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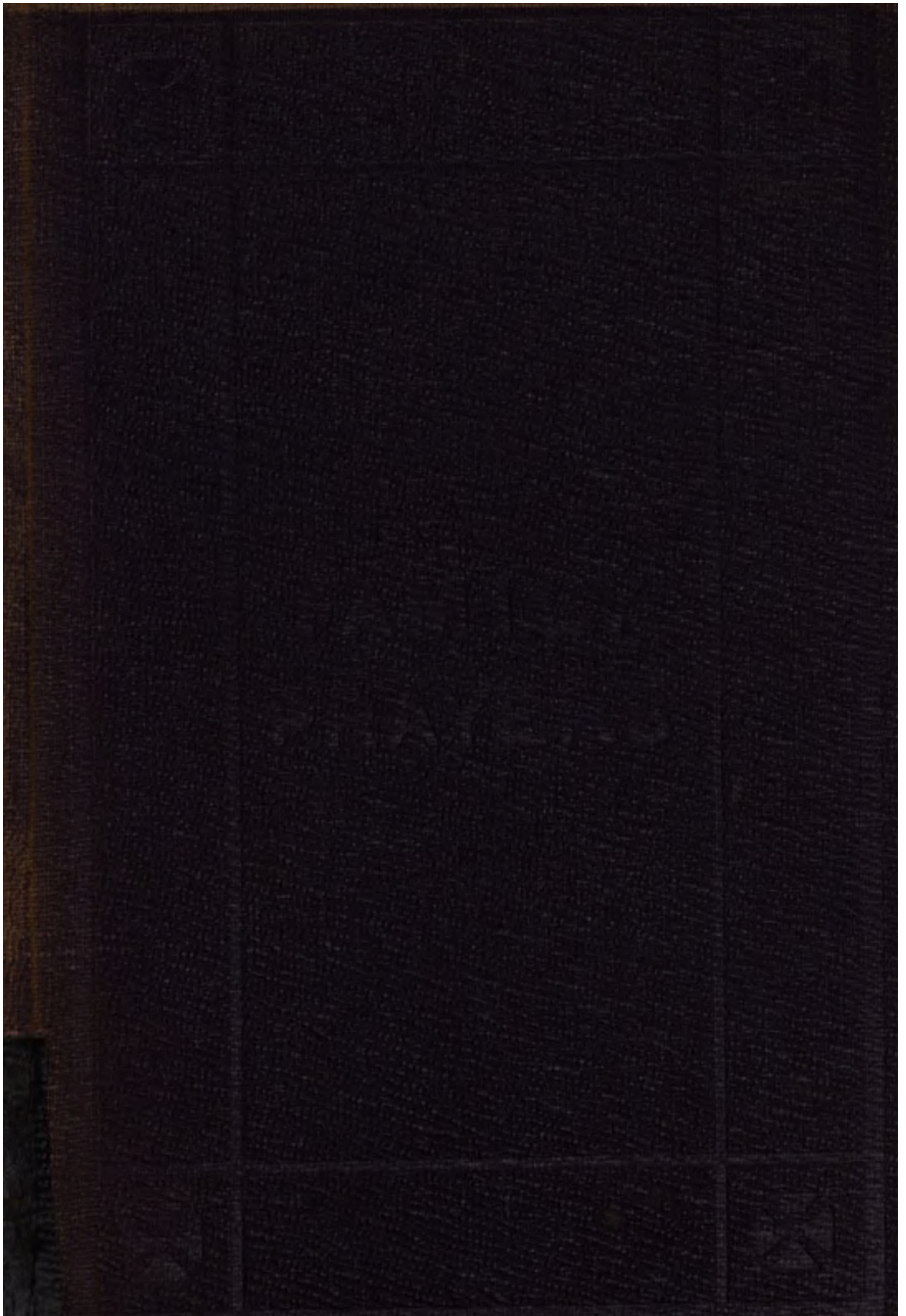
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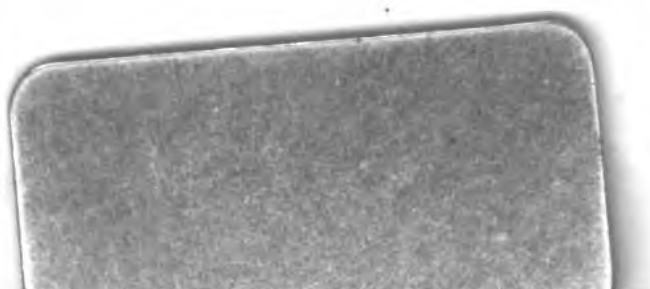


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THE BOOK
OF
SHORT FAMILY PRAYERS;

COMPRISING
MORNING AND EVENING PRAYERS
FOR EVERY DAY,
AND A
VARIETY OF ADDITIONAL PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL
OCCASIONS.

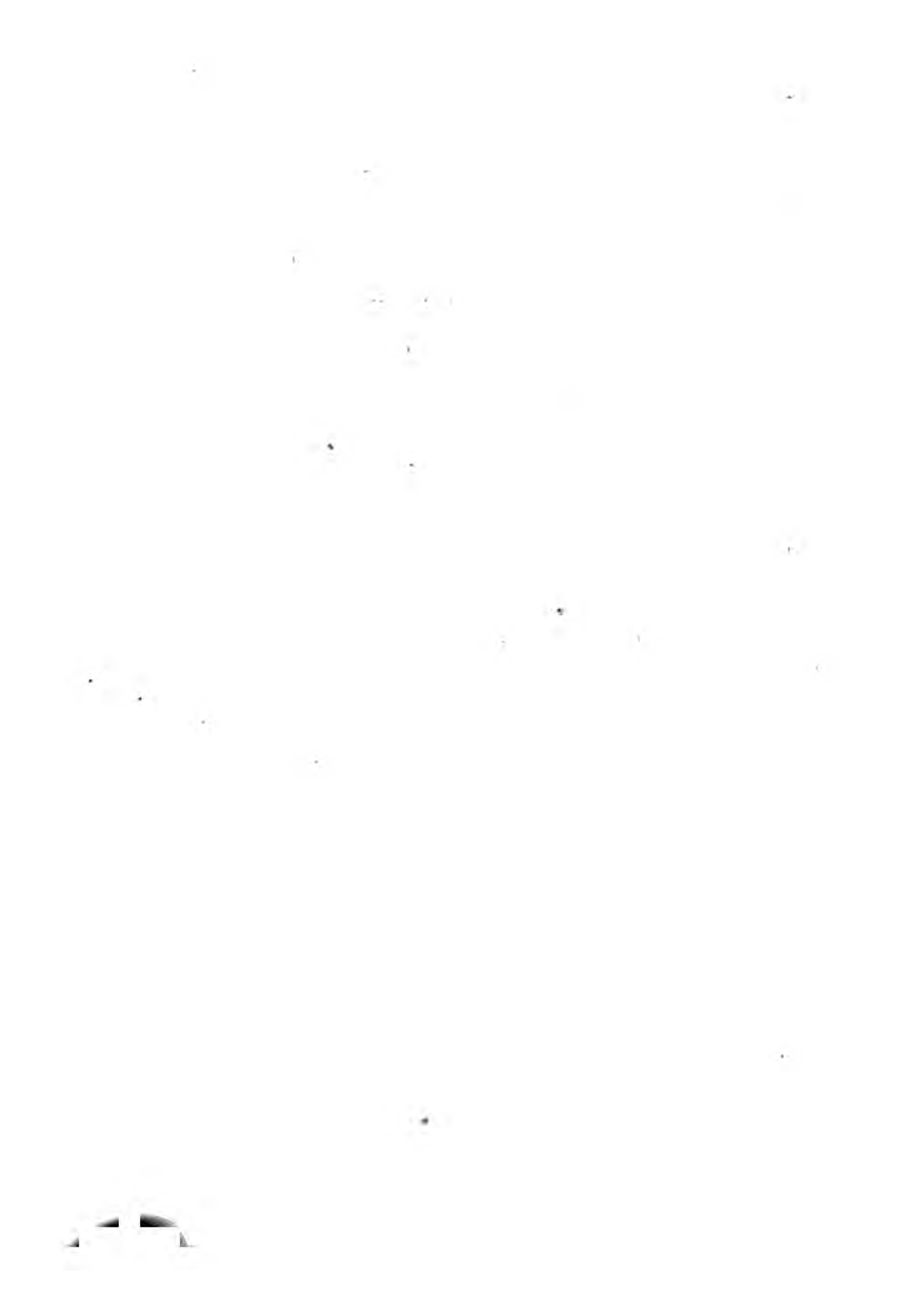
BY THE
REV. CHARLES WEBSTER, D.D.



