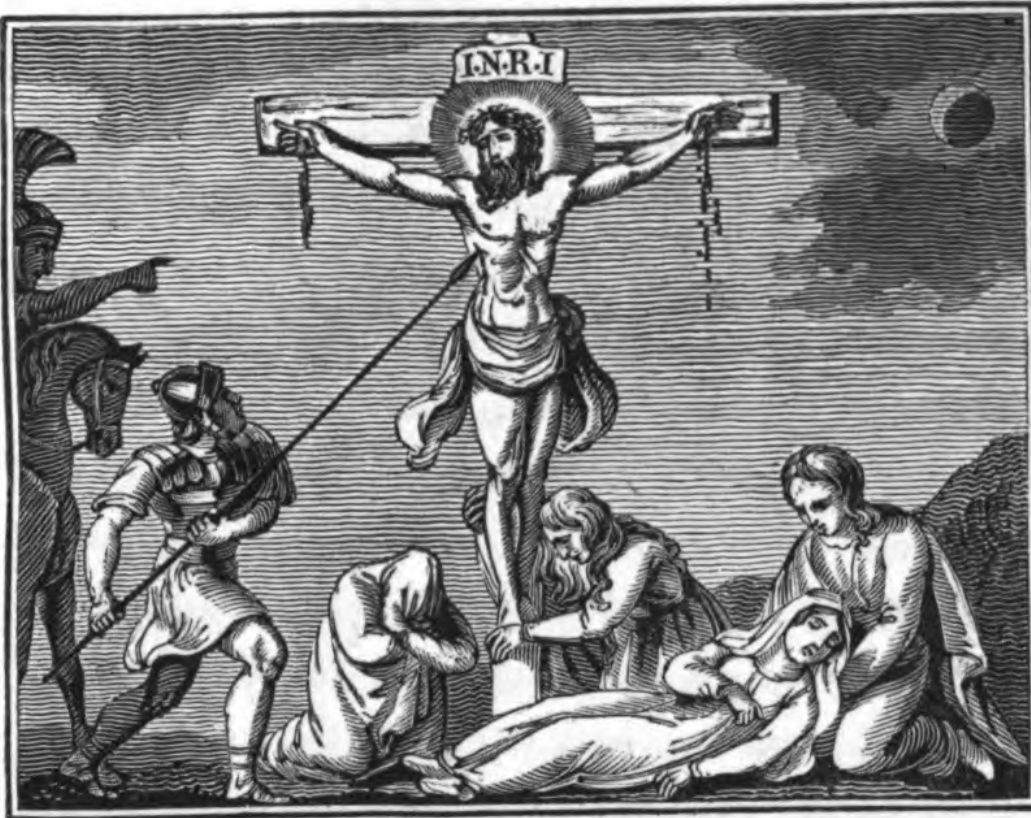
Never had parents before such a dear obedient child ; most lovingly did he submit to the will of his virgin mother, and as contentedly yielded himself to work at his father's trade ; for this he was mocked by proud and cruel men, who contemptuously cried, "Is not this the carpenter?" If our blessed Jesus therefore worked at his trade, why should any think it their disgrace to get their bread by their daily labour? No work should shame us but the shameful work of sin.

But let us proceed.—Thus lived our blessed Jesus as a child, and after he had increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favour with God and man, he entered upon the blessed work that the father appointed him to do. All the day long he went about doing good : he healed the sick, he cleansed the lepers, he fed the hungry by thousands at a time, he

gave eyes to the blind, and enabled the lame to walk by his power, he made the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak; by him devils were cast out, and the very dead were made to live. O, what a blessed Lord was this; how wonderful his power, and how tender his love: every where was he ready to instruct the ignorant, and to shew mercy to the miserable. Thus, for man's salvation, and in obedience to his father's law, he spent his life in perfect holiness.

Having thus told you of his life, you shall next hear of his sufferings and death.—It was he that bore the just wrath of God for man: thus in the garden of Gethsemane we read of his agonies and pain; it was there that his soul was exceeding sorrowful even unto death, and it was then that his sweat was as great drops of blood falling on the ground! By Judas was he cruelly betrayed: by the soldiers his precious back was scourged till covered with blood, and a crown of piercing thorns put upon his head, and thrust into his tem-

The Crucifixion.



“By the Soldiers his precious back was scourged till covered with blood, and a crown of piercing thorns put upon his head, and thrust into his temples; they scoffed at him in his calamity, loaded his precious shoulders with the cross, and then nailed his hands and feet thereon. There for six tedious hours he hung on the cross, while they mocked his thirst with vinegar and pierced his tender side to the heart; then he, bowing his head, said, “It is finished,” and gave up the Ghost. Thus the Redeemer lived and died to save the fallen race of sinners.”



ples ; they scoffed at him in his calamity, loaded his precious shoulders with the cross, and then nailed his hands and feet thereon. There for six tedious hours he hung on the cross, while they mocked his thirst with vinegar, and pierced his tender side to the heart ; then he, bowing his head, said, “ It is finished,” and gave up the ghost. Thus the Redeemer lived and died to save the fallen race of sinners. You, poor children, have grievously sinned ; and had it not been for the death of Christ you must have been lost for evermore.

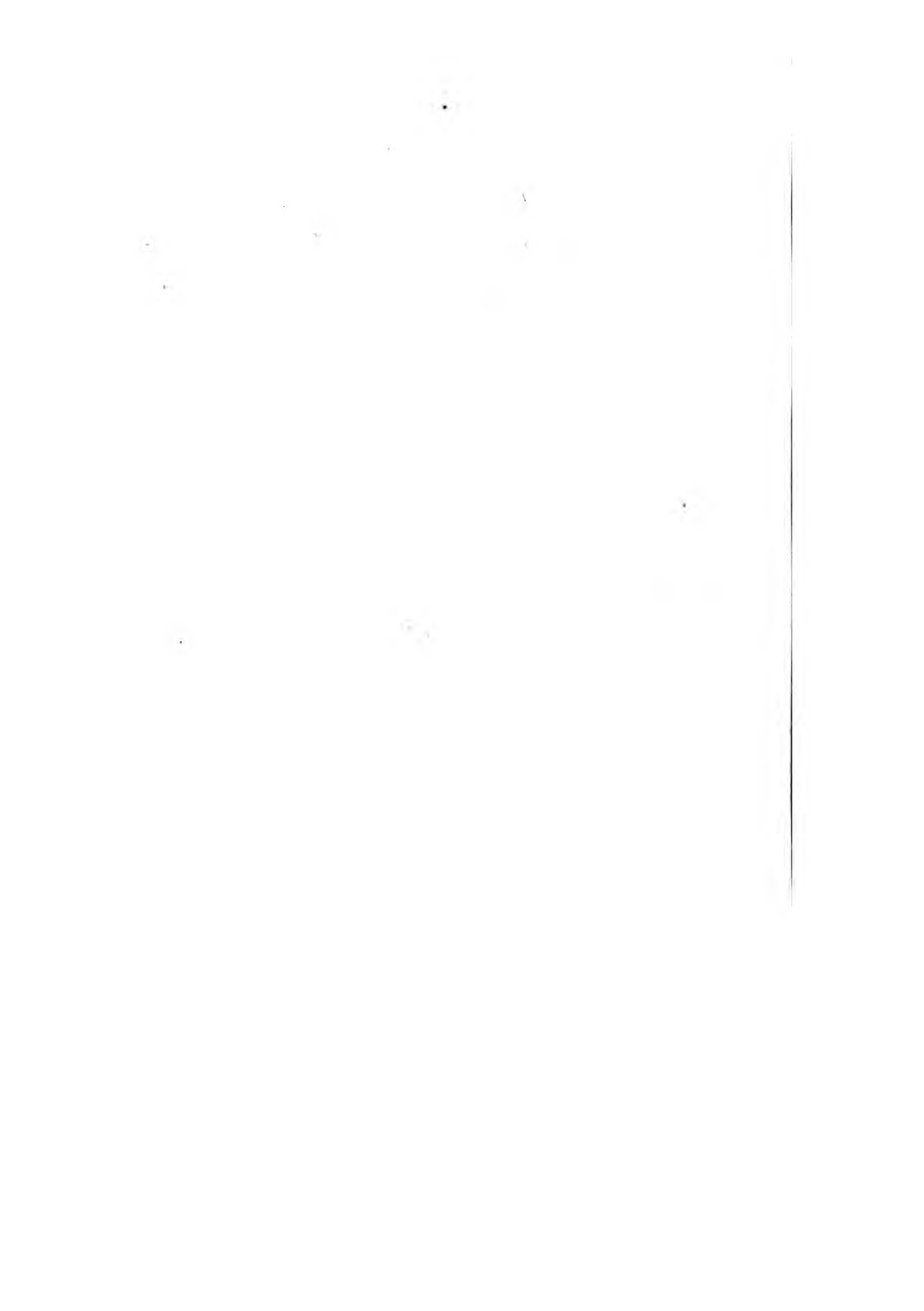
Blessed be God, that after the Saviour died he soon revived, arose from the grave the conqueror of hell : how glad were his disciples to find that he was again alive ; and how glad should we all now be that he is ascended into heaven, and that he ever liveth to make intercession for us ! And now he lives in glory, his love is still the same. As once he took children into his loving arms, so he has now for them a blessed place in his tender heart, if they humbly seek to him for his mercy.

And now I'll tell of the last blessed consequences of the Saviour's death. He went again to heaven to plead the merits of his precious death for man. By his intercession, God, the Holy Spirit, again came down and dwelt upon this earth, and he is to be with us always, even to the end of the world. By his grace our hearts are to be changed. If you, dear children, have his grace, your hearts will be changed also : you will hate sin and pray against it, and he will make you very humble, loving, tender, and universally good.

