sonally timid, and when the morning came was much agitated. Before breakfast I said to my wife, 'I feel, C——, as if we ought to have prayer in the family. We have all souls to be saved, and need God's blessing. I am sure you will not object to it.' 'No,' she replied; but the tone in which she said it was not encouraging. When we rose from the breakfast-table, it seemed to me the children had never been so noisy before, and it required an effort to request them to keep silence and be seated. They did so, and I felt that their eyes were fixed wonderingly upon me. I took a large Bible from the shelf and sat down. I wished to preface the service with some remarks, but I could not trust my voice, and opened the book and read the first chapter that presented itself. Then knelt, and with faltering voice began to address the Creator. But my hesitation soon passed off. I knew not why it was, but during the performance of this service, my soul was so filled with thoughts of God's great goodness in permitting me to approach him, and to place myself and those dear to me under the shelter of his protecting love, that I forgot the presence of others, and poured out my heart in supplications for his blessing with as much freedom and fervour as I had ever done in secret. When I arose, I perceived my wife's eyes were moistened with tears.

"The conflict was over—the duty was entered on—and the peace which follows the consciousness of having done right, came to my heart. Prayer with my beloved ones was no longer a burden, but a delightful privilege; and ere long I had the satisfaction of knowing that the heart of my companion ascended in full unison with my own to the throne of grace. I can now speak freely in my family of the value and sweetness of this service, and to many of them I believe the hour of prayer has become one of the most highly prized of all the day brings us."

# Poetry.

## THE LOST SOUL.

### DEATH BED REPENTANCE OF A YOUNG LADY.

My mind has been engaged of late
    Reflecting on the fate
Of sinners that are called away
    In an unholy state.