

Leighton's than with Mr. Clifford's family, and soon began to feel a great interest in little Miss Winnifred, who, on her part, was delighted in finding a ready listener while she sang the praises of her darling brother. Frank said little in reply to Winnifred's earnest eulogiums, but he lent a patient ear, and that was enough for Winnie.

But now we must step into the Rectory and see what changes have taken place in the Wyndgate family during the last few months. Lionel had at last, through Ernest's endeavors, been induced to give up his old companions and amusements. More than this, he had been led to see the evil of his ways, and not only to abandon and forsake the pleasures of sin, but to strive to walk in wisdom's ways, and endeavor, by God's help, to crush in his own heart the hydra-headed monster, Sin; and—no longer a slave to its follies and vices—to rejoice in the liberty with which Christ makes his people free. This, Lionel had not learnt from his friend: for whatever may have been the guiding principles of Ernest Leighton's life, he had never spoken to Wyndgate of the things which belonged to his eternal salvation. He strove only to lead him to forsake vice, and lead a moral life. He earnestly endeavored to induce him to lay aside the filthy, tattered rags of sin—the vile slough of the old serpent—but did not show him where alone he could find the pure raiment, washed white and clean in the all-cleansing crimson streams of Calvary. Thus the prayers of Lionel's parents were at length answered; and Mr. Wyndgate heard from the lips of his son the tidings which brought indescribable joy and thankfulness to his heart. Little had the good Rector thought, while writing his sermon in his quiet study, the previous week, how its truths would be brought home to the heart and conscience of his wayward and wandering boy, by the mighty power of the spirit of God. But the promise of Jehovah never fails; and has He not said, "Whatsoever ye ask, believing, ye shall receive," How often do we ask,

hardly expecting an answer to our prayers; being even surprised, when our petitions meet with their fulfilment?

Mr. Wyndgate at once wrote to Ernest, thanking him, with all a father's fervor, for his kindness, and the interest he had taken in his son. Lionel enclosed a letter to his friend, telling him of the great change in his feelings, and asking him if he could find him any situation in B——, as at present he felt he was only an expense to his parents; and being still in debt to a considerable amount, he was anxious to obtain some employment. He would be glad to be near Ernest, for he knew that the society of his collegiate friends was not of the most improving kind; and he did not yet trust himself, feeling that there was still danger of his being again led away by his old companions. Ernest, after some difficulty, and through the influence of some of his friends, at length obtained him a situation in a bank, and engaged rooms for him at his own boarding-house. Lionel removed thither in a few weeks, having given up all thoughts of ever again studying the healing art. Dr. Ponsonby, declared that it was just what he would have wished for two or three months previously, as it would be much better if all such rascallions never took their degrees; but now that Wyndgate had reformed, it was too bad that he should leave the study of a profession, in the practice of which he might be the means of doing so much good, not merely to the bodies, but also to the souls of his fellowmen.

Mr. Wyndgate made no objection to the change, for he had never favored Lionel's choice, knowing well the temptations to which medical students are subject; and how they too frequently become accustomed to intoxicating drinks, from their constant resort to them to nerve themselves to witness or take part in trying operations, or to keep out the damp, sepulchral air in the autumnal excursions of youthful anatomists. The Rector was also glad that his son would have the advantage of being intimately associated with one who had been, under