O, that there was but such a heart in you ! You cannot be happy while you live, you cannot be happy when you die, you cannot be happy in eternity, unless you go to this blessed Jesus to save your precious souls. Why should you delay ? What sin can be so lovely as the love of Christ ? O, think of this, and let me, as your sincere friend, intreat you to turn and live : live to God in time, and you shall live with him to all eternity !

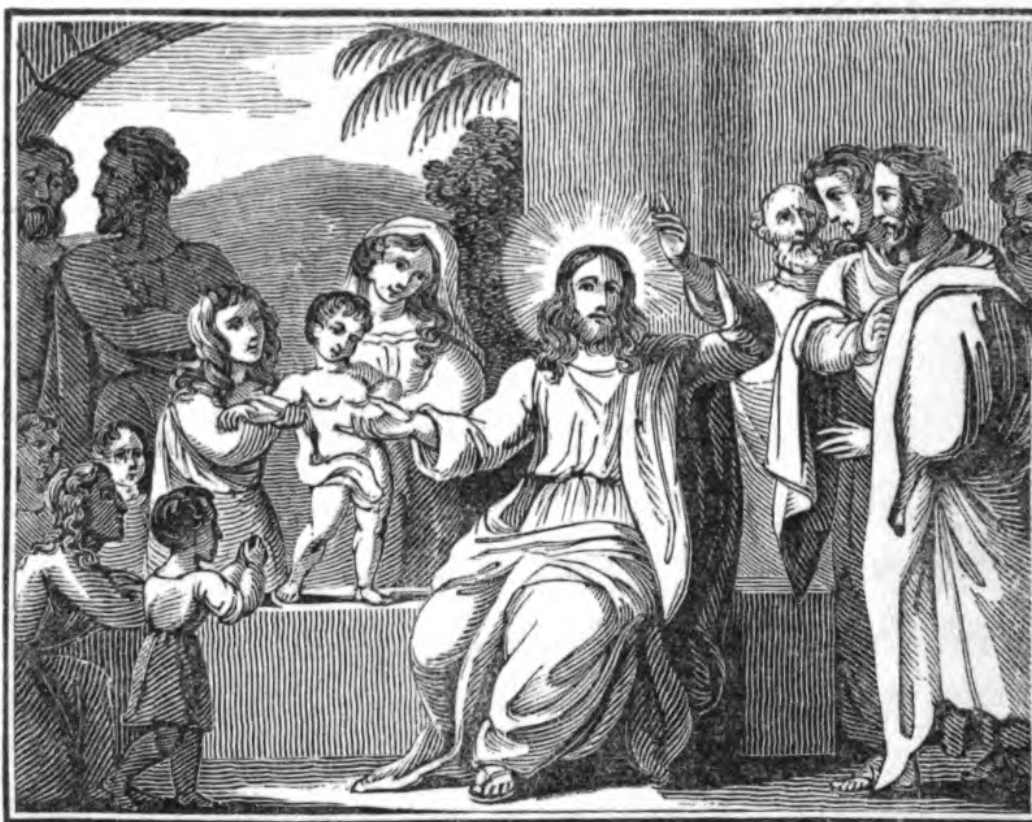
Very soon Jesus will come again to judgment, then shall the wicked see him and be

terrified, and curse the day that ever they were born : but the righteous will be glad at his appearing, for God shall come to wipe all tears from their eyes, and drive all sorrows from their hearts : and Jesus himself, who hath loved them, and washed them from their sins in his own blood, and made them kings and priests to God and his Father, shall say, “Come ye blessed children of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”





Christ Blessing Little Children.



“Jesus said,—Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” Matt. xix. 14.

A SHORT ACCOUNT
OF
THE LIVES AND DEATHS
OF
GOOD CHILDREN,

Who died rejoicing in the Lord.

EXAMPLE I.

JOHAN ROWLES was born at Wotton-Under-edge, in Gloucestershire; his parents, being good people, took delight to teach him and the rest of the children, in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

As soon as he was capable of learning, he went to school, and being diligent and attentive to it, was not long before he could read and write better than most of his school-fellows.

Thus he continued to increase in knowledge and stature, and appeared a fine healthy child

till he was between seven and eight years of age ; but the Lord who gives us our health, and takes it from us as is most to his own glory, was soon afterwards pleased to afflict him.

And now we shall see how good the Lord was in chastising this child, that he might make him fit for heaven, and then take him there to be happy for evermore.

For this child, though quick and sharp at learning his book, yet was of a very hasty temper, and often very stubborn and disobedient.

It was therefore in great mercy that the Lord afflicted him with a pain in his right knee, which at first made him very lame, and then kept him upon his bed for many weeks.

Sometimes the pain would be so very sharp, that the sweat would run from every part of his body ; and all this pain was a mercy, for now he began to be patient and penitent.

He afterwards got a little better, and could walk abroad with the help of crutches, and a good use indeed he made of his crutches ;

for he took every opportunity to go to the house of God, that he might hear his word, and learn to serve him.

Soon after this swelling moved from his knee to his thigh; and at length broke out into a wound, which gave him very great pain, and never could be healed to the day of his death.

From the beginning of his affliction he appeared very serious; but, as his sufferings increased, he became more attentive to all good things. He would be fond of reading good books; he delighted in prayer; and when he heard people talking about divine things, he would hearken diligently, that he might be the better for it.

He would often say privately to his parents, that he was afraid he had been such a naughty boy, that the Lord would not forgive him; but blessed is that child who repents of sin, and goes to Jesus Christ to be pardoned.

During the last year of his life, in which he suffered most, he appeared much distressed in his mind. He would often lament how wicked he had been, and what a mercy it was

that God was pleased to lay such an affliction upon him.

Several times he declared, that he would rather suffer all the pain he felt, than to have continued the same sinful child he was once. So that from every thing he said, sin appeared to be his burden ; and to hear about Jesus Christ, heaven, and glory, his only delight.

Many times when his parents had left him alone, on their return they would find him in tears. And when they asked him, why he wept, he would cry, “ Oh ! I am afraid I shall not go to the dear Lord Jesus Christ. I have been such a naughty boy, I am afraid he will not forgive me, and that I shall be lost for ever.”

Then the tears would run down his dear cheeks again, while his parents, with tears in their eyes also, would attempt to comfort him with the sweet promises of the gospel.

One night in particular, about half a year before his death, he was in great pain ; being lifted from his bed, and seated on his chair, he said, in a very solemn manner, “ Oh,

father ! I feel great pain, but what is all I now feel, to the pains of hell for ever ! I have been thinking about it ; I hope I shall never go there :—but then, again, I am afraid I shall ; Oh, father ! pray for me ;” and then his tears would let him say no more.

All the while he was afflicted he was as patient as a lamb. It was astonishing to all how much he suffered, and yet how meekly he bore it, especially in the last year of his life. His humble resignation to the will of God was a blessed evidence that his repentance was real, and his heart was changed.

Perpetual seriousness sat upon his countenance. Let who would laugh or joke in the house or in the streets, you could get no smile from him ; though he could look very pleasantly when he met with any thing that he approved of ; yet all who saw him were struck at the great solemnity that constantly was upon him.

He was fond of reading good books, when he was a little released from pain. He would read in the *Pilgrim's Progress*, *Janeway's*

Token for Children, and any other good books that his neighbours lent him : but those books that were most striking about Jesus, heaven, and glory, pleased him best. These things would touch his tender heart : for while he read, the tears would often drop from his eyes.

Even when he had not his books before him he would not be idle, as many children are, but would employ his time in something that was useful and innocent : while, therefore, his hands were employed in making laces, and other such little engagements, his heart would be meditating, and his lips would be talking of the good things that he had read.

As he got nearer his end, he was more comfortable and composed, though his fears did not vanish altogether. Once he said, "I am not so much afraid of dying, and how it will be with me after death ; but still I have hopes that I shall go to the dear Jesus, though it is not always so, it is but sometimes ; but O, I hope I may !"

Then he would speak a little more comfortably. Once, when his pains were very sharp,

though with much submission, he cried, "O, when shall I go to my dear Jesus! I long to be with him." His parents would then tell him to wait with patience a little longer, and he would be taken to the bosom of the blessed Saviour. Then he seemed to be resigned, and with a holy calmness on his countenance, said, "Yes; but how glad should I be if the time were come. O, when will it once be! How glad should I be to go to my dear Jesus!"

At other times, like the dark clouds that pass through a clear sky, his fears would somewhat return.

Two of his relations called on him, and asked him if he had any hopes of heaven, and if Christ was precious to him. He answered, "that at times he was afraid he should be lost; but still hoped the Lord would pardon his sins, and reveal his love to him before his death;" but still added, "that he would rather be in his afflicted state, than be going on sinning against the Lord as he once did."

Sometimes, while he lay on his little couch, and was somewhat easy, he would sing most

melodiously; his voice was very delightful to all that heard it, and hymns about Christ and him crucified were his chief delight.

And now being but a few days from his departure, he was filled with a wonderful spirit of seriousness and love.

Though he was always diffident, and afraid to speak much to any but his parents and relations, yet the Sunday evening before his death, being lifted up on his little couch, his tongue was set at a gracious liberty, to the astonishment of all who heard him. No minister could urge more closely the good word of God upon the consciences of his hearers than he did, in what he spoke to them that were around him.

“I shall not,” says he, “now be long with you, and I would pray you all to take warning by me. I was a very stubborn and a very naughty boy, and going on very badly and very wickedly, till the Lord brought me on a sick bed; and I have thought upon it many times, that I had rather be afflicted as I now am, than go on in sin against a dear Jesus.

