

There was a moment's silence, for all had been affected by this touching little scene ; and then, Mr. Lloyd, turning to Bert, inquired of him :

"And what is your choice, Bert?"

"Well, father, if you think I can ever become fit for it, I would like to be a minister," he answered, modestly.

It was now Mr. Lloyd's turn to become radiant.

"My darling boy, you could not have delighted me more," he cried. "It has been my desire and prayer for you, that this should be your choice, but I have said nothing to you, because I wanted you to be perfectly free and unbiassed by any thought of pleasing me. I see clearly now that this is the Lord's doing, and my heart is full to overflowing with joy. God bless you both, my boys. I am sure that the hope and prayer of us all is that in your manhood may be fulfilled the promise of your boyhood that has been so bright, and to which you have now bidden farewell."

THE END.