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PREFACE.



THE want of some book of short and simply devotional Family Prayers has long been felt and deplored. It is with a view to supply this want, in some degree, that the following prayers have been especially composed; and they are such as any and all Christians may join in offering up to Almighty God, in family worship. For greater variety there are distinct prayers for the

mornings and evenings of *two* weeks, and a number of various prayers suited to different occasions of human necessity and sorrow are added, which will, it is hoped, be found acceptably adapted to the purposes for which they have been introduced.

A N E W
BOOK OF FAMILY PRAYER.

SUNDAY MORNING.

O ETERNAL Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Creator of all things, visible and invisible, Source of all our good, infinitely good in Thyself, and infinitely gracious, bountiful, and good to us, behold, we, Thy poor servants, the work of Thy hands, redeemed by the blood of Thine only Son, come to present

ourselves as humble petitioners before the throne of Thy mercy. Let our souls, this day more especially, O Lord, rejoice in Thee. Take off our hearts from all other things but Thee, this day ; for in all but Thee is vanity and vexation of spirit. Let our hearts be fixed on Thee alone ; let us ever repose in Thee ; for in Thee is our real treasure ; in Thee is the sovereign truth, true happiness, and a blessed eternity. Thou art, O Jesus, the Physician of our souls, who healest all our infirmities with Thy precious blood. We are the sick whom Thou camest from heaven to heal : O heal our souls ;

for we have sinned against Thee. Thou art the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for the sheep. We are the sheep that have wandered from Thee. O bring us to the pastures of eternal life. We are poor and needy : Thou knowest of what we most stand in need. Help us, O God, and out of thy treasures enrich our souls. [Thou who makest eloquent the tongues of those that want utterance, direct the tongues of those who speak Thy Word to us this day, and pour on their lips the grace of Thy blessing.] To Thee we owe all the days of our lives—let us give at least this one to Thy service.

How lovely are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of Hosts : happy are they that trust in Thee. At once humbled by a sense of our own weakness, and animated by a sincere desire of repairing our past ingratitude, we come before Thee imploring Thine aid ; for, strengthened by Thee, we can do all things. Vouchsafe, then, this day to give efficacy to our resolutions of living henceforth but for Thee, and of devoting all our faculties to the promotion of Thy glory. May Thy love be the motive of our actions, our guide amidst the dangers of the world, our light in difficulties, and our counsel in doubt ; and may it

detach our affections from earthly things. For, O Lord Jesus, only in Thy service is true peace to be found. O Divine Jesus, Redeemer of mankind, who came to save even those who were lost, whose blood was shed for many for the remission of sins, deign to listen to the prayers we now offer, not for ourselves alone, but for the great family of mankind, whose Creator, Lord, and Sovereign Master Thou art. Let all hear Thy voice, O good Pastor of our souls, that all may follow Thee; and let there be but one sheepfold and one Shepherd. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

SUNDAY EVENING.

O FATHER of our souls, who residest in the highest heavens, and yet hast tender compassion on the wants of Thy children upon earth, behold us, Thy repentant children, returning to Thee this night, penetrated with grief that we should ever, as we have, sought to shake off that yoke which Thou Thyself hast pronounced to be both *sweet* and *light*. Pardon us, O Divine Benefactor, for Thou knowest our weakness, and rememberest that we are but dust. Forgive our transgressions of the day, and that

we have profited so little by the opportunities of grace which Thou hast bestowed. Father of mercies, we have grievously sinned against Thee, and are no more worthy to be called Thy children. We have repaid Thy benefits with ingratitude and Thy graces with neglect. Pardon us, O God of love. Thy mercy still exceeds the greatness of our misery. Wherefore, O God, unworthy as we are, we will not cease to confide in Thee. In Thee have we trusted: let us never be confounded. We desire, henceforth, to serve Thee more faithfully, and we will adopt, by Thy grace, the

securest means of overcoming our passions and subduing our evil habits. Help us, O Lord, to begin the new week opening before us with renewed diligence in all our duties, and more fervent devotion to Thy most Holy service ; this we beg of Thee through the merits of Thy dear Son, our only Saviour Jesus Christ, who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

Our Father, &c.

MONDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God, who, dwelling in the highest heavens, vouchsafest to regard the lowest creature upon earth, we humbly adore Thy sacred Majesty, and with all the powers of our souls exalt and praise Thy name for the infinite blessings Thou hast so freely bestowed upon us; for electing us in Thy love, and creating us in Thine own image; for redeeming us by Thy Son, and sanctifying us by Thy Holy Spirit; for preserving us in all the chances and accidents of this life, and raising up our thoughts to

the hope of a better, and particularly this morning, that Thou hast protected us from the dangers of the night, and hast brought us safely to the beginning of another day. Continue, O Lord, Thy mercy to us; and as Thou hast awakened our bodies from sleep, so raise our souls from sin, that we may walk soberly and honestly, as in the day, in all holy obedience before Thy face. Deliver us, O merciful God, from the evils of this day, and guide our feet in the way of peace; strengthen our resolution to embrace with gladness all opportunities of doing good, and carefully to avoid all

occasions of sin ; and when, through frailty, we forget Thee, do 'Thou, in Thy mercy, remember us, that as we often fall by the evil propensity of our nature, we may always rise again by the assistance of Thy grace. Make us diligent in the duties of our calling and station, and not too solicitous about the things of this life, but in all the miseries and crosses of the world absolutely to submit to Thy divine pleasure, and wholly to rely on Thy merciful providence. Let Thy blessing be upon our actions, and Thy grace direct our intentions, that the whole course of our life, and the

principal design of our hearts, may always tend to the advancement of Thy glory, the good of others, and the eternal salvation of our own souls; through Jesus Christ our Lord and only Saviour, who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

MONDAY EVENING.