I am now suffering a great deal, but what is this to the sufferings in hell for ever. Sometimes I find Jesus sweet to me, and then I am better able to bear my pain. O, how sweet is Jesus ! I beg you all to go to Jesus. I intreat you to mind what I say, and read your Bibles, and do not put off going to the dear Jesus till you lie on a sick bed."

Then again he exhorted his sisters to beware of the pride of their dress, requesting them to turn to the blessed Lord.

Again he repeated his exhortation to his brothers, till one of them said, "What harm have I done you Jackey?" To which the lovely child answers, "No, my dear brother, you have done no harm to me, but it is to yourself that you have done the harm, by sinning against the Lord."

Thus, with tears running down his cheeks, he wept out his arguments ; while his parents and relations, as much affected as himself, stood weeping around their dying child ; until, at last, his father requested him to refrain, and committed him by prayer to his dear Jesus.

He afterwards appeared in a composed state, had some rest ; on the Monday was very calm and serene, but very weak ; at different times said many good things of his longing to be with Jesus Christ.

On the Sunday, all thought him very near death ; he said he was weak, and in great pain. His parents directed him to Jesus Christ, since none besides Christ could do him good, and that he would very soon take him to glory. He answered, “ Yes, father : ” paused awhile, then reached out his arm, took his father round the neck, and kissed him : then called for all the family one by one, clasped them in his arms and kissed them ; and gave them all a second exhortation, as he had done the Sunday before. All were melted into tears a second time, at his astonishing tenderness and concern for the salvation of their souls.

His father then prayed with him. O ! how blessed to have parents who love to commend their children to God in prayer.

He then appeared fainting away, as though he would immediately die. His father, willing

to catch the last words that dropped from the lips of so dear a child, put his ear down to his dying lips, he could just hear him whisper, "Jesus—mercy—mercy—Jesus." At last, more plainly he uttered, "Jesus thou son of David, have mercy upon me." His parent, too much affected, withdrew, and the child dropped into a doze.

After this, contrary to all expectation, he called for food, and again revived; but, on the Wednesday morning, his pains returned with great severity. His father then read to him the 14th of St. John's Gospel, about those heavenly mansions the dear Lord Jesus had prepared for his precious soul. He then addressed his father, and said, "I am very comfortable, but still pray for me." His father answered, he did pray for him. "But," says he, "pray for me now; and let all come in and pray with me, before you go to dinner;" for the food was then upon the table; so his father knelt down to prayer.

After prayer, he begged his father to come and kiss him; then he again called for all the

family, and gave them his third and last exhortation; telling them they would never repent of it, if they turned early to the Lord.

Again he put his arms around their necks, and seemed quite in a holy agony for their salvation; crying out while he embraced them, “Now do be good, and mind what I say; but I fear you will not: now promise me that you will turn to the dear Jesus. I will not let you go, unless you promise me to be good, for I shall never see you again.” And they were actually obliged to give a promise, before he would let them go. O, that the promise may never be forgotten by them that made it; and that those dear dying arms may never appear as a witness against any of the family at the judgment-seat of Christ.

Being perfectly collected, he enquired for the maid-servant: he kissed her, exhorted her, and bid her farewell. All his relations stood around him crying, like the rain, all being filled with astonishment at the overflowings of his love, and the tenderness of his heart.

His parents and relations then withdrew, and he fell into a doze for a few hours ; but when he awoke he was very feeble indeed.— Seeing two of his relations near to him, he begged that they would pray with him to his last moments : prayer was his delight.

On Thursday I gave him my last visit ; and though his modesty would seldom let him say much, and though he could now but just speak, he meekly asked me to pray with him. He told me he had a deal of pain, but was very comfortable, and longed to go to the dear Jesus. Never was a child more patient, or a lamb more meek, in all the sufferings he sustained.

After this visit, he spoke but very little to any one ; the mortification of his wounds brought on frequent fainting fits, and early on the Friday morning, June the 12th, 1789, he resigned his meek and precious soul into the hands of his dear Redeemer.

EXAMPLE II.

ANNA SHIPWAY, who died February 18, 1790, was born in the same town of Wotton-Under-edge, and though very young when she died (being scarcely six years old) yet was of a very holy and lovely turn of mind.

About a year before her death, she had a little sister who died. This was a great grief to her tender mind, which lasted for some time. She would often break into tears about her dear sister, and would say, “ Mother, if I am a good child, and tell no lies, and do not act like other bad children, shall I not go to the Lord, and be with my dear sister in heaven ?”

O, how sweet and pleasant it is thus to see children love each other, as this dear little child did her sister ! And what good evidence have children that God loves them when they are thus brought, by his grace, to love one another.

When she was put to school she took her learning so fast, that she was admired by her

mistress for her diligence and attention. And as children, who are good, always mind what is said to them, so it is they soon come forward in their learning; while wicked children, because they will not attend, are nothing better than dull and stupid blockheads.

When her mother and sisters would get up to work, there was no keeping her in bed, for her pleasure was in the service of God. She would rise, therefore, that she might pray, read her Bible, and sing hymns (in which she took very great delight) and, though very young, she learnt many of them by heart. It is very frequently found, that such dear children who are most pleased to sing God's praises on earth, are those that are soonest called to sing his praises in heaven.

When she was reading the holy word of God, she would often stop and tell her parents what blessed things she found therein. And it was pleasing to see how much she was affected by what she read; for the good child not only reads his Bible, but his tender heart is affected by what he reads.

If she heard any thing amiss in other children she would appear grieved at it, because she knew that it displeased the Lord. And when she heard any wicked people sing bad and foolish ballads about the streets, this little child would prove herself wiser than those who were grown up into life, because God had made her wise unto salvation, and therefore would say—"O, such nonsense!" For God makes holy children wise: Wisdom shall be justified of all her children.

If, at any time, she saw her parents displeased with her, she never could be contented till she had clasped them round the neck, and kissed them, that they might all again be in loving friendship with each other.

Many a night her father went to bed with her before the rest of the family, to hear her talk of her Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and she would ask such astonishing questions as were admirable from such a little child.

When she first sickened for death, her mother asked her whether she thought she should die, and go to the Lord, as she often

talked about him. She said, "If I go to him he will never let me go." Then pointed to a hymn, that says,

"Keep me, keep me, dearest Lord,
And never let me go.

Which hymn she often read with pleasure and delight.

Within a few hours before her death, she was in grievous pain, and cried out louder than she commonly did, as she was very patient. Her father said, "My dear, have patience, and the Lord will love you," She stopped, and said, "He will, and I shall love the Lord for evermore." Thus she died, not six years old; but, it is to be humbly hoped, full of love to God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

EXAMPLE III.

THE Lord was pleased to take away two dear children within three months of each other, from a family where the parents were very good people, and, by the blessing of God on their instructions, they had good children also: the mother's prayer always was, that she might be a nurse for the Lord.

But as I write for little children, you shall have an account only of the youngest.

This very dear little babe was but three years and five months old, when our blessed Saviour sent his angels to carry her into Abraham's bosom.

About a week before she was taken ill, her thoughts seemed deeply employed about Jesus Christ, heaven, and glory. She said to her mother, "I shall die soon, and go to the Lord and to my sister, and be with the angels and saints in heaven. I shall have a white robe and a little trumpet, and there I shall praise the Lord for ever;" and then said, in her

childlike talk, "and you, my dear mammy, will soon be with me."

She then sickened for death; and in about a fortnight afterwards the Lord took her to himself. During her illness, she had the most deep and humble expressions concerning her sinfulness before God; and this made her frequently call on the Lord in these and many such like words,—“My sweet Lord, my dear Redeemer, I am very bad, and what could I do without thee!”

The night before she departed to heaven she sung the first verse of that hymn—

Thou, dear Redeemer, dying Lamb,

We love to hear of thee :

No music like thy charming name,

Doth sound so sweet to me.

O, let us ever hear thy voice,

In mercy to us speak ;

And in our Priest will we rejoice,

Thou great Melchisedec.

And then the dear child added, “Mammy, I am just going to the Lord and my sister, and I shan’t come back to you to suffer any more.”

Thus this dear infant, that could but just talk, sung the Lord's praises while she was dying. And if she was so happy while she was in pain, how happy must she now be in heaven where she can be neither sick nor in pain, but be for ever with Jesus Christ, and with his saints and angels in glory.

EXAMPLE IV.

JOHAN SHAW, the son of John and Mary Shaw, was born at Plymouth Dock. His parents were godly people, and he was of a very meek and resigned temper and disposition.

When he was three years or four months old, he had the small pox, which afterwards settled in his knee, and came to a white swelling; and though his parents used every medicine that could be got for him, yet it turned to the king's evil, which ended in his death.

His parents would be very often talking to him of the dear Redeemer, and of death and

judgment; and he used to be very much afraid of dying, till about six months before his death.

But, one morning he said to his mother, "Now, mother, I am not afraid to die." His mother asked him the reason why he was not afraid; and urged him very much to know the cause why he appeared so happy. He answered, "Because I shall go to heaven, and be with my Redeemer in glory." His mother asked him often which way he knew he should go to heaven. "I can hardly tell, mother," says he, but I find something within me that tells me I shall soon die, and then I shall be with my dear and precious Redeemer for ever."

From that time he delighted very much to hear his father read to him, and talk of spiritual and heavenly things. He used to take his father by the hand, and say, "O my dear father, I shall soon leave you and this poor body of mine, and go to heaven, and be for ever with my Redeemer." For these expressions, "my dear Redeemer," or "dear Saviour,"

were constantly upon his lips for six months before he died, which shewed the strong breathings of his tender heart after God.

