

enquire the cause. Greatly shocked to learn that her own thoughtlessness had, in part, occasioned Bessy's illness, she endeavoured to repair the error by every possible attention which her situation demanded; and the suggestions of self-reproach led her, ever after, to regard more seriously the claims of those whose labor contributes so materially to domestic comfort.

Bessy had struggled hard with poverty and her constitution was unable to bear so severe a shock. The violence of the disease yielded to medical skill, but a rapid decline followed which left no hope of recovery. The world could offer her few allurements, and the grave had no terrors to her imagination. But one strong tie still held her to life, and the mother forgot all suffering in her earnest prayer to live a little longer for the children's sake. "My children, what will become of them?" was the constant burthen of her heart; and the doubt, "who will care for the poor creatures when I am gone?" rose before her with painful pertinacity.

Happily Mrs. S. was enabled to soothe her fears, and give peace to her dying moments. She explained to her that there was a place provided, where such little ones were received and kindly cared for, and promised that her children should all find a home there, when she could no longer care for them. Poor Bessy's gratitude was unbound-