O ETERNAL, infinite, and almighty God, whose glory the heaven of heavens cannot contain, look down on Thine unworthy servants, prostrate at the feet of Thy mercy, and humbly confessing to Thee the sinfulness and vanity of our lives, and especially the transgressions of this day. Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, and according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies; blot out our transgressions; create a clean heart in us, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. And now, O most

gracious Benefactor, we praise and magnify Thy holy name for Thy great and innumerable benefits, proceeding purely from Thy bounty, and intended wholly for our good ; particularly for preserving us this day in the midst of so many dangers incident to our condition, and delivering us from the many calamities and miseries which are due to our sins. Bless, O Lord, the repose we are about to take, that, our bodily strength being renewed, we may be the better able to serve Thee. Pour down Thy blessings, O Lord, upon our friends, relations, and acquaintances. And now, O Lord Jesus

Christ, whose unwearied eye neither slumbers nor sleeps, but continually watches in defence of Thy servants, take us and ours, we beseech Thee, into Thy protection, and grant that, whilst our bodies are asleep, our souls may be awake to Thee, and that we may hereafter behold Thee in that blessed and heavenly country where Thou, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, rulest eternally, and where all the angels, with Thy saints, are citizens for ever and ever.

Amen.

Our Father, &c.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O GOD, our only good, the Author of our being and our last end, we offer Thee our hearts this day. Praise, honour, and glory be to Thee for ever and ever! We arise from our bed of sleep to adore Thee and to labour for the salvation of our souls. O may we arise in the last day to life everlasting! We humbly thank Thee for all the favours Thou hast bestowed upon us up to the present moment. We give Thee thanks from the bottom of our hearts that Thou hast created us after Thine own image and like-

ness ; that Thou hast redeemed us by the precious blood of Thy dear Son ; and that Thou hast preserved us and brought us safely to the beginning of another day. We offer to Thee, O Lord, our whole being, and in particular all our thoughts, words, actions, and sufferings of this day. We consecrate them all to the glory of Thy name, beseeching Thee that, through the infinite merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour, they may all find acceptance in Thy sight. O God, Thou knowest our poverty and weakness, and that we are unable to do any good thing without Thee : deny us not, O God,

the help of Thy grace ; proportion it to our necessities. Give us strength to avoid everything evil forbidden by Thee, and to practise the good which Thou hast commanded ; and enable us to bear patiently all the trials which it may please Thee to send us. And, as Thou art the Source of every blessing, we entreat Thee to pour down Thy benediction this day upon us, and upon all those for whom we offer up our prayers. And, that nothing may interrupt the course of Thy blessing, we beseech Thee to banish from our hearts everything that displeases Thee. Pardon us

our sins, since we sincerely detest them for the love of Thee; purify our hearts; sanctify our souls; bestow on us a blessing that may change, consecrate, and unite us perfectly to Thee, and may fill us with Thy Spirit, and be to us in this life a foretaste of those blessings which Thou reservest for the blessed in heaven. All this we beg in the name of Jesus Christ Thy Son, who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

TUESDAY EVENING.

O FATHER of mercies, who desireth not the death of sinners, look down upon us, miserable sinners, according to the multitude of Thy mercies. We acknowledge and confess, and are heartily sorry for, all the sins of our past lives, and of this day in particular. We cast ourselves at Thy feet, and beseech Thee to cover all our sins with that infinite love with which Thou hast loved us from all eternity. Have mercy upon all, O Lord. Give food to those who labour; comfort those who are oppressed with sorrow;

supply the necessities of the needy ; heal the sick ; support the dying. Bless, O Lord, the repose we are about to take, that, our bodily strength being renewed, we may be the better enabled to serve Thee. We desire, O God, to live henceforth more exactly in conformity to Thy will, and to the rule of Thy commandments. But, without Thy assistance, O Lord, there is no strength in man. Thou, therefore, who makest us to will that which is good, give us also the power to perform it. Grant that we may live soberly, righteously, and piously in this world, and praise Thee for ever

with Thy saints in the world to come. Despise not, O Lord, our petitions, for Thine infinite mercies' sake, but accept this, our evening sacrifice, and let it ascend as incense in Thy sight; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O ETERNAL God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the beginning and end of all things, in whom we live and move and have our being, prostrate before Thee in body and soul, we adore Thee with the most profound humility. We praise and bless Thee, and give Thee thanks for all the benefits which Thou hast conferred upon us. Particularly this morning we thank Thee for having preserved us during the night past, and for bringing us in safety to the beginning of another day. O God, how good Thou art unto

us ! What return can we make unto Thee for all that Thou hast done ? We will bless Thy holy name and serve Thee truly all the days of our lives. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and let all that is within me praise His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all that He hath done for thee. O God, how little have we served Thee in time past ; how greatly have we sinned against Thee ! We acknowledge our iniquity, and our sin is ever before us. We repent, O Lord, we repent, and are heartily sorry that we have lost that time in offending Thee which Thou gavest

us to be employed in Thy service, in advancing the good of our own souls, and obtaining everlasting life. Give us grace now, O Lord, to begin anew, and endeavour to spend this day according to Thy holy will, performing all our actions so that they may be pleasing unto Thee. Thou knowest, O Lord Jesus, how weak and unable we are to do good. Leave us not to ourselves, but take us under Thy protection, strengthen our weakness, and cure the corruption of our hearts. And because through Thy goodness alone we have been created, to the praise and glory of Thy holy name,

grant, we beseech Thee, that we may faithfully serve Thee here, and eternally rejoice with Thee hereafter, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O ALMIGHTY God, we most heartily thank Thee for all Thy mercies and blessings bestowed upon us this day; for watching over us and preserving us from so many evils, and favouring us with so many graces. And now, dear Lord, add this one blessing to the rest, that we may clearly discover the sins which we have committed this day, by thought, word, or deed, or by any omission of our duty to Thee, our neighbour, or ourselves; that no part of our guilt may be hidden from our eyes, but that we may see our

sins in their true colour, and may detest them as we ought. Spare us, we beseech Thee, O our God and chief Good, by the death and love of Jesus Christ Thy Son, and mercifully forgive us our sins. Thou watchest over us with an incomparable love, every moment bestowing favours, and preserving us from evil. Blessed be Thy holy name, and may we always bless Thy goodness. To Thy love and protection we recommend ourselves, our relations, our friends, and country. Change our hearts, O Lord Jesus, and transform us into Thyself. May Thy love be the end of all our thoughts, words, and

actions, who livest and reignest with
the Father and the Holy Ghost,
ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

Our Father, &c.

THURSDAY MORNING.

O ALMIGHTY God and most liberal Benefactor! Thou art our Creator, and Thou knowest the miseries of our souls. Thou seest how often we have abused the greatest graces, how unworthy we are of Thy favours; yet, notwithstanding, Thou still desirest not the death of us miserable sinners, but rather that we be converted and live. To this purpose Thou hast again brought us to the beginning of another day. If Thou didst not ardently love us, Thou wouldst not so frequently invite us to return

to Thee, nor offer us a pardon so little deserved. O most merciful God, since, without Thy grace, we cannot regain or continue in Thy friendship, vouchsafe to finish Thine own work, and assist us by Thy Holy Spirit in discovering and repenting of our sins. O Judge of the living and the dead, before whom we must appear one day to give an account of all our thoughts, words, actions, and omissions, teach us to conceive and tremble at the danger in which we have too often been, of eternal separation from Thee. O Divine Spirit of Light and Truth, descend into our hearts, and grant us one

ray of that light which will enlighten our souls at the moment of death. Now is the acceptable time, and the day of salvation. Thou hast promised to receive and pardon a repenting sinner. Be pleased, therefore, O Lord Jesus, to pardon whatever we have committed against Thee, and do Thou mercifully direct all our thoughts, words, and actions to Thy greater glory, and regulate them by the model of Thy own most blessed life, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

THURSDAY EVENING.