On the sabbath before his death, his father was with him most part of the day, and he was then in a heavenly frame indeed ; for often he would call out, “ Praise the Lord, sing praise, hallelujah, hallelujah, sing praise, praise the Lord.” And on that day he gave directions of every thing which way he should be buried, and how his coffin should be made ; and desired that two hymns should be sung over his corpse, one at the door, and the other at the grave.

Then his father read over a great many funeral hymns to him, to know from him which he would choose to be sung, and he said, “ None, dear Father ; none of them.” His father then asked him, “ what others then would you have ?” He said, “ you make one for me ? I would rather have them of your making.” And on Monday his father made two hymns, according to his desire, and read them over to him ; and he was greatly satisfied

to hear them, and said they would do very well, desiring that they should be sung.

This he said on the Tuesday before his death, for he died on the Friday following ; and that Tuesday night was a most blessed one indeed, for he was in a most heavenly frame : and, from that time, all his pains left him ; and he desired his father to stay at home with him, to read and sing a hymn. So that hymn was sung—

Come thou fount of every blessing,
Tune our hearts to sing thy praise ;
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise :

Teach us some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above :
Praise the mount, O, fix us on it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.

And the 34th Psalm was read ; and every now and then he would call out, “ O, praise the Lord, hallelujah, hallelujah, sing, sing praise.” Then, taking them by the hand, he said, “ O, my dear father and mother, I am going

to leave you." Then he would call out, "Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly." When they would ask him the reason why he wanted to be gone, with eagerness, but composure, he would say, "To be for ever with my dear Redeemer; then I shall never sin, but ever love my dear Saviour."

Then he would say to his parents, "I hope it will not be long before we shall meet again in heaven, there to praise my dear Saviour." Then his father said, "that if all of us, or any of us, could sing the hymn we had been singing with our very hearts, we were as sure of heaven and glory as if we were now in it." They next sung that hymn—

Thou dear Redeemer, dying Lamb,
We love to hear of thee.

These hymns he sung with such fervour, and so loud, but particularly the last, as so astonished the neighbours in the next house, that they came to the door to listen; his voice in singing being very remarkable; though very

near his death, he sang louder and more distinct than common, and was quite in a rapture of holy joy.

Then his father read, and repeated over to him part of the 12th chapter to the Hebrews, stopping at the 14th verse. After prayer, he was wonderfully composed in spirit, and called the family over to him, and kissing each of them, he took his leave of them with so much gravity and composure of mind, as astonished all that were present.

Then addressing himself to his two sisters and brother, begged of them to be good, and pray to the Lord often to help them, and be sure to keep out of evil company.

Then he would address himself particularly to his eldest sister, calling her by name, and saying, with tears in his eyes, "O Janet, be good; love your father and mother; do not grieve them, but be good and keep good company, and then you will go to heaven: but if you are not good, and pray not often to the Lord, you will go to the wicked place." Then he would look down, and point down with his

hand and say, " O then you will go down, down, down into torment and misery. Now when he repeated these words, the tears ran over his cheeks, so that he could scarcely speak for crying.

Then he would say, " I am sorry for you now, and cannot help it when I think upon the wicked, and whither they must be driven ; but when I am in heaven with my dear Saviour, the Lord will so change my heart that I shall not be sorry for you then, if you be not good. O, sisters and brothers, I entreat you to be good, and go to God's worship and among good people."

He continued in this frame for some time, and every now and then calling out to praise the Lord, then he said to his mother, " I hear the angels singing at a great distance ; they are coming to fetch me home to glory. I shall soon be gone, and then I shall be with my dear Redeemer."

Now all this time he was as sensible as any child could be, but still getting weaker : and on the Friday night his father perceiving that

his end was drawing near, asked him again, if he was afraid to die : and he said, “ No, father, I am not afraid, for then I shall be out of this world of trouble ; and I hope it will not be long till you come after me, and then we shall praise the Lord perfectly.”

They spent the last evening with him in reading and singing of hymns, and sometimes in prayer ; and seeing him getting very restless, and fast going out of time into eternity, his father was greatly afraid that the enemy of souls had been trying to distress him : he, therefore, asked him if he would join with the family in prayer once more before he left them. He lifted up his hands and eyes, and said “ Yes.” This was two minutes before he expired ; and his father said to him, “ Kiss your mother, my dear, and we shall go to prayer.” He did, they kneeled down, and his father cried to God to give him an easy and quiet dismissal. And before they had been two minutes in prayer, he fell asleep in Christ, August 6, 1790, being then near the eleventh year of his age.

EXAMPLE V.

YOU shall next hear of the wonderful grace bestowed on the son of a worthy minister of the gospel, who died some years since, when he was only five years old.

This most gracious and blessed child, at the age of three years, began to pray and sing the praises of the Lord: and once after praying for his parents, for the ministers and people of God, and their families and children, he said, “ Lord, if it be thy will, let me live to shew forth thy glory.”

But a little while before he was taken ill he told his mother with a cheerful countenance, “ that his life was hid with Christ in God :” and expressed his longing desire to be in heaven : he “ longed to be dissolved, that he might be with Christ.”

To his nurse, who was covering him in his crib, he said, that “ in heaven, he should be covered with the robe of Christ’s righteousness :” and not long before he died, he declared he had seen heaven, and with great

admiration cried out, “ O, ’tis a brave place ! It is so glorious that it cannot be expressed ; ” adding, that “ he should soon be there.”

At another time he said, he had seen the heavenly hosts all standing around the throne : and that he had joined with them in singing the new song : and that he had seen among them Mr. W——, a good christian, lately deceased ; and that Christ had said to him, “ Let little children come unto me ; ” and that on sabbath-day he should be in heaven.

To his nurse, who then knew not the Lord, this wise little babe gave this direction—faith cometh by hearing. And when this child’s funeral sermon was preached it is to be hoped that she happily experienced the child’s admonition, and became a spiritual believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. Thus, out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hath God ordained strength. At the same time he admonished all present with these words—Prepare to meet your God.

Though he expressed great love to his father, yet said, “ he had another father in

heaven, whom he loved better," adding; "that Christ was a good God to him." At one time, though in great agony of pain, he expressed with great vehemence, that "he loved Christ dearly; that Christ was preparing mansions for him in glory, and would come to fetch him;" adding, "all will be well in heaven." At another time, being desired to take some refreshment, he replied, "Christ is my meat and drink."

Saturday night before his death he prayed for all his relations, and early on the Lord's day morning he said, "This is a delightful day." Afterwards, he expressed his joy in the Lord, and remained cheerful till the evening, when a convulsive fit laid him asleep in Jesus. Thus lived and died this young preacher of righteousness, whose memory was well stored with divine knowledge, and whose heart was well warmed with the love of God.

EXAMPLE VI.

AGAIN, you should hear how another good minister of Jesus Christ was blessed with a very godly daughter, though quite a young child, who lived and died a dear little Christian, and is now in glory. This was the daughter of a worthy minister, whose name was Giles, and who lived in Somerset.

This child was very fond of Dr. Watts's divine songs for children : she often used to read them with pleasure ; and who, by his engaging attention to the salvation of children, has allured many of them to heaven and happiness. She also would oftentimes express her delight in other hymns sung in public worship.

She also took much pleasure in what wicked children take up as a burden : she delighted herself in private prayer, and did all she could to excite others to it. She learned many scriptures by heart ; but none struck her so much as those kind and loving words

of our Saviour—"Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

And this endearing text she would often be teaching to her little brother, saying, "Do not you love Jesus Christ? I do, I do, because he loves little children." Thus she not only appeared happy in conversing about Jesus Christ, but was equally pleased with the Christian conversation of others; and her eyes would overflow with tears when she was told that Christ had suffered for unworthy sinners: so tender was her heart in hearing of the love of Jesus.

In her sickness, on the Lord's day morning, being told that her papa was gone to public worship, as a proof that in her heart she wanted to be there, she began singing; and though very weak, did not cease for more than a quarter of an hour.

How sweet and awful is the place,
 With Christ within the doors;
 While everlasting love displays
 The choicest of her stores.

When she was in violent pain, instead of complaining, she would rejoice and cry out with holy rapture, "Glory ! glory ! I wish, I long to go to glory !

One morning, when she was between sleeping and waking, it is apprehended that satan terrified her, but that Jesus or his angel came to comfort her, for she cried out, "No, I will not go with you." Then, throwing her arms to the other side of the bed, she said, "Here, take me to your home, I will go with you, I will go with you."

The day before she died, she was in a heavenly frame, she desired her dear mother to sing,

Jesus can make a dying bed
Feel soft as downy pillows are ;
While on his breast I lean my head,
And breathe my life out sweetly there.

While this hymn was singing, she rose up in raptures, and was hardly dissuaded from singing also, though it would have been more than her feeble frame could have borne. The

last words she was heard to speak, were, "Glory ! glory !" and then to glory she went, to be for ever with the Lord. She died Nov. 15, 1788, before she had finished her short journey of four years and eight months in our world.

EXAMPLE VII.

ELIZABETH RADDON was one of the first scholars when a Sunday School was begun in the country, in 1785. There was every reason to believe, for a great while before her death, that she became truly serious: and indeed her conduct for a considerable time during health, was such as to shame many professors of christianity.

Nov. 8, 1789, she was taken with a putrid malignant fever, which was prevalent in that neighbourhood that winter. She was daily visited during her illness; and all who came to see her were astonished with her patience

and cheerfulness, though under violent pain, and in the constant views of eternity.

