

FRIDAY EVENING.

O LORD God, our heavenly Father, we are met together as a Christian family, to thank thee for the mercies of the past day, and to implore thy blessing before we lie down to rest. We would ever remember the frailty of our nature ; and our utter uncertainty how long we may have to live ; that we must soon go the Father of our spirits, and give account of all things done in the body, and must then receive our eternal doom.

O may this awful thought return to our minds with each returning day ; that we may enter upon our duties, reflecting on the ends for which we were born ; and may lie down each night, examining whether we are so passing our time on earth, as we shall wish we had done—when we are about to die, and to appear before thy tribunal.

We pray thee, O Lord, to give us a sacred jealousy over ourselves ; lest we fall short of our heavenly calling. May we learn to put our whole trust in thee, and to place our delight in serving thee. Pardon all our disobedience in the time past ; pardon our many negligences as well as sins ; pardon the wasted time, the idle words, and the evil tempers of this day.

We would lie down, trusting in the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord ; in whose gracious promises to every repenting sinner we place all our hope. And while we thus commend