O MERCIFUL Father, may we be ever grateful to Thee for the blessings which Thou hast bestowed upon us this day ! To Thy most merciful goodness we commend our souls and bodies ; to Thee we wholly devote ourselves, and to Thy Divine will resign and yield ourselves eternally. O heavenly Father, O most forgiving Father, O Lord God, have mercy upon us, wretched sinners, have mercy upon all men. O Holy Spirit, sweetest Comforter, who proceedest from the Father and the Son in an ineffable

manner, come, we beseech Thee, and sink into our hearts. Purify and cleanse us from all sin, and sanctify our souls. Wash away their defilements, moisten their dryness, heal their wounds, subdue their stubbornness, melt their coldness, and correct their wanderings. Instruct, direct, and defend us in all things ; bestow upon us a right faith, a firm hope, and a sincere and perfect charity, and grant that we may ever do Thy most gracious will. Preserve us, O God, this night from sin, and all evils. Have mercy on all our friends, relations, and all for whom we ought to pray. Have

mercy also on our enemies, and forgive them their sins, and fill both their hearts and ours with Thy charity. Comfort all those who are in affliction, sickness, or pain; defend all that are under temptation, and vouchsafe a happy passage to all about to die. Grant to us all relief in our respective necessities, the remission of all our sins, the grace to persevere unto the end, and life everlasting, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

FRIDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God, who hast by Thy great mercy raised us up from sleep to enter upon another day, give us grace to devote ourselves afresh to Thy service. We adore and glorify Thee, O Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, offering ourselves to Thy Divine Majesty, and humbly beseeching Thee to take from us whatever displeases Thee, and to give us that which is grateful in Thy sight. We are Thine, O God: O make us so entirely and eternally. Above all, take our hearts, extirpate from

them all unworthy affections, and make them the dwelling-place of Thy Holy Spirit. Show us, O Lord, Thy ways, and teach us Thy paths. Direct our steps this day according to Thy word; make perfect our walking in Thy paths, that our footsteps may not be moved. Purge our lips from all harmful and unprofitable words, that our mouths may never open but to Thy praise and honour, and the benefit of others. Help us to spend our time in virtuous actions, and in such labours as are acceptable to Thee. Grant us a firm purpose, most merciful Lord, to amend our lives,

and atone so far as may be for the time past. Make our hearts obedient to Thy will, and ready for Thy love, to perform all works of mercy. Give us grace to benefit the souls of others by our good example, and to avoid all occasions of offending Thee. O Jesus, grant us grace in all our necessities to call for help to Thee, and faithfully to remember Thy death and resurrection for us. May we always consider Thy blessed example, through how many and great pains and how little pleasure Thou didst press on to a bitter death. Our life here is nothing but a pilgrimage.

Let us not, therefore, become too much attached to any of the things of this perishable world, but, with our hearts constantly fixed on Thee, who didst suffer for our sakes, strive to follow the example 'Thou hast set us, until, by Thy grace, like the penitent thief, we appear before Thee in Thy heavenly kingdom, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever reigneth, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

FRIDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and eternal God,
Thou hast safely brought us
to the conclusion of another day.
Praised and blessed be Thy most
holy name for the manifold mercies
Thou hast shown to us in care-
fully guarding us from danger, pre-
serving us in health and strength,
and bestowing upon us every mo-
ment unnumbered and most un-
deserved blessings. But we, un-
grateful that we are, have sinned
against Thee this day in thought,
word, and action. Have mercy
upon us, O Father of mercies,

and pour forth into our hearts Thy grace, whereby we may sincerely repent of all our sins and shortcomings; give us a true contrition, that we may bewail our misery and ingratitude, and grieve from our hearts for having offended Thee, so good a God. Grant, O Lord, that our repentance may be accompanied by amendment and change of life, and that, through the merits of Thy dear Son, we may henceforward keep a stricter watch over ourselves, and faithfully persevere in the duties of Thy service. And since Thou hast ordained the day to labour, and the night to take our rest, as we praise

Thee for the blessings of the day, so we implore Thy protection during this night. Let the eyes of Thy providence watch over us, and Thy angels pitch their tents about us, that, being safely delivered from all dangers, and comfortably refreshed with sleep, we may rise to-morrow renewed for Thy service and the duties of our calling. Pour down Thy blessing, O Lord, upon our friends, relations, and acquaintances, and upon our enemies, if we have any. Have mercy on the poor, the sick and dying, and in Thine infinite goodness bring us all at length to thine eternal kingdom; through

Jesus Christ our Lord, who, with
Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth
and reigneth, one God, world with-
out end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

SATURDAY MORNING.

WE give Thee thanks, Almighty God, for that Thou hast vouchsafed in Thy great mercy to bring us in safety to the opening of another day, preserving us by Thy great goodness through all the dangers and evils of the past night. We come before Thee, O Lord, in humble praise for this and all Thy mercy towards us. Grant us Thy grace to show forth this praise and thankfulness by living anew this day to Thy service. O King of Peace, reign in our souls, and let Thy dominion be absolute over all their

powers, affections, and desires. Let our perverse inclinations become submissive to the orders of Thy Divine providence, that we may have no will but Thine, no pursuit but that of pleasing Thee, and no desire but that of enjoying Thee eternally. Thou hast prepared, O Lord, everlasting happiness for those that love Thee. Alas ! we confess that our sins are many and grievous ; we have nothing of our own to trust to : all our hope is in Thee, thou God of mercy and compassion. Thou hast said that Thou wilt cast off none that place their hope in Thee ; therefore we trust in Thy mercy that,

through the merits and passion of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ, we shall obtain pardon of our offences, and come yet to share the glory of the blessed. Jesus laid down His life for sinners ; on this we ground all our hope. The Lord is our Light and Salvation : whom shall we fear ? As a tender father has compassion on his children, so will our Lord show mercy unto all who fear Him ; for He knoweth what we are, and His tender mercies are over all His works. Look now upon us, Thy humble servants, O merciful Saviour, and teach us to place all our happiness in serving Thee. Let all our

works be fruits of charity; infuse into our hearts the joy of a good conscience, and teach us to despise the false joys of this world. Give us grace to preserve peace with God, our neighbours, and ourselves; patience to bear all the ills of this life; may all things be sanctified unto us; and prepare us for eternal union with Thee, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

SATURDAY EVENING.

