

## FOR THE YOUNG.

## EMILY.

A little girl, named Emily (or Emmy, as she liked best to be called), was very fond of spending halfpence for her own indulgence. Her parents were not very rich, but they were rich enough to give Emmy plenty of food, and plenty of clothes, and plenty of playthings to make any girl happy (as far as these things can give happiness); but this did not satisfy her, all the halfpence she could get were immediately spent for cakes or fruit. Her parents went to live in the country, and there she was allowed to walk in a large and beautiful garden belonging to a gentleman in the neighbourhood, who thought it would be a great pleasure to the little London girl to do so; and although she was not permitted to gather any of the fruit for herself, the gentleman gave her some almost every day; but even this did not satisfy her; still the halfpence all went for sweets or for cocoa-nuts, which she was particularly fond of.

One Sunday, in church, a Missionary Meeting was announced for the following Tuesday in the village School-house. Emmy had heard of Missionaries, and she knew there was a Missionary-box in the church, but she had never thought or cared about the use of it: however, she was pleased when her mother told her she would take her to the Meeting, for she thought it would make her of great importance to go where everybody else was going. When she went into the room it was nearly empty; but she was greatly amused at watching it gradually filling with men, women and children, for it was a village where great interest was felt and shown in Missions. Last of all came a gentleman, whom Emmy had never seen before, and her mother whispered to her that he was "the Missionary." He talked about a great many wonderful things that our little friend had never heard of, but which most boys and girls who have ever been to a Missionary Meeting know something about. At last he said, "Now, my dear children, what do you mean to do for the Missionaries? Do you mean to go home and think no more about them? or, do you mean to help them in teaching the ignorant the way to Heaven? You can each do something if you try: do you wish me to tell you how? Turn away your eyes from the tempting cake-shops; buy no plums or cocoa-nuts for your own pleasure, but put your half-pence into this box, and pray that a blessing may be upon every one you put in, that it may do good to some poor little child who is ready to perish. There are about six children in this room; if each of you spend only one half-penny per week in sweets or playthings, what will that amount to at the end of the year! Six pounds ten shillings! For that sum, my dear children, you could support two little scholars in our Indian Mission Schools; if you refuse to do so, you are each year keeping two little souls from the knowledge of the blessed Saviour, and the way to heaven. May God help you to choose which you will do."