

Now dusky shadows cloud my way,  
But there the shades will flee away;  
My Lord will break the dimming glass,  
And show the glory of His face!

My numerous foes now beat me down,  
But there I'll wear the victor's crown;  
Yet all the revenues I'll bring  
To Zion's everlasting King!—RALPH ERSKINE.

### Children's Treasury.

#### THE SON OF A PRAYING MOTHER.

Richard Knill had a pious mother, but not a pious father.

At the time of his birth, even the mother was not a Christian; and her son was old enough, at the time of her conversion to remember this change. He had no remembrance of ever hearing his father speaking unkindly to his mother, except about this. The mother sought comfort in prayer, and would often take her boy with her into her chamber, and say: "kneel down with me, my dear, and I will pray with you; your father and your brothers will not join me."

In his seventeenth year young Knill had finished his apprenticeship, and went abroad into the wide world to try his fortune. But "evil communications" soon corrupted "good manners." In the midst of wicked old men, and wicked young men, he forgot the prayers of his pious mother, and became fond of singing foolish songs, and breaking the Sabbath, thus stifling the voice of conscience, and fighting against God; and all this before he was twenty. His fondness for music was a great snare to him. Satan often took advantage of it to lead him into company. At last he began to fancy that if he enlisted

into the militia he should soon get into the band, and then it would be music and songs all the year round. Accordingly he enlisted. This nearly broke his mother's heart. "Now," said she, "body and soul are lost; oh! what can be done?"

The friend who had been the means of leading the mother to Christ, called on young Knill's parents to sympathize with them, and offered to try and procure his discharge. During the proceedings which followed, the young soldier remained in his friend's house, and attended night and morning at family prayer. This was a new and strange scene to him. He had never been present at a family prayer in his life.

The first night he was in this good man's house, about nine o'clock a bell was rung, and shopman and servants all came into the parlour and sat down. Knill looked with surprise, and wondered what was to come next. When all were seated, the master opened the Bible, and read a portion. They then rose and fell on their knees. The sight overpowered young Knill. He trembled and almost fainted. At last he kneeled down too. He thought of his past life. He thought of his present position. He thought, "can such a guilty creature be saved?" He heard but little of