

dog had stolen his breakfast. "Never mind," said Philip, "I will give you mine which I have in my basket;" and sitting together the little boy's anger was soon forgotten. Again had a word unconsciously been set upon wheels. Two passers by heard Philip's words—one a young man in prosperous business in the neighbouring town; the other a dirty, ragged being, who in consequence of his intemperate habits, had been dismissed by his employer, and was now going home sullen and despairing. "God's creature," said the poor forlorn man, and it was a new idea to him also; "if I, too, belong to God, He will take care of me, though no one else will." Just then he came to a public-house where he had been in the habit of drowning his miseries, and then staggering home to inflict new ones on his wife and children. He stopped; the temptation was strong, but the new idea was stronger—"I am God's creature;" and he passed on. His wife was astonished to see him sober, and still more when he burst into tears, declared that he was a ruined man, but that he was determined to give up drinking, and trust in God.—At that moment a knock was heard at the door, and the gentleman came in to whom we have before alluded. He, too, had been rebuked by the boy's words for the scorn and loathing which he had felt to the miserable object before him. "God's creature," therefore entitled to help and pity." He had gone to help the poor man; and all this the result of a little girl's words to her brother.—Miss Brewster.

#### MORNING MEDITATIONS.

Let your morning meditation be affectionate and practical. Meditation should excite a spiritual delight in God, as it did in the psalmist (Psalm civ. 34); and a divine delight would keep up good thoughts, and keep out impertinences. A bare speculation will tire the soul, and without application, and pressing upon the will and affections, will rather chill than warm devotion. It is only by this means that we shall have the efficacy of truth in our wills, and the sweetness in our affections, as well as the notion of it in our understandings. The more operative any truth is in this man-

ner upon us, the less power will other thoughts have to interrupt, and the more disdainfully will the heart look upon them, if they dare be impudent. Never, therefore, leave thinking of a spiritual subject, till your heart be affected with it. If you think of the evil of sin, leave not till your heart loath it; if of God, cease not till it mount up in admiration of him. If you think of mercy, melt for abusing it; if of his sovereignty, awe your heart into obedient resolutions; if of his presence, double your watch over yourself. If you meditate on Christ, make no end till your hearts love him; if of his death, plead the value of it for the justification of your persons, and apply the virtue of it for the sanctification of your natures. Without this practical stamp upon our affections, we shall have light spirits, while we have opportunity to converse with the most serious objects. We often hear foolish thoughts breathing out themselves in a house of mourning, in the midst of coffins and trophies of death, as if men were confident they should never die; whereas none are so ridiculous as to assert they shall live for ever. By this instance in a truth so certainly assented to, we may judge of the necessity of this direction in truths more doubtfully believed.—*Charnock.*

#### HINTS FOR DOING GOOD.

A little boy, or a little girl, calling once a day at some poor widow's cottage, where the aged inmate is unable to get about, simply to say, "Widow Jones, my father desires me to ask, Can I do anything for you to-day?" The answer, perhaps, would be, "Yes, my child, you may fetch me a little can of fresh water from the spring;" or some other little service might be required, little in itself, but tending greatly to promote the feeble creature's comfort. Small as the benefit might be, the receiver and the doer would both be gainers; for a generous action blesses him that gives as well as those that receive, and the widow might be cheered in her lonely life by thinking that there were some persons in the world who wished to do her service.