You shall now hear of some of her last expressions, as they dropped from her own lips, just before she was taken to be for ever with the Lord. To the worthy gentleman that put her to school, she said, “Oh, my dear friend, I shall die; I am just going, but I bless God I am not afraid to die. I long to go to my father’s house above. You are going to worship him below.”—(This she said on a sabbath-day.) “I have enjoyed sweet sabbaths here, but now I shall have a better sabbath than you. I am going to begin an eternal sabbath in glory; and my everlasting song will be,—unto him that hath loved me, and washed me from my sins in his own blood. Come, my dear Redeemer; come, send the fiery chariot, and fetch my longing soul!—Cut short thy work, my precious Christ; I love to be gone. Farewell, my friends; I shall see you no more till I meet you around the throne, to praise God for ever. Mother, I know you will be there; but, Oh! it breaks

my heart to think that any of the family should be missing. My dear father, my dear brothers and sisters, come to the precious Christ, that you may come after me to glory." And then she paused, and cried out in a rapture of joy,—“ Father, into thine hands I commend my spirit.”

She said to the gentleman that established the school, “ O, my dear Sir ! never drop that blessed Sunday school to the last hour of your life. I shall praise God for that school to all eternity, for there my blessed Redeemer first met with me.”

Another time she said, “ Farewell, my friend—my ever dear teacher ; the last petition I shall put up in the body will be for you : and whenever your Saviour calls you home, I will (if he permit me) with pleasure come out of the golden gates to meet you the instant you leave the body, and join the angels in conducting your departed spirit to our Immanuel.”

She died December 17, while the same gentleman¹ was present ; and after she was

totally speechless, shook hands with him, and earnestly lifted up her hands and eyes to heaven (remembering, no doubt, her promise mentioned before of putting up her last prayer for him) then closed her eyes, breathed twice only, and without a sigh, struggle, or groan, smilingly expired, aged 16 years.

The following Sabbath, her brother Daniel, aged 20 (who had been also one of the scholars) was taken with a fever, lay exactly the same length of time before he died, and expressed the same joyful assurance of a happy immortality through the great Redeemer. Her father, and five more of his children, were taken ill of the same disorder, but all of them recovered.

O, that the same could be said of some other Sunday schools ! But how difficult to produce real good among the children of the poor, while too many of their parents, not only on the Sabbath, but throughout the week, neglect to teach them to attend upon the good things they have heard ; they also set them such very bad examples, so as to

corrupt their own children, and to make them worse in their practices, if possible, than they are in their corrupted natures.

You shall hear, however, of one good boy that lived and died a very happy life, who was educated at Surrey chapel Sunday school; and may many of the children, like that dear boy, live and die in the same blessed manner.

EXAMPLE VIII.

JAMES GOLDFINCH was a scholar at Surrey chapel school; his father, though a poor, yet was a good man. It was about two or three years before his death that it pleased God to begin a good work of grace upon his soul; to open the eyes of his understanding, and to give him to see himself in the same state that Job found himself in when he cried, "Behold, I am vile;" and that, under a sense

of his own vileness, he abhorred himself, and repented in dust and ashes.

Under this sight of his sinful nature, he began to call upon the Lord in humble prayer; and at the same time he also began to search the sacred Word of God, and to take great delight therein: and as his eyes were dim, through sickness, I gave him a large Bible to read, in which he took an abundance of delight.

The Gospel of St. John was peculiarly delightful to him, especially the 10th, 14th, and 15th chapters. O, how greatly did he love and admire these words:—When he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice, and a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him, for they know not the voice of strangers.

He delighted also in the 27th and following verses, in the same chapter: My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life, and

they shall never perish, neither shall any pluck them out of my hands.

His heart was also much taken up in sweet meditations, concerning what our Lord tells his true disciples, in the 14th chapter of St. John:—In my father's house are many mansions: If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

In the 15th chapter he took great delight, where the Lord tells us, that He is the vine, and that his people are the branches. Yea, and he dearly loved all such passages of scripture as represented sweet union with Christ. And, indeed, it seemed as though his precious soul partook of much of this divine union with Christ, his living head; so that he delighted to say—When Christ, who is my life, shall appear, I also shall appear with him in glory.

The weaker he got, the more he seemed

to delight in the Word of God. It was his companion while he was up, and his bedfellow when he went to his rest.

He took also great delight in singing hymns. He was never so happy as when joining the congregation in the chapel, while his strength would permit him to attend. All good children, before they are taken to praise God above, find themselves much delighted in praising him upon the earth.

He had still a very humble opinion of himself. He would frequently say, "Though young in years, yet old in sin;" though even from his childhood he was kept from those wicked ways that too many children live in;—still he lamented the sins that he felt in his heart.

When his father would be talking to him about the dear Redeemer, his atonement and righteousness, this would fill his heart with love; and he would say—"You and I love one another because God loves us both."

Sometimes he would say—"Father, you know not the joys I have had this morning

in prayer." When his friends and neighbours would come and console him, telling him that he might perhaps get better, he would give them to understand that he wanted no such consolation, as he longed to be dissolved that he might be with Christ, which was far better.

He was fond at times of working and planting some flowers in a little garden that belonged to his father's house; but he said, looking at some things he had planted, "All these things delight be no more, for now it appears the Lord is about to take me to himself." And soon after, when I visited him, as I frequently did, because he was so very humble and heavenly, I asked him if he was afraid to die? He answered, "No, because Christ hath died for me."

As he drew near his end, he would tell his father that, "He should go but a little before, and that he would soon follow after: and the nearer he came to death, the more he was dead to all things about him, and the more alive was his heart to God through Jesus Christ."

The last moments he spent in prayer, and when his father said the Lord would bless and keep him, even to the last, he cried out, "The Lord has blessed me." Then his father kneeled down, and committed him to God in prayer: and while he was at prayer with him he breathed out his precious soul into the Saviour's hands, and was taken to be for ever with the Lord, at the age of 16.

EXAMPLE IX.

A FEW years ago there was a child monstrously wicked in cursing and swearing; and noted for the commission of every other crime a child of his age could be guilty of. He lived in a loathsome and ragged condition; a mere beggar boy.

He came and begged at the door of an eminent christian, who had compassion on him, in that he might bring him up in the fear of the Lord.

Within a few weeks, by the Lord's blessing on the good advice he daily received, he was convinced deeply of the evil of his ways, left off his vile practices, and began to retire by himself to bewail his wicked life; and would beg of his master, or others, to instruct him in the things of God, or to repeat what they had said to him, that he might remember it the better.

After he had thus continued for some time seeking after God, and diligent in every duty, he was taken for death. At first he was much alarmed; his former sins stared him in the face, and made him tremble. The fear of lying for ever under the wrath of God made him cry out bitterly, "O, what a miserable sinner I am; my sins are so great and many, that there is no hope for me."

He seemed to have no concern about the disease of his body; his great cry was about the disease of his soul. He not only lamented the outward sins he committed when a dirty beggar-boy, but more particularly the sins that he felt in his nature.—That child is

blessed, indeed, that knows what it is to repent of the sins of his heart.

He would ask christians that came to see him, whether they thought there was any mercy for him : begged them to deal plainly with him, “ for,” says he, “ I am the worst sinner in London, and abhor myself as the vilest wretch that ever lived.”

Being advised to cast himself upon Christ for mercy, he said, “ I should be glad to do so, but I wonder how Christ could ever be willing to die for such a wretch as I am ;” adding, that he now found it one of the most difficult things in the world to believe.

Still the Lord gave him some comfort, especially from that sweet word,—Come unto me all ye that are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. And O, how he admired God for the smallest hopes ; and as these hopes increased, it was wonderful how his gratitude and love increased also. And though the gentleman’s house was then full of sickness, yet it was made a little heaven, by the blessing that was upon the heart of this poor child

Though he prayed much before this, yet now it was remarkable what a spirit of prayer was poured down upon him. O, how he begged to be washed in the blood of Christ ! that the King of kings, and Lord of lords, would pardon all his sins, and receive him into his kingdom. And when he heard the mention of the name of Christ, he was sometimes almost ready to leap out of his bed for joy.

When it was told him, that if he lived, it was to be hoped that he would live the rest of his life to the glory of God, whose mercy had saved him, he would most earnestly cry out, “ The Lord helping me, with all my soul I will live to his glory.”

O, how he would thank his dear master for taking him out of the streets when a poor beggar-boy ; admiring the goodness of God, which put it in the heart of a mere stranger to take such care of such a worthless creature. “ My dear master,” he would say, “ blessed be God, that made you take pity upon me ; for I might have died in my sins, have been

cast into hell, and lost for ever, had it not been for you."

After this, however, he hinted to a christian friend, that he was still afraid he should deceive himself with false hopes; to which his friend replied, " You say you fear that Christ will not accept you; I fear you are not willing to accept him." The child answered, " Indeed I am." The christian friend replied, " If you are unfeignedly willing to have Christ, he is ten thousand times more willing to have you than you are to desire it; now, therefore, Christ again offers himself freely to you: receive him humbly by faith into your heart, and bid him welcome."

Upon which the child, in a rapture of joy, cried, " Well, all is well, the match is made. Christ is willing, and I am willing too; and now Christ is mine, and I am his for ever." And from that time he continued full of a joyful assurance of the love of Christ to him; praising him for it, and desiring to die, that he might be for ever with the Lord; and went to heaven with these last expressions on his

dying lips, " Lord, into thy hands I commit my spirit." At the time of his death he was but ten years of age.

EXAMPLE X.

