

ous politeness to which she sacrificed her veracity.

A FATHER'S ADVICE TO HIS SON ON LEAVING HOME.

My Dear Son,

As you are about to leave your parents' roof, and to enter on a new sphere, I have thought that a few plain remarks may, with the blessing of God, prove useful to you when from under the eye and control of those who are very anxious that the principles they have instilled into your mind, should, when you are absent from them, be conspicuous in your whole deportment. I hope that the change you are about to experience is under the guidance of an all-wise Providence. We ought, under all circumstances, to watch the leadings of Providence; for often there arise, from very trivial circumstances, very important events, which you will see more fully brought to light in the word of God than in any other book. You may not think that there is any thing remarkable in your leaving your parents' roof, and entering upon a new scene, but I assure you, that you should mark this event, the manner in which it has been brought about, and the great facilities afforded you by your kind parent, in fitting you out. These are great mercies, but especially the kind wishes of friends, and the advice and prayers of your parents, ought to make an impression on your mind, such as you never before felt; it should excite in your heart prayer and praise. I trust you will receive with kindness the few hints I may suggest. Let me intreat you to make a point of reading the word of God every day. Value the Scriptures, for they are able to make you wise unto salvation. Do not read them as you would any other book, but remember that you cannot understand them without Divine teaching. Pray with David, "Open mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law." Do not omit secret prayer, for if you live in the neglect of it, you cannot expect the blessing of God. Never forget your father and mother, your sisters and brother; we have need of your prayers, and in his way we can hold communion, although absent in body. Do not forget your employer; pray for his spiritual and temporal good; and I think it is very important to pray for wisdom, to enable you to fulfil the duties which devolve upon you.

Again let me intreat you to reverence the Sabbath day; you have been taught to regard that day not to be devoted to worldly pursuits, but for more important objects. O do not neglect to attend the means of grace twice or thrice if possible. Do not yield to any invitations you may meet with to go out taking pleasure on the Sabbath, and thereby neglect to go to a place of worship. Be sure attend where the gospel is faithfully preached. I know you can distinguish between moral and evangelical preaching. You know I should approve of —, or —, or any minister who lays, human nature low, and exalts Christ. I hope and trust that you will not lose sight of these things, and that you will pray to be preserved from all error. Be careful how you conduct yourself in the family you may reside with; do not speak without reflecting; endeavour that what you have to say shall convince those whom you are with. Let me beg of you not to make too free. "Too

much familiarity breeds contempt." Be modest, courteous, and kind to all. Do not think me too particular, if I press upon you your being tidy in your room: when you arise in the morning be particular in placing all your clothes, &c. away; do not even leave your bed clothes in an untidy state; if you find you have not time in the morning to do much, be sure and think of what you will want when you are retiring to rest, and place it in readiness accordingly. Be very particular in being in good time at business. You can do this by making a practice of retiring to rest by ten, and rising in the morning early: if you indulge in bed, you will be always wrong.

When in business, be diligent: have your thoughts about you; let nothing be done in a careless manner, and be willing to do all that is required of you, never discovering any ill temper. Do not let your service be that of eyeservice! be as diligent in your employer's absence as when he is present, and convince him by your general conduct that you do all in your power to promote his interests. Be very particular in all money transactions. Pray continually, let integrity and uprightness preserve you. Never let it be said that you are wanting in principle. Many persons are charged with this who are not actually unprincipled, but make it appear to others as though they were, through their slovenly manner of doing business. Let all your transactions be marked with candour, not duplicity; you had better be charged with having too much candour, than duplicity.

My dear Son, let me intreat you to be very particular in the choice of companions. Remember that evil communications corrupt good manners. Never esteem those who would lead you to places of amusement, and by their conversation and deportment cause you to neglect the means of grace, or your business. Choose such as appear to have the fear of God before their eyes; such as are strictly moral in their conduct. If possible, let them be your superiors in every sense of the word, at least let them be such as you can always profit by. I must not omit again reverting to books. I have pressed upon you the importance of reading the bible; now, do avoid all pernicious books, such as novels, &c. as you would poison; there are plenty of books which are entertaining, and yet instructive and religious in their tendency. You see, I want you at all times to be actuated by religious principles, for if you should be prosperous in this world, then you would (influenced from above) be a blessing to the church, and to the world; and if, on the contrary, it should please God that you should ever know what adversity is, then you will be enabled to bow with submission to the will of God, and learn that godliness with contentment is great gain. In conclusion, I most earnestly intreat you not to forget that you are an accountable being to Him who gave you existence. O do not forget that you are a poor dying creature, that time is ever on the wing, and is rapidly bringing us to the grave. Although you are now young in years, you cannot calculate upon a long life; for what is your life? it is even as a vapour, which appeareth for a moment and then vanisheth away. Then as death and judgment are certain, do not neglect to fly for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before you in the gospel, for "Behold now is the accepted time now is the day of salvation," &c.

MELANCHOLY DEATH OF A PROFANE SEAMAN.

From "The Retrospect."

G. H. was one of the crew of the P—; he was a most notorious thief, drunkard, and profane blasphemer; he seldom escaped more than six or eight weeks without being flogged, on some of which occasions he frankly told the officers they had better procure his execution, as he should never reform. Dreadfully severe as some of his punishments had been, yet they availed nothing. Time and experience only confirmed the truth of his assertions—he never did reform. His was a life, not only of sin, but of hateful sin; hateful even in the estimation of other sinners.—It was one unvarying round of oaths and falsehood, of theft, drunkenness, and punishment, until the ship was stranded. When that event happened, a part of two days and one night were expended in great and laborious exertions by every officer and man on board, as was supposed. But it afterwards appeared, that while the rest of the crew were labouring to save the wreck, G. H. had found means to enter one of the officer's store rooms, and also succeeded in enticing a clownish landsman (who had lately volunteered in the service) to be a him company. There they concealed, and drank themselves senseless, and slept till the exertions of their comrades were relinquished as fruitless, and the vessel was abandoned to its fate. When they awoke from sleep, the cold, at length, restored their senses, and roused them from their skulking place to discover their situation, as the sole and uncomfortable possessors of His Majesty's ship P—, now lying on its side, bilged, and surrounded with ice.

Having succeeded in kindling a fire, and being somewhat warmed and refreshed, G. H. proceeded to examine such of the cabins, drawers, and officers' trunks as were accessible. Plundering was always his delight; but now the abundance of stuff distressed his mind, since he could carry of so little in comparison with the much that must be left behind. To travel, with a trunk or load, over the rugged mass of ice that surrounded the wreck, was impracticable, but he determined to carry off as much as possible. To this end, he put on several shirts, and various other articles of wearing apparel, completing his equipment with one of the captain's uniform coats, mounted with epaulets. A pair of large plated candlesticks next fell in his way, which he, mistaking for silver, determined to save, if he saved himself. Being now tolerably well laden, and having again drank from the wine cases, he and his companion quitted the wreck, without knowing whither they were going, and, indeed, without understanding the nature and time of the tide. The consequence was, that soon after they left the vessel, they found the ice in motion, and themselves scarcely able to proceed in any direction. G. H.'s difficulties were of course much increased by the load of clothes on his back, as well as the lumber in his hands: but he seemed utterly insensible to every thing except saving his pillage, and giving vent to his reprobate, and now more than usually enraged mind. Oaths, dreadful oaths and curses continued to be poured forth from his lips, until one of the massy pieces of ice, on which he stood, clave under him, from the concussion of the surrounding mass of ice then in motion, and he descended with his plunder in his hands, and his oaths on his tongue—and the ice closed upon