BEHOLD, O Lord, we Thine unworthy creatures bow down again before Thee at the close of another day, and week, beseeching Thy pardon for our many transgressions and frequent forgetfulness of Thee. O heavenly Father, where should we now be if Thou wert as mindless of the souls Thou hast created as we of Thee, our bountiful God? Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us. Trusting to Thy promises, O God, our Hope, and not through our own merits, but the merits of Jesus Christ, we

trust through Thy mercy for the pardon of our sins. We desire for the future never more to sin against Thee. Many have been our follies this day, and great are the miseries we deserve for our ingratitude. Have mercy on us, O Lord; for we are weak: help us and heal us; for without Thee we can do nothing. Thou hast ordained this life as a passage to the future, confining our repentance to the time of our pilgrimage, and reserving for hereafter the state of punishment and reward; vouchsafe, then, to us whilst still on earth Thy merciful grace, that we may so ²⁴ watch our own actions, and

correct any wandering from the path to heaven, that we may not be surprised by death with sins still unrepented and unforsaken on our souls, but may, through the precious blood of Thy dear Son, so seek to conform ourselves to His likeness, that, with Him, we may be partakers at the last day of the glory 'Thou hast promised to Thy faithful servants, where, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, He liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

*PRAYERS TO BE USED BY
PARENTS.*

O FATHER of mankind, who hast given unto me these children, and committed them to my charge, to bring them up for Thee, and to prepare them for everlasting life, assist me with Thy heavenly grace, that I may be able to fulfil this most sacred duty and stewardship. Teach me both what to give and what to withhold; when to reprove and when to forbear; make me to be gentle, yet firm, considerate, and watchful; deliver me equally from the weakness of indulgence and ex-

cess of severity, and grant that, both by word and example, I may be careful to lead them in the ways of wisdom and true piety, so that at last I may, with them, be admitted to the unspeakable joy of our true home in heaven, where Thou, O Father, with Jesus, Thy only begotten Son, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, one God, for ever and ever.

O heavenly Father, I commend my children unto Thee. Be Thou their God and Father, and mercifully supply whatever is wanting in me through frailty or negligence. Strengthen them to overcome the

corruptions of the world, to resist the solicitations of evil, whether from within or without, and deliver them from the secret snares of the enemy. Pour Thy grace into their hearts, and confirm and multiply in them the gifts of Thy Holy Spirit, that they may daily grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, and so, faithfully serving Thee here, may come to rejoice before Thee hereafter ; through the merits of the same, our Lord Jesus Christ, who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth. *Amen.*

*PRAYER TO BE USED BY YOUNG
PEOPLE FOR THEIR PARENTS.*

O ALMIGHTY God, who hast given unto me my father and mother, and made them to be an image of Thy authority, and love, and tender watchfulness, and hast commanded me to love, and honour, and to obey them in all things, give me grace cheerfully and with my whole heart to keep this Thy law. Help me to love them fervently, to honour them truly, and to yield a ready obedience to all their commands; to comply with all their wishes; to study their happiness in

everything; and to bear with patience and humility all their rebukes. Deliver me, O God, from pride, rebellion, and wilfulness, from passion and stubbornness, from sloth and carelessness. Make me diligent in all my duties and studies, and patient in all my trials, that, so living, I may deserve to be Thy child, who art our Father in heaven, through Jesus Christ, Thine only Son, our Lord. *Amen.*

IN SICKNESS OR AFFLICTION.

O LORD Jesus Christ, I receive this sickness [*or* affliction] with which Thou art pleased to visit me as coming from Thy Fatherly hand. It is Thy will, and therefore I submit: “not my will, but Thine be done.” May it be to the honour of Thy holy name, and for the good of my soul. I here offer myself with an entire submission to all Thine appointments; to suffer whatever Thou pleasest, as long as Thou pleasest, and in what manner Thou pleasest; for I am a creature, O Lord, who have often and most un-

gratefully offended Thee, and whom Thou mightest justly have visited with Thy severest punishments. O let Thy justice be tempered with mercy, and let Thy heavenly grace come to my assistance, to support me under this affliction! Confirm my soul with strength from above, that I may bear with true Christian patience all the uneasiness, pains, disquiets, and troubles under which I labour. Preserve me from all temptations and murmuring thoughts, that in this time of affliction I may in no way offend Thee; and grant that this and all other earthly trials may be the means of prepar-

ing my soul for its passage into eternity, that, being purified from all my sins, I may believe in Thee, hope in Thee, love Thee above all things, and finally, through Thy infinite merits, be admitted into the company of the blessed in heaven, there to praise Thee, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

O GOD, who hast doomed all men to die, but hast concealed from all the hour of their death, grant that we may pass our days in the practice of holiness and justice, and that we

may deserve to quit this world in the peace of a good conscience, and in the embrace of thy love ; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

FOR THE SICK.

HEAL Thy servants, O Lord, who are sick, and who put their trust in Thee.

Send them help, O Lord, and comfort them from Thy holy place. O almighty and everlasting God, the eternal salvation of them that believe in Thee, hear us in behalf of Thy servants [*or servant*], who *are* sick, for whom we humbly crave the help of Thy mercy, that, *their* health being restored to *them*, *they* may render thanks to Thee; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*THANKSGIVING UPON RECOVERY
FROM ILLNESS.*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God,
we here acknowledge Thy
blessing in the recovery of *our* health,
and return Thee *our* most hearty
thanks for it. *We* beg Thy grace to
enable *us* to make a better use of it
than *we* have hitherto done; to cor-
rect all the errors of *our* past life,
that *we* may improve in virtue, be
an example to others, and consecrate
that health to Thee which is now
Thy special gift, that, thus living to
Thee, *we* may be ever prepared for
our last hour; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER BEFORE STUDY.

O INCOMPREHENSIBLE Creator, the true Fountain of Light, and only Author of all knowledge, vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, to enlighten our understandings, and to remove from us all darkness of sin and ignorance. Give us a diligent and obedient spirit, quickness of apprehension, capacity of retaining, and the powerful assistance of Divine grace, that what we hear [*or* learn] we may apply to Thy honour and the eternal salvation of our own souls; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SUNDAY MORNING.

O GOD, bountiful in forgiving, and lovingly desirous of man's salvation, we humbly beseech Thy mercy this day, on which we desire in an especial manner to consecrate ourselves to Thy service. Grant us grace to fix our hearts on Thee, especially in the time of prayer, when we aspire to converse directly with Thee. Control the wanderings of our minds and the affections of our hearts, repress the power of our spiritual enemies, lest they draw off our minds from heavenly things to thoughts and imaginations of vanity.

So shall we with joy and gratitude behold Thee as our Deliverer from all the evils we have hitherto escaped, and as our Benefactor for all the good we have received or can hope for. Make us see that Thou art Thy very Self our only Good, and that all other things are but means ordained by Thee to draw us to fix our hearts on Thee, to make us love Thee more, and to be eternally happy. Give us grace to order our lives according to Thy holy will, heartily intending and carefully regulating all the actions of our bodies and souls to the fulfilment of the same. O Lord Jesus, let us

frequently consider that whatsoever we gain, if we lose Thee, all is lost, and whatsoever we lose, if we gain Thee, all is gain. O God, how careless have been our lives hitherto! How little have we done for Thee! We are heartily sorry that we have spent and lost that time in offending Thee which Thou in Thy infinite goodness didst give us to be employed in Thy service, in advancing the good of our souls, and in preparing for everlasting life. We detest all the sins which we have committed against Thy Divine Majesty. Thou knowest, O Lord, how weak and unable to do good we are. Leave

us not to ourselves, but take us this day under Thy protection, and give us grace to devote ourselves afresh to Thee. Be pleased to assist us in such manner by Thy grace that we may behave ourselves this day as in Thy Divine presence, and so commemorate the death and passion of Thy Son as to partake most plentifully of the fruits of the same. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

SUNDAY EVENING.

WE come before Thee at the close of this day, O Lord, with hearts full of thankfulness to Thee for the mercies Thou hast shown to us. We thank Thee for the lights Thou hast given us, and the means of salvation Thou hast made known. Pardon us, O Lord, for the imperfect way in which we have worshipped Thee this day. How often, in our prayers, have importunate thoughts drawn away our attention and distracted us with a thousand trifles! Take pity on us now, O compassionate Redeemer!