SARAH HENLEY was taken by her godly parents to hear a sermon on this text, " My yoke is easy, and my burden is light:" by which her conscience was awakened, and she was made to see her need of the salvation of Jesus Christ.

She would weep over her sinful state, and frequently would retire into her chamber, and there privately cry against her sins, and to the Lord Jesus Christ for his mercy. Sometimes she would take her little brother and sister with her ; tell them of their lost condition by nature, weep over them, and pray with them, that they might be converted and saved from their sinful state.

Under another very awful sermon that she heard soon after, she was still more affected,

and spent a great part of that night in weeping and prayer. For some time she could scarcely take any rest, desiring with all her soul to escape from everlasting flames, and to be blessed with an interest in Christ; crying out, "What shall I do for Christ! What shall I do to be saved?"

She could scarcely hear or speak of sin, but her heart was ready to melt. She loved her Bible wonderfully, was very dutiful to her parents, and would weep bitterly if ever she offended them. She abhorred lying; hated idleness; and always was diligent in her business.

When the Lord afflicted her with sickness, she was in great distress of mind, and begged her mother would pray for her. "See," said she, "I am undone without Christ and pardon. Alas! I am undone to all eternity!"

Her mother wondering that one of her blameless life should be thus alarmed, asked what sin lay heavy on her spirit? She answered, "No sin sticks so close to my

conscience as the sin of my nature ; and *that*, without the blood of Christ, is enough to ruin my soul." Then she said, " Mother, pray that I may have a saving knowledge of Christ, and that I may have an assurance of God's love to my soul."

One time she fell into a fit, and exclaimed, " I am going, I am going : but what shall I do to be saved ? Sweet Lord Jesus, I will lie at thy feet ; and if I perish, it shall be at the fountain of mercy."

She was always afraid of presumption, and dreaded a mistake about the state of her soul. She would pray, " Give me faith, O Lord, give me faith, that I may not be a foolish virgin, having a lamp and no oil." Crying out, " O for assurance, assurance !" and requested all to help in prayer for her, that she might be blessed with a well-grounded assurance.

Her mother asked her how she should live, if God should spare her life ? She answered, " Truly mother, we have such base hearts, that I cannot tell. We are apt to promise

great things when we are sick ; but when we recover, we are apt to forget ourselves, and again turn unto folly."

Being full of holy love to her parents, and being much pained lest her mother should be tired out by nursing her, she looked at her mother, who said, " How shall I bear parting with you, when my eyes are scarcely dried on account of the death of your brother ?" The dear affectionate child answered, " The God of love support and comfort you."

Much prayer was made for this good child, that she might have a triumphant entry into glory : and the Lord truly answered their requests ; for she cried with much confidence, " Well, I will venture my soul upon Christ."

And when all thought she had been past speaking, she broke forth and said, with an audible voice and cheerful countenance, " Lord, thou hast promised, that whosoever cometh unto thee thou wilt in no wise cast out ; Lord, I come to thee. O, how sweet, how glorious is Jesus ! O, how I love the sweet and glorious Jesus ! O, the wonderful love of God, in

sending Christ to such a poor lost creature ! O, what free grace and mercy !” Thus she went on for a time, overpowered with the love of Christ, and rejoicing in God her Saviour.

She then addressed all the family. She gave her Bible as a legacy to one of her brothers, and desired him to use it well for her sake ; and then added the following exhortation to all that stood by :

“ O, get Christ to your souls, while you are young : remember now your Creator before you come to a sick bed. I know, by experience, the devil will tell you, that you are young, that you need not be in such haste, that you will have time enough when you are old. But you see, I, who am but young, am going into eternity ; O, therefore, make your calling and election sure, while you are in health ! Remember, these are the words of a dying sister. O, if you knew how good Christ is ! O, if you had but one taste of his love, you would rather go to him a thousand times, than stay in this wicked world ! I would not for ten thousand and ten thousand

worlds part with my interest in Christ. O, happy am I that am going to everlasting joys ! I would not return back again for twenty thousand worlds. And will not you strive to get an interest in Christ ?”

Then looking round on one of the servants, whom she thought to be graceless, she said, “ O, what will you do in that great day, when Christ shall say unto the wicked,—Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. O, how it grieves me to think that any whom I knew on earth should be turned into the lake that burns for ever ! O, those words, FOR EVER ! Remember the words, FOR EVER ! O, pray, pray that God would give you grace !”

Her grandmother then said, that she spent herself too much. She answered, “ I care not for that, if I could do any soul good.” And whatever she said was with such vehemence of affection, as if her heart had been in every word.

Next day she was exceedingly desirous to die, and cried out, “ Come, Lord Jesus, come

quickly, and conduct me to thy tabernacles !
I am a poor creature without thee ; but my
soul longs to be with thee. O, when shall it
be ! Why not now, dear Jesus ! Come, Lord
Jesus, come quickly ! But why do I speak
thus ? Thy time, dear Lord, is the best. O,
give me patience to wait for the blessed hour !”

On the Lord’s-day on which she died, she
scarce spoke to any ; but desired thanksgiving
might be offered up by those christians that
had been praying for her, for that full assur-
ance of that love which had been given her so
richly to enjoy.

Even to the last, she seemed to be much
swallowed up with the thoughts of God’s free
love to her soul. She would often commend
her spirit into the Lord’s hands ; and the last
words she was heard to speak, were these :—
“ Lord, help ! Lord Jesus, help !” Thus this
young saint sweetly slept in him.

EXAMPLE XI.

ANOTHER good little girl became very serious when she was between four and five years old. She would ask the most serious questions concerning God, Christ, and her own soul.

She was greatly afraid of hypocrisy, or of doing any thing to obtain praise from others. Hearing one of her brothers boast that he had been at prayer, she rebuked him for his pride, and said, "that such prayers could not profit, when it was only our design to let others know what we had been doing."

She was so affected at the love of Christ to poor ruined sinners, and the great danger of dying without an interest in his atonement, that when she read of these things in the Bible, she would frequently burst into tears, through the tenderness and love of her heart.

She was greatly concerned for the salvation of all she knew, and would often say some sweet words to allure them to Christ. She was especially concerned for the good of her

brothers and sisters. And the Lord blessed her counsels and examples to some of them, so that they would very frequently retire with her to secret prayer; and ask many serious questions about the things of God.

She was very careful to keep holy the Sabbath; spending it in reading, praying, and learning her catechism, or teaching her brothers and sisters.

Being left at home, she got them and some other little children together, and told them, "that it was the Lord's-day, and that they ought to remember and keep it holy;" and after telling them that the whole of it ought to be spent in religious exercises, except what was done in works of mercy and necessity, she prayed with them; and among other things, "begged that the Lord would give them, who were little children, grace and wisdom, that they might know how to serve him."

She was full of compassion to all; but especially to her widowed mother, and did all in her power to render her life comfortable to her. She would seldom complain of any thing but

sin ; and when her mother was anxious about worldly things, she laboured to admonish her respecting her over-carefulness, and sometimes told her that grace was better than that ; and that she had rather have Christ, his grace, and love, than all the world besides.

When one of her relations complained of their poverty, she said, “ A man may go to heaven without a penny in his purse, but not without grace in his heart.”

For several years she thought much on eternity and glory, enquiring about the joys of heaven, and was exceedingly desirous to be among them that were praising and loving, and delighting themselves in God, and serving him without sin.

Her speeches about spiritual things astonished many experienced christians, seeing such wonderful grace and wisdom in a child so young.

Between eleven and twelve years of age she fell sick, and encouraged her relations to be willing to part with her, as she was going to

heaven, and besought them to prepare to meet her in a blessed eternity.

As she lay dying, her mother expressed her grief that she had reprov'd and corrected her so often; but this meek and humble child replied, "O, mother, say not so; for I bless God, now I am dying, for your reproofs and corrections: I might have gone to hell had it not been for them."

After this she had a great sense of God's love, through a discovery of divine and eternal things to her mind, that filled her heart with joy unspeakable, and full of glory; and she expired in a rapture of holy triumph; and was taken by angels to dwell for ever with the Lord.

THE
LIFE AND DEATH
OF
NABAL BADCHILD. *

NABAL BADCHILD was the son of a worthy minister, who was always diligent in preaching our Saviour's mercy and love to poor sinners. But Mrs. Badchild was not a good christian, like her husband, for she was too fond of dressing, and going out on idle visits; and sometimes she would play at cards. And on these occasions she would take her son Badchild with her, but always told him that he must not tell his father what they did; by this means Badchild began to neglect his father's good advice, and was taught to tell lies

* In this instance only I have used similitudes.

to hide those things from his father which his mother told him to do.

Badchild was not above six years old before he began to lie ; and in this he soon got worse and worse, till there was no believing what he said ; and when his good father began to correct him for his faults, his mother would say, “ What do you beat the child for ? ” Then her good husband would quite cry for grief, and go into his study and pray to the Lord to turn their wicked hearts.

Mrs. Badchild not only prevented him being corrected, but always humoured him in all foolish and hurtful things, so that if ever his father denied him any thing, he would storm and tear, and fall into such passions, as were most frightful to behold. One time his bad mother nearly killed him, by letting him eat so many nuts and cakes, and fruits and sweetmeats, that many thought he would have died ; the physician attended him every day, and his father expended a deal of money that this Badchild might not die, fearing lest he should be for ever punished for his sins ;

for Badchild was not a baby, who knew not what he did, for he was now between eight and nine years old.

