

not laugh? The fear of Fred made me a coward. Yet I could not lie down on a prayerless bed. If I needed the Protection of my Heavenly Father at home, how much more abroad! I wished that I had slept alone, that Fred would go to sleep, or something else, I hardly knew what. But Fred would not go to sleep.

Perhaps struggles like these take place in the bosom of every one when he leaves home and begins to act for himself, and on his decision may depend his character for time and for eternity. With me the struggle was severe. At last, to Fred's cry, "Come, boy, come to bed," I mustered courage to say, "I will kneel down and pray first; that is always my habit." "Pray!" said Fred, turning himself over on the pillow, and saying no more. His propriety of conduct made me ashamed. Here had I so long been afraid of him, and yet, when he knew my wishes, he was quiet and conscience triumphed!

That settled my future course. It gave me strength for time to come. I believe that the decision of the "*Christian boy*," by God's blessing, made the *Christian man*; for in after years I was thrown amid trials and temptations, which must have drawn me away from God and from virtue, had it not been for my settled habit of secret prayer.

Let every boy who has pious parents read and think about this. You have been trained in Christian duties and principles. When you go from home, do not leave them behind you. Carry them with you and stand by them, and then, in weakness and temptation, by God's help, they will stand by you. Take a manly stand on the side of your God and Saviour, of your mother's God and Saviour, of your father's God. It is by abandoning their Christian birthright that so many boys go astray and grow up to be young men dishonouring their parents without God and without hope in the world.

TWO SIDES TO THE QUESTION.

WHEN a man dies, people generally inquire, What property has he left behind him? The angels will ask, What good deeds has he sent before him?

A BEAUTIFUL THOUGHT.

SOME one has said of those who die young, that "they are like the lambs which the Alpine shepherds bear in their arms to higher, greener pastures, that the flocks may follow."