Hear our prayers this night for ourselves and all those who are dear to us ; guard us this night from harm, and vouchsafe to us the blessing of refreshing sleep, that we may rise to begin the duties of the coming week with energy and activity. Let us not separate without Thy benediction. We desire from this moment to give up ourselves and all that belongs to us into Thy hands, and we beg that all our undertakings, all our thoughts, words, and actions, may henceforward tend to Thy glory. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

MONDAY MORNING.

O BLESSED Trinity, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, prostrate in spirit before Thee, we here confess, as before the whole court of heaven, our innumerable treasons against Thy Divine Majesty. We have sinned, O Lord, we have sinned; we have grievously offended Thee through the whole course of our lives, in thought, word, and deed, and therefore are most unworthy to lift up our eyes to heaven, or so much as name Thy sacred name. But, O God, Thy mercies are above all Thy works, and Thou

wilt not despise a contrite and humble heart. Therefore we venture to come before Thee, and with the poor publican, and, as we hope, with the same penitential spirit, we say, "O God, be merciful to us sinners," humbly hoping to find this mercy which we crave through the passion and death of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. We recommend to Thee ourselves, and all our concerns, this day; our friends, relations, benefactors, and enemies; take under Thy protection this house, city, and kingdom; extend this Thy care to all such as are under any affliction, and to those

who labour in the agony of death. To Thee, O Lord, do we desire now to devote and offer up our lives, our thoughts, words, actions, and sufferings. May the chief object of our being consist, henceforward, in loving, serving, and glorifying Thee, O Lord. Grant us Thy peace, O Lord, in the days of our mortality, even that peace which Thy Son bequeathed as a legacy to His disciples ; a perpetual peace with Thee, with one another, and within ourselves. In Thee, O Lord, have we trusted ; let us never be confounded.

Amen.

Our Father, &c.

MONDAY EVENING.

ACCCEPT, O Lord, of our unfeigned thanks that it has pleased Thee to add another day to the years of our lives, and for all the mercies that Thou hast bestowed upon us during its course. We give Thee thanks that none of Thy judgments, to which, by our sins, we are liable, have fallen upon us; that by Thy grace Thou hast kept us from scandalous sins, and from the dangers of an evil world; that Thou hast given us occasions of doing good, and grace to make use of them; that Thou hast supplied

us with the necessaries of this life, and with the means of attaining a better. Add this, O Lord, to all Thy favours—that we may never forget to be thankful. Possess our hearts with such a deep sense of our obligations to, and dependence upon, Thee for life, and health, and grace, and salvation, that religion may be our delight as well as our duty. And, that we may serve Thee with a quiet mind, forgive us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and avert the judgments which we have justly deserved. Remember not the offences of our youth, and in mercy blot out those of our riper

years. Pardon our sins of the day past, and of our lives past, and grant that they may never rise up in judgment against us. Grant that we may lie down to sleep this night with the same charitable dispositions with which we desire and hope to die. May the Saviour and Guardian of our souls take us under His protection this night and evermore. Into Thy hands we commend ourselves, our spirits, our souls, and our bodies ; for Thou hast redeemed us, O Lord, Thou God of truth.
Amen.

Our Father, &c.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O GOD most merciful, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of another day, behold we Thine unworthy servants humbly implore Thy Holy Spirit to replenish within us all Thy gifts and graces. Grant that we may despise in future the vain pleasures of the world, and take delight henceforward in the service of God. May we discover and avoid all the snares of the devil and the world, discern and faithfully execute Thy holy will in all circumstances. May our hearts be penetrated with tender

love for Thee, and for all that regards Thy holy service, and our souls be filled with a salutary apprehension of Thy Divine judgments, and dread nothing so much as to fall unprepared into the hands of the living God. O eternal Light, O infinite Charity, O increated Wisdom, O Holy Spirit, who replenishest the hearts of men and kindlest within them the fire of Thy love, who convertest sinners and sanctifiest all who listen to Thy inspirations, despise not our ignorance and weakness, but come into our hearts, O heavenly Spirit, enlighten our dark understandings,

and soften our hardness. And whereas the remembrance of our past sins weighs heavily upon us, we beseech Thee, O gracious Saviour, by all the sufferings which Thou didst endure for our unworthy sakes, to look down upon us with compassion, and, by the merits of Thy precious blood, to wash away our iniquities; and grant us Thy grace so to order our lives towards our eternal welfare that, at the last day, we may be brought, by Thine infinite goodness, to that eternal life and glory which Thou hast ordained in heaven for Thy servants. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

TUESDAY EVENING.

O ALMIGHTY God, King of heaven and earth, how shall we Thine unworthy servants presume to appear before Thee, Thou whose greatness and majesty no created intelligence can ever comprehend, and whose infinite perfections no human heart can ever sufficiently love? How often this day have we transgressed Thy laws, trampled on Thy graces, and slighted Thy inspirations! We have gone astray like a sheep that is lost; but, O Divine Redeemer of our souls, at Thy feet we lay down all our

offences ; they are not more numerous than Thy mercies, and nothing can equal the tenderness of that love with which Thou art ready to receive and pardon us. Pardon us, O Divine Benefactor, Father of our souls ; Thou knowest the clay of which we are formed ; Thou rememberest we are but dust. Forget our criminal abuse of Thy mercies, for the sake of Him in whose name alone we dare to address Thee as our Father, Friend, and only happiness. Crown all Thy mercies by bestowing on us now that humble, contrite heart which is the only offering Thou desirest to receive

from Thy creatures. Give us Thy Divine Spirit, that spirit of love and of adoption which will lead us, in all our necessities, to have recourse to Thee. Vouchsafe to us this night the blessing of quiet and refreshing sleep, and may our hearts ever repose in Thee, who art the joy of our souls and our portion for ever. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, with Thee, &c. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

BEHOLD, O Lord, we Thy unworthy servants come before Thee, at the opening of another day, to offer our thanksgiving for Thy mercies of the night past, and to implore Thy care during the course of this day. Blessed be Thou, O Lord, for Thy mercies renewed unto us every morning. We heartily thank Thee, O God, for Thy perpetual care over us, for all Thy benefits and blessings both of nature and of grace. Possess our souls, we pray Thee, with an earnest desire of pleasing Thee, and with a wholesome dread of offending

