

True piety is the only thing
That will to you true comfort bring ;
Seek it in youth, then you will find
True happiness and peace of mind.

Through all the stormy sea of life,
'Mid all its billows, all its strife ;
Though earthly friends should fade and die
Jesus will always be close by.

Study God's word, it gives true light,
Its laws will always guide you right ;
They'll shield you from the tempter's power,
And guide you in the darkest hour.

I trust that you will always mind
To your mother be truly kind ;
In her widowhood try to be
Just what God requires of thee.

I pray God to bless you, my son,
Until your toils on earth are done ;
And when the last loud trump shall sound,
With the Redeem'd may you be found.

After my father died, I felt
I was my mother's only help ;
I told her now that I must learn
Something, that wages I might earn.

A printer it was my choice to be—
My guardian to printing bound me ;
If in business I would succeed,
I felt I should more learning need.

My leisure hours I employed
In study, which I much enjoyed ;
With such knowledge I stored my mind,
Which is a help to me, I find.

The person to whom I was bound,
Was a true friend as could be found ;
When my apprenticeship was served,
He said a good name I deserved.

And in that office I should share
His friendship, long as he was there ;
When he resigned, he thought of me,
Proprietor I was made to be.