To be sure he was dreadfully frightened when he was so near death, and many a good prayer did his father put up for him, that our Saviour would turn his heart. But as soon as he recovered, he was worse than ever, and this he soon discovered when he was sent to school. For though he was a sharp boy, and could learn any thing, yet he never could be kept to mind his school. If his father gave him a penny, on condition that he would be good, he would even stop among a set of beggar boys, and toss up with them, whereby he got into such bad company, that he was soon taught to gamble, and soon after that to steal, which sometimes he would do from the poor people's stalls, who sell things in the streets ; at other times he would rob orchards, and then come home, as he always did, with an abominable lie, saying he had been at school all the time, and the things he had stolen were given him.

Many a strong birch rod was used to bring him to a better behaviour, but all in vain ; till his master, being a very good man, and having some lovely and excellent children in the school, was obliged to turn him out from all the rest, knowing that one scabby sheep spoils the whole flock.

And now you shall hear why Badchild was turned out of school.

As this most vile Badchild, who never thought of praying to God before he went to bed, lay with his little cousin, David Simple, a very harmless pretty boy, he was so wicked as to take the money out of his cousin's pocket, when he was asleep. Now, as soon as ever Mr. Lovechild (for that was the name of his master) had found out the wicked thief, he was determined that Badchild should be turned out of the school before all the boys.

O, it would have made a heart of stone to ache, to have heard how Mr. Lovechild, the schoolmaster, behaved on this occasion ; how he grieved and wept when he told them all

what a great sinner this Badchild was, and yet what a good father he had.

He said so much against all his wicked deeds, that no minister from the pulpit could preach a better sermon. All the good children wept; even others who were not so good, could not but shed many tears on this occasion. Mr. Lovechild then kneeled down, and prayed to God our Saviour that none of the rest of the dear children might be corrupted by Badchild's example; and even prayed for wicked Badchild himself. Then he tied a halter about Badchild's neck, that he might be taught how he deserved to be hanged, like a thief, for his crime; and then took his rod, which he seldom used, his children being mostly so good, and whipped this most ungodly child out of school.

O, how did his father grieve that his child, his only child, the child of so many prayers and tears, should prove so sinful at such an early age. He could neither eat, drink, nor sleep for grief; while his mother went like a tiger to his master, for using her son so ill. Thus she made him worse and worse, as she

would neither correct him herself for his evil ways, nor suffer him to be corrected by any one else.

The good father of this most wicked Bad-child was still in hopes as he got older, he would get better. But though he was thus disgracefully turned out of school, instead of repenting of it, he was glad to be at liberty to be more wicked than ever. At first he got very fond of fighting, and I dare say, if he had brothers or sisters, he would have fought with them ; for he would try to pick a quarrel with every boy he met ; and if he saw a poor little boy quietly going about his business, he would pelt him with stones and dirt, and if ever he could hurt him and make him cry, he would laugh at him ; but whenever he could meet with a boy as bad as himself, to fight with him, O, how he would rage and tear, and even swear at him, and use every means, if possible, to commit murder itself.

And no wonder, for he was a most cruel boy. Throwing at cocks, attending bull-baits, seeing debased cudgel-players and boxers,

going to horse-races, and such barbarous pastimes were his delight. He once saw a poor old soldier, who had lost his leg in the wars, taking some ginger-bread and oranges to sell at the market. Now this most cruel boy threw him down, by taking hold of his wooden leg, and thereby broke his arm, and then stole all that he could contrive to take away.

I was very glad to hear that Badchild was taken before the justice for this wicked trick. The justice not only committed him to the house of correction, (where he was confined to hard labour, which this Badchild hated, as he was very idle and lazy) but also ordered him to be publicly whipped in the market-place, just where he threw down the poor old soldier, and a terrible whipping to be sure he had. O, how he did cry out, while his back ran down with blood ; but no one pitied him, he was such a cruel hard-hearted boy.

This brought Badchild's father almost to despair that his son would ever be better, as he was now fourteen years old, still he wished to put him out to a trade, in hopes that he

would then be more sober and steady ; but he was so wicked, that he could get no one to take him ; for his father could never get him to learn to write, though he could read pretty well, which he was willing enough to learn, as he delighted in reading wicked ballads, profane play books, and every abominable book he could borrow or steal. And now Badchild thought himself happy. All the money he occasionally got by labour in the course of the week he would spend on the Lord's-day, in the public-house, where he would be cursing and swearing, singing foolish songs, and keeping himself half drunk all the day. His father had now no controul over him, and he was obliged to leave him to his wicked ways, though it grieved him to the very heart.

Sabbath-breaking and other transgressions soon brought him to rags and ruin. His father helped him indeed, as long as he could, but all was in vain ; for this Badchild, now given over to all sorts of wickedness, having joined himself to a set of thieves, chose rather to steal than work. He now got so wicked

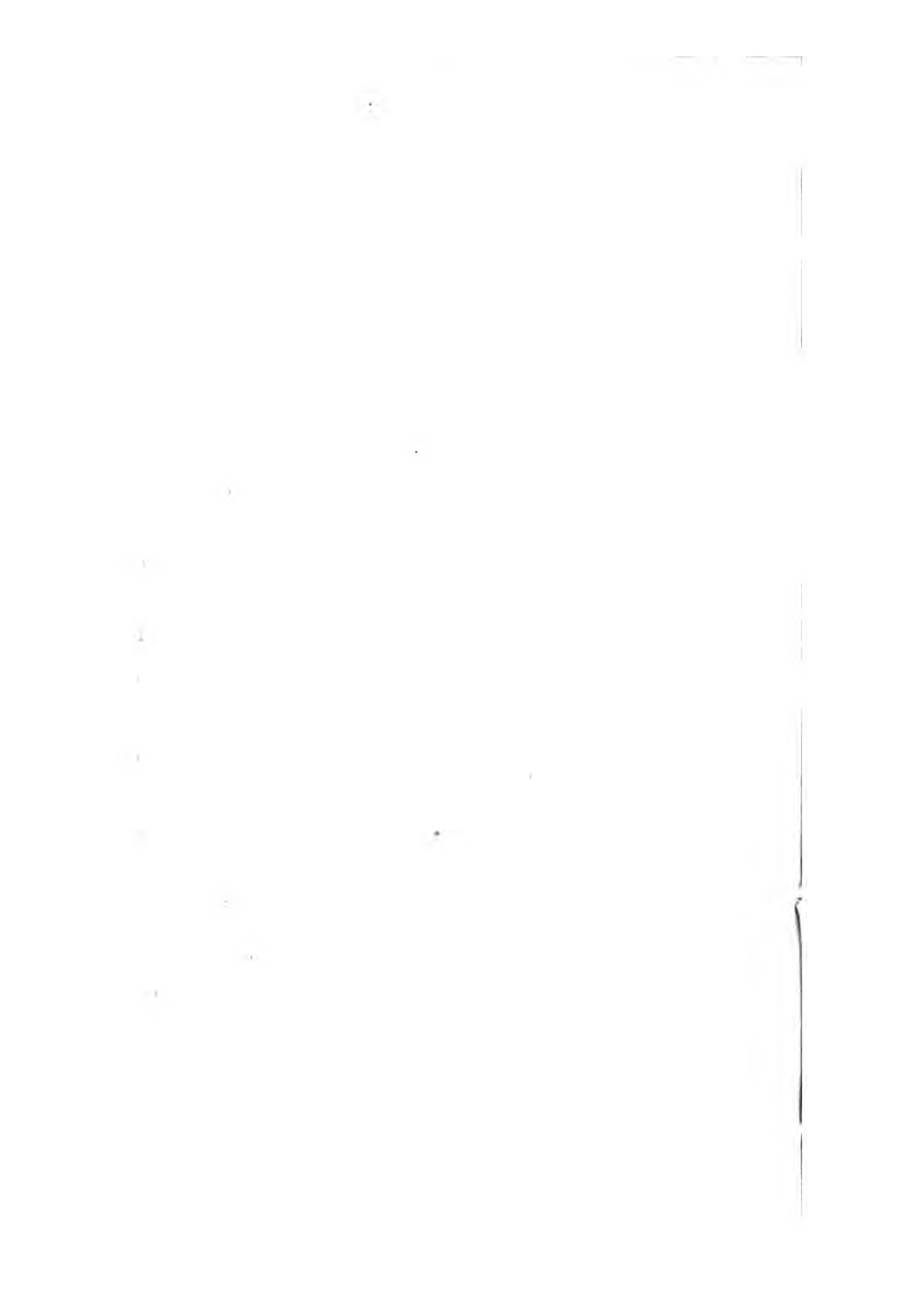
that he joined with one Samuel Bloodman to rob his own father's house, as he knew best where the money was kept; and so one night he dressed himself in a suit of Samuel Bloodman's clothes. They opened the house, and robbed the poor father of his watch and all his money; while they were practising their wickedness, the watchman cried out—Thieves! Thieves! Thieves! As both of them had swords and pistols they were going to murder the watchman, but he fired his gun at them, and shot Badchild through the leg, so that he could not run away so fast as Bloodman. They both attempted to escape by climbing over the garden wall. Bloodman escaped justice this time, but he was afterwards taken and hanged for murdering a gentleman on the high road. But Badchild could not get away before the watchman came up to him, he was then pulled down while in the act of getting over the wall, and he was brought to the ground with such a shock, that his arm was broken. The next day he was taken before the justice, for examination.

But, O, who can tell what his father felt, when he came to meet the thief before the justice, and found that it was his own, his only son who had robbed him, while the watch and money were found upon him. How did the good old man lament and sob, and grieve over this hard-hearted, ungrateful, and rebellious child; crying out, how he would bring his grey hairs with sorrow to the grave. And surely so it was, for he died of a broken heart. Thus many good christians lost an excellent minister, and all through the cruel conduct of his own son. But as every one believed that he was an excellent christian, nobody doubted but that he was received into glory.