Thee. Grant us, O God, hearts full of Christian meekness and charity, that we may willingly forget the evil we receive from others, and be always disposed to do them good. Thou hast called us unto holiness; O give us a firm faith in Thy power, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that by His assistance we may get the mastery over all our sins and corruptions, that we may be redeemed from all iniquity, that we may be holy as He who has called us is holy. May we never receive Thy grace in vain, but live like those who believe in, and hope for, the joys of heaven. Protect and keep us in the midst of

the dangers of this corrupt world, and by Thy light and grace direct us in the way to everlasting life. Give us, O God, a mild, peaceable, meek, and humble spirit, that, remembering all our infirmities, we may bear with those of others ; that we may think lowly of ourselves, and not be angry when others think lowly of us ; that we may be patient towards all men, gentle and easy to be entreated, that God, for Christ's sake, may be so towards us. Hear us and have mercy upon us, O God, this day, and keep us throughout its course in Thy fear and love ; through Jesus Christ, thy only Son, our Lord,

who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost,
liveth and reigneth, ever one God,
&c. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O LORD and heavenly Father, we acknowledge thy great goodness to us in sparing us when we deserve punishment, in giving us the necessities of this life, and in setting before us the happiness of a better. O merciful God, pardon our offences, correct and amend what is amiss in us, that as we grow in years we may grow in grace, and the nearer we come to our latter end the better we may be prepared for it. Take from us all ignorance, hardness of heart, and too much carefulness for the things of this life. Make us a house-

hold fearing God, submitting ourselves to Thy good pleasure, and putting our whole trust in Thy mercy. It has pleased Thee to add another day to our lives, during which Thou hast also kept us from the dangers of an evil world. For these and all Thy mercies, from day to day bestowed upon us, we bless Thy good and gracious providence, most earnestly beseeching Thee to pardon our offences of the day past, and to grant that they may never rise up in judgment against us. May the thoughts of death mortify in us all pride and covetousness and a love for this world; and may our

firm belief of a judgment to come make us ever careful to please Thee, our Lord and Judge, that we may find mercy at that day. Grant that we may lie down in sleep with the same charitable and forgiving temper in which we desire and hope to die. And may the Almighty God take us, and all that belongs to us, under His gracious and powerful protection. May He give His angels charge concerning us, and keep us in perpetual peace and safety; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Our Father, &c.

THURSDAY MORNING.

O GOD, almighty and merciful, let Thy fatherly kindness be upon all whom Thou hast made. We offer ourselves to Thee, O God, this day, to do in us and with us as shall seem most meet to Thee ; only do Thou support us, O Lord, this day under all the difficulties we shall be called upon to go through. We are not worthy of the least of all Thy mercies, neither can we render Thee due thanks and praise for them ; yet, O Lord, accept, imperfect as it is, our humble sacrifice of praise and

thanksgiving. We bless Thy good providence for all the favours, chastisements, opportunities of doing good, and graces of Thy Holy Spirit so long vouchsafed to us, beseeching Thee to pardon our ingratitude that we have passed so many years without observing, and without acknowledging, as was due, Thy great goodness to us Thy unworthy servants. O Lord, we are dependent upon Thee for life, welfare, health of body, peace of mind, grace, comfort, and salvation; how thankful to Thee we ought to be! Preserve us, O Lord, from the insensibility of those who receive Thy

favours without being affected by them, and from the ingratitude of those who look upon them as a debt. Thou hast sent us into the world to do not our own will, but Thine. O may Thy holy will be this day the rule of our wills, of our desires, our words, our lives, our actions. Thou, O Father, knowest our infirmities, and the power of our enemies ; be not wanting to us in the hour of temptation. To Thee, to Thee alone, and to Thy Son, and Holy Spirit, be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

THURSDAY EVENING.

WHAT return shall we make unto Thee this day, O Lord, for all the mercy that Thou hast shown unto us? Thou hast preserved us in safety through all the dangers of another day, and given us the grace once more to meet in praise and supplication before Thee. When we had no being, Thou didst create us; when we were gone astray in our sins, Thou didst redeem us, by sending Thy Son to die for us. All that we have is Thy gift; blessed be Thy name for ever. Thou art great, O Lord, and ex-

ceedingly to be praised ; great are Thy works, and of Thy wisdom there is no end : but Thy tender mercies, Thy bounty and goodness to us Thy unworthy children are above all Thy works. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and let all that is within thee praise His holy name ! And now, O Father of mercies, have mercy on us, and pour forth Thy grace into our hearts, that we may sincerely repent of all our sins ; give us a true contrition, that we may bewail our past misery and ingratitude, and grieve from our hearts at having offended Thee, so good a God. O most merciful and

forgiving Lord, for the love of Thee we forgive all who have ever offended us ; and we desire to love Thee, O God, with our whole hearts and souls ; and above all things grant us the grace to show forth by our lives Whose disciples we are, that we may no longer follow the corrupt inclinations of flesh and blood, but master all our passions, that we may be ever directed by Thy light, and strengthened by Thy grace to walk in the way of Thy commandments and to serve Thee with pure minds ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Take us under Thy gracious protection this night, O Lord, we pray

Thee, and may Thy holy angels watch around our beds, so that, sleeping under Thy care, we may rise to-morrow refreshed for our duties in this world, and with hearts more resolutely set upon preparing for a better and an eternal life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, &c. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

FRIDAY MORNING.

O ALMIGHTY God and most merciful Father, who day after day dost minister to sinful man infinite occasions of praising Thee, accept of our unfeigned thanks this day for all the blessings we receive afresh from Thy divine providence, and chiefly that Thou hast redeemed us by Thy Son, and given us a share in His merits; that Thou hast sanctified us by Thy Holy Spirit, and heaped innumerable graces upon us. Pardon, O God, all our former ingratitude, and grant that we never again spend one day of our lives

without remembering Thee. Preserve in our souls, O God, such a constant and clear sense of our obligations to Thee that, upon the receipt of every favour, we may immediately turn our eyes to Him from whom cometh our salvation. And may Thy manifold blessings fix such lasting impressions on our souls that we may always henceforward praise Thee upon earth, until it shall please Thee of Thy unbounded mercy to call us nearer the place of Thy heavenly habitation, to praise our Lord and Deliverer to all eternity. O God, almighty and merciful, let Thy fatherly goodness be upon

all that Thou hast made. Grant that Christians may not content themselves with bare shadows of religion and piety, but endeavour after that holiness without which no man can see the Lord. May all who sincerely seek the truth be led into it by Thy Holy Spirit; and to such as are destitute of necessary instruction, vouchsafe a greater measure of Thy grace. Support and comfort all who labour under trials and afflictions, all that suffer wrongfully, and succour by Thy all-powerful grace all those that are tempted. Defend and comfort and conduct us all, O God of mercy, through this

dangerous world, that we may all meet at length in Thine eternal kingdom to praise Thee for ever and ever; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

FRIDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, by Thy gracious favour we are come to the evening of another day, and are so much nearer to our end. We desire seriously to consider this, and pray Thee to prepare us for the hour of our death. With penitent hearts we beseech Thee, O God, to pardon our sins, and to deliver us from the evils which we have justly deserved. O God, give us the grace to labour earnestly to amend whatever we have hitherto done amiss ; and may Thy

protection, which alone can avail us, be over us during the hours of darkness. Be merciful unto us, O Lord, be merciful unto us; for we acknowledge our utter unworthiness before Thee. We have sinned in the midst of light, and even against light. But, "if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Our only support is that our sins have not yet put us out of the reach of that mercy which is infinite. Be favourable unto us, O Lord, be favourable unto us, and pardon and deliver us from all our sins. May they never rise up in

judgment against us. Lord Jesus, the only refuge of sinners, we acknowledge the almighty power of Thy precious blood to wash away all our iniquity. Grant us in the future that, as we have but a short time to live, and eternal interests impending, we may not squander away one moment in vanity, or in anything that will not profit us in the day of adversity. Grant, O Lord, that we may never be of the number of those who dread Thy coming, having neglected to prepare for death until the last hour. May our lot and portion be with Thy saints, O blessed Saviour, who, with

the Father and the Holy Ghost,
liveth and reigneth, ever one God,
world without end. *Amen.*


Our Father, &c.

SATURDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God and heavenly Father, we Thine unworthy servants present ourselves before Thee this morning with hearts full of gratitude for all Thy mercies which Thou hast daily conferred upon us, more especially that Thou hast once more raised us safely up from sleep to praise Thee at the beginning of another day. Grant, O Lord, that we may never forget in the tumult of the world that "the night cometh, when no man can work." We thank Thee for

giving us this gracious intimation that now is the time in which to provide for eternity. Behold us, therefore, O God, we Thy creatures, liable to death at any moment, prostrate before Thee, beseeching Thee, for Jesus Christ's sake, to vouchsafe unto us at this time that believing faith and sincere repentance to which Thou hast promised mercy and pardon. Discover to each of us, O Searcher of hearts, the charge that is against us, that we may know, and confess, and bewail, and abhor, and forsake, and repent of all the evils we have been guilty of. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us,

O most merciful Father, who desirest not the death of a sinner; for Thy Son Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past. And, O blessed Advocate, who art able to save them for ever who come unto God by Thee, seeing Thou ever livest to make intercession for us, we put our cause into Thy hands; may Thy power defend us from all danger and sin this day, may Thy blood and merits plead for us, supply all the defects of our repentance, and by Thy mighty grace confirm and strengthen us in all goodness during the remainder of our lives, that when death comes it may be not a



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terror but a blessing to us, and that we may find mercy at the last day.

Amen.

Our Father, &c.

SATURDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting Father, we Thine unworthy children desire to come before Thee at the close of another day and week, with hearts grateful for all the innumerable blessings Thou hast bestowed upon us, but at the same time penetrated with grief that we have served Thee so ungratefully in return. We are ashamed to present ourselves before Thee, but we must come or perish. O merciful Saviour, intercede for us and blot out our transgressions. Possess our souls, O God, with a sincere love for Thee

and for all mankind. Give us, O Lord, a perfect indifference for the world, its profits, pleasures, honours, fame, and all its idols. Represent Thyself unto us as our true happiness, that we may love Thee with all our heart, and soul, and strength. Blessed Jesus, who pleasedst not Thyself, but tookest upon Thee the form of a servant, give us resolution to deny an inclination for the good things of this world, to subdue our corrupt affections, and to submit patiently to all the troubles with which it shall please Thee to exercise or punish us ; so that, being effectually upraised from this world,

we may be prepared for the hope of a better ; through Thy merits and mercy, O gracious Saviour. Give us grace to forgive all that have offended us. Make us ready to give and glad to distribute. May the thoughts of death mortify in us all carnal security and fondness for this world, and may we make our calling and election sure, that we may die in peace, in hopes of a blessed resurrection and a favourable judgment at the great day. And may the considerations of that judgment to come oblige us to examine, try, and judge ourselves, that we may, by true repentance, avert a severe judgment at

Thy hands, O eternal Father ; may lead henceforward lives answering to amendment, and may find mercy at the great day. All this we beg in the name and through the merits of Thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, &c.
Amen.

Our Father, &c.

*A PRAYER THAT MAY BE SAID BY
PARENTS, TUTORS, &c.*

O FATHER of mankind, whose providence has intrusted these children to my care, be Thou their Father and their God, and mercifully supply by Thy goodness whatever is wanting on my part. Confirm them against the corruption of the world and of sin; deliver them from the effects of a vain and inconstant mind; give them discretion to avoid all snares and to choose that which is best; and in all their undertakings be Thou a blessing to them this day and for ever, that,

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living here Thy faithful children,
they may come at length to that
inheritance which has been pur-
chased for them by Jesus Christ our
Lord. *Amen.*

*PRAYER FOR A YOUNG PERSON,
TO BEG THE DIVINE DIREC-
TION IN THE CHOICE OF A
STATE OF LIFE.*

O ALMIGHTY God, whose wise and amiable providence watches over every human event, deign to be my light and my counsel in all my undertakings, particularly in the choice of a state of life. I know that on this important step my sanctification and salvation may in a great measure depend. I know that I am incapable of discerning what may be best for me; therefore I cast myself before Thee, O God,

beseeching Thee that Thou, who didst send me into this world only to love and serve Thee, wilt direct by Thy grace every movement and action of my life to the glorious end of my creation. I renounce most sincerely every other wish than to fulfil Thy designs on my soul, whatsoever they may be ; and I beseech Thee to give me the grace, by imbibing the true spirit of a Christian, to qualify myself for any station Thy adorable providence may hereafter assign me. O my God, whenever it may become my duty to make a choice, do Thou be my light and my counsel, and mercifully deign

to make the way known to me wherein I should walk, for I have lifted up my soul to Thee. Preserve me from listening to the suggestions of my own self-love or worldly prudence in prejudice to Thy holy inspirations. Let Thy good Spirit lead me into the right way, and Thy adorable providence place me, not where I may be happiest according to the world, but in that state in which I shall love and serve Thee most perfectly and meet with most abundant means of working out my salvation. This is all that I ask and all that I desire ; for what would it avail me to gain the

whole world if, in the end, I were to lose my soul, and be so unfortunate as to prefer temporal advantages and worldly honours to the enjoyment of Thy Divine presence in a happy eternity? *Amen.*

PRAYER TO BE USED BY HUSBAND OR WIFE.

O GOD, who hast ordained and sanctified the holy estate of matrimony, for replenishing the earth, for mutual consolation, and as a type of the union of Christ and His Church, give me grace both thankfully to accept its blessings, and carefully to fulfil its duties. I beseech Thee continually to bless our union, and to enable us to live together in peace and love, in the faithful discharge of all our duties to Thee, to the world, and to each

other. Deliver us from every evil temper, from every heedless action or word, which may in any measure tend to weaken or embitter the sacredness of that tie by which Thou hast bound us together, and which can never be severed. Make me faithful and affectionate, studious to please, and ready to deny my own will and inclination in all things. Let not the trials and crosses of this life induce me to murmur, nor any earthly blessings cause me to forget Thee, the Author and Giver of all; but, by patience and meekness, by prayers and thankfulness, may all things be

sanctified unto me, and fit me for eternal union with Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*A PRAYER BEFORE ATTENDING
DIVINE WORSHIP.*

O LORD Jesus Christ, who camest down from heaven to instruct us in all truth, and continuest daily to teach us by Thy holy Gospel and the preachers of Thy Word, grant me grace, that I may not be wanting in any care necessary for being instructed in Thy saving truths; let me be as industrious for my soul as I am for my body, that, while I take pains in the affairs of this world, I may not, through stupidity or neglect, let my soul starve and perish ever-

lastingly ; let the rules of the Gospel be the direction of my life, that I may not only know Thy will, but likewise do it, that I may observe Thy commandments, and that, resisting all the inclinations of corrupt nature, I may ever follow Thee, who art the Way, the Truth, and the Life ; for thus only can I be Thy true disciple. *Amen.*

*ACT OF RESIGNATION IN
SICKNESS.*

LORD Jesus Christ, Thou art my refuge, in Thee I believe and put my trust; Thou hast been my protector from my youth, and now I have none to trust to, none to depend on, but only Thee, my God. Behold, then, the straits I am now in: I have life and death before me, but what to fear or what to hope I know not; I know not what is expedient or best for me. Thou knowest, O Jesus; do with me, therefore, what Thou pleasest, dispose of me as Thou knowest

best ; for I am Thine, with all my heart, and into Thy hands I surrender all that I have or am. Do, then, with me what Thou wilt, in time and in eternity. *Amen.*

THE END.