Badchild was sent next day to gaol, where he was put in irons, and there locked up to consider, with his broken arm, how he broke the poor soldier's arm in the market-place.

Soon after this wicked wretch was brought before my Lord judge, at the assizes; was soon found guilty, and because he attempted to murder the poor watchman, he was sentenced to be hanged.

Now this vile sinner began to see his folly when it was too late, and begged that a good minister, whom he used to laugh at when he was at liberty, would come and see him, and had he been a bishop he could not have given him a better exhortation ; to be sure he did tell him of all his wicked ways, very plainly ; but when he came to tell of the wonderful love of God, our Saviour, who died for sinners, how he saved the poor thief that died on the cross, it was enough to melt the heart of even Badchild. And now he began to weep bitterly. Some thought he might have been a penitent, but this can be known to God alone, for he had no time to prove the sincerity of his repentance by a better life ; for the day after this visit he was taken to the gallows,—trembling, weeping, wringing his hands, lamenting his most wicked ways, just going to appear before the judgment seat of Christ ; and there he was hanged up by the neck till he was dead.



P R A Y E R S

TO BE SAID BY

CHILDREN,

NOT ONLY WITH THE LIP, BUT WITH THE HEART ;

And only by such Children as humbly desire to be
the better for the Prayers they say.

A MORNING PRAYER.

MOST merciful Lord, by thy gracious protection I have been defended from all the perils and dangers of the last night. O, let me begin the day by blessing thee for the good rest and protection I have enjoyed at thy hand in my sleeping hours.

Save me, thou God of love, from all those inward feelings that are wicked and abominable in thy sight. May my heart be kept by thee from pride and anger, from stubbornness before others, and hardness before thee.

Thou knowest, Lord, the wickedness of all hearts. O, grant that a sinful child, by the grace of thy Holy Spirit, may feel that blessed change, as that sin may be no more beloved and practised by me, but that I may live to love thee, and love to serve thee.

O, permit me not to run out of the path of duty this day, lest I should run into the way of danger. Lead my mind into the thoughts that are profitable and good. May I never spend a day upon earth without thinking of, and talking about the love of our most gracious Saviour, who died for my sins, and now ever lives to make intercession in heaven for me. In his name I further pray unto thee, and say—Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven: give us this day our daily bread: and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us: and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

AN EVENING PRAYER.

O LORD, by thy merciful protection I have been defended throughout this day : by the bounty of thy providence, all my wants have been supplied, while many have been in misery and distress, who were more worthy of thy bounty than the poor unworthy child that now prays before thee.

Blessed be thy name for all the good instruction I have received. Sanctify my heart and memory, that I may retain the same, so that I may daily increase in knowledge and in grace, to the comfort of my instructors, and to the glory of thy great name.

Pardon, O most merciful God, for Jesus Christ's sake, all the sins I have committed this day. O, give me repentance as well as pardon, that I may hate those evils that render me hateful to thee, and that I may be made lovely in thy sight, following the example of our blessed Saviour, through the grace of thy good Spirit upon my heart. And this, the

prayer of a poor sinful child, is offered before thee, through the merits of our holy Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A PRAYER BEFORE AND AFTER READING THE SCRIPTURES.

BLESSED Lord, who hast caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may in such wise hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them; that by patience and comfort of thy holy word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR THE LORD'S-DAY MORNING.

COMPASSIONATE Saviour, thou hast ordained, for the good of poor sinful man, that thy day should be a day of rest. O, that it

may not be a day of rest from labour only, but also a day of rest from the disgraceful work of sin.

I bless thee that this day I am to go to thine house; and I beseech thee that thou wouldest bless the minister and all the people who shall attend to worship with me.

Though I am a poor little child, and may not be able to remember much, yet give me grace that I may remember some of the good things that I may hear in thy sacred service.

And, O dear Saviour, make me the better for what I shall hear, that I may love thee for dying for me, that my sins may be pardoned through thy precious atoning blood.

And may I thus be kept in thy service on earth, until I come to praise thee in thy kingdom above, there to spend an eternal Sabbath with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for evermore. Amen.

A PRAYER
FOR THE LORD'S-DAY EVENING.

O GRACIOUS Lord, let a little child bless thee, that while many children have been directed by their ungodly parents to profane thy Sabbath, by turning it into a day of vanity and pleasure, I have been taken to attend thy sacred worship.

O, forgive me that I thought so little of praise and prayer, and of hearing thy word, while I was in thy house. As I grow older may I grow wiser and better, and love thy service more and more; till at last I may be brought to serve thee and to love thee for the redemption of a sinful world, and for thy mercies to a most unworthy child, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

A PRAYER

THAT A CHILD MAY SAY BEFORE THE LORD

AT ANY TIME,

BUT ESPECIALLY WHEN HIS HEART IS BROKEN FOR SIN.

O MOST merciful and compassionate Lord, look down in love and pity upon me thy poor child. Pardon me, who, though so young, has been so vile a sinner in thy sight. Give me a weeping eye, and a broken heart, for all my transgressions : and for the sake of Jesus Christ, let not my sins be my eternal ruin.

As thou, by thy good Spirit, canst change the hearts of fallen sinners, so wilt thou change my heart, and fill me with love to thy dear name, that I may delight in all thy commandments, and live in thy fear from day to day.

Teach me to remember that thou hast an eye that can see all that I do. O, help me to look up unto thee, and keep me from sin, that I may be kept from the just punishment sin deserves.

O, dear Saviour, thou wast wounded for our transgressions, and thou didst suffer the painful death upon the cross to save me from eternal death; grant me thy grace, that I may love thee with all my heart, for the love thou hast shewn towards me; and may be enabled to live to thy praise and glory for evermore. Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

FINIS.

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Amen.

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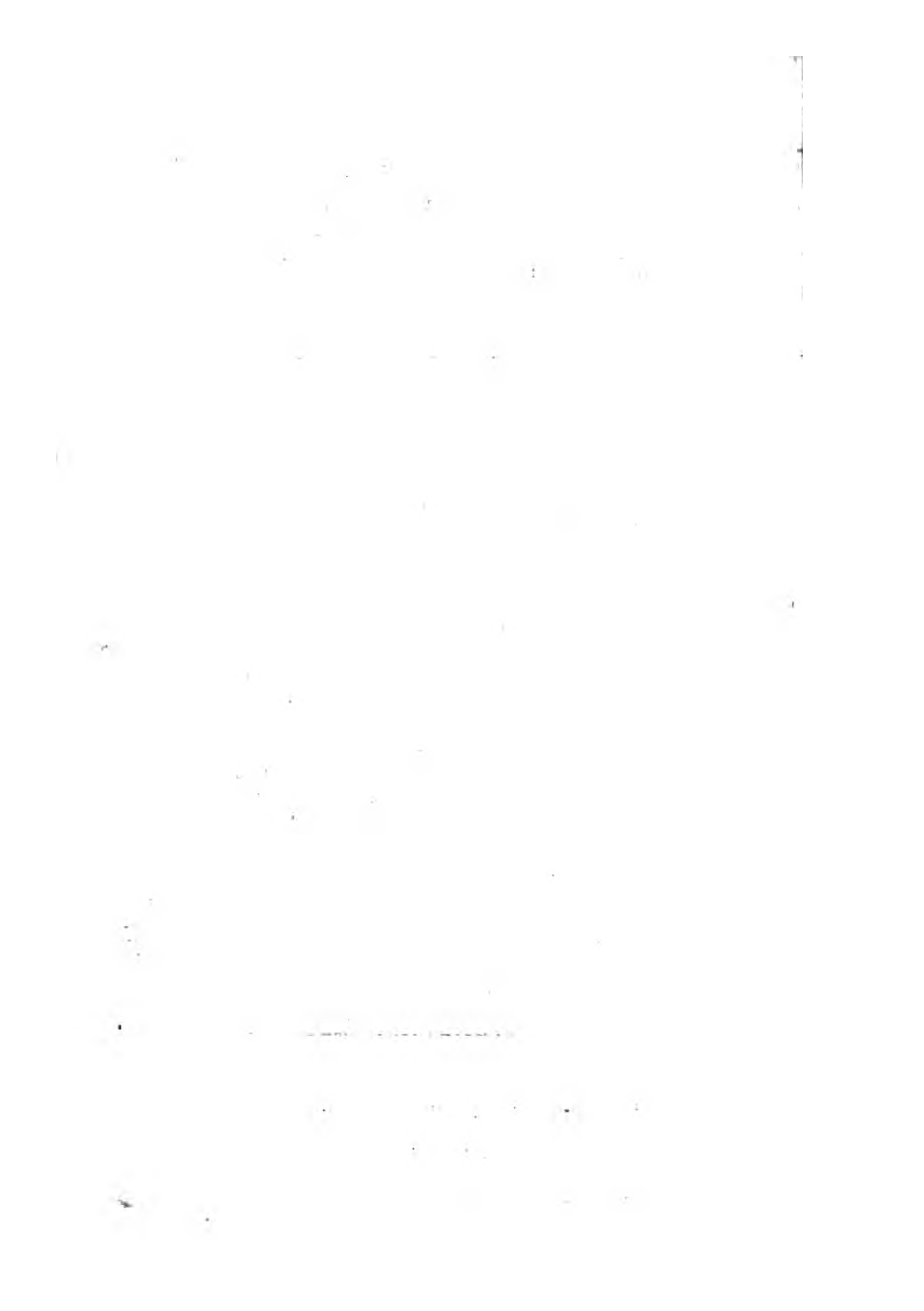
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