

simplicity, and gentle goodness. But though he never knew his mother's care and culture, he inherited some portion of her own tender sensibility, vivacity, and wit ; so that, through life, his solid sense and essential gravity were brightened by gleams of sportiveness, which gave a zest to social intercourse, and often made his very reproof palatable.

When my father left school, my grandfather, who had been successful in business, wished his son to go to college, but failed to gain his consent. He then urged him to enter a professional career, and placed him with his friend and solicitor, Mr. Marson, of Newington. A year's attempt to meet his father's views convinced him that he should never like the law as a pursuit. His own spirit was, at this time, dissatisfied and restless; life and its hard problems lay before him, and he was daily asking the question, "Who will show me any good?" His considerate father, ever on the watch to meet his views, took him from the lawyer's office, and brought him into his own chemical works, where he laboured at first for the sake of aiding one whom he heartily admired and loved, but soon with a personal interest in the various processes and their results. Still his spirit was troubled. As a child and youth his conduct had been exemplary. This did not prevent him from being painfully conscious that he lived without God, and that he had for twelve years resisted the strivings of the Holy Spirit.

Before the chapel in China-terrace, Lambeth, was built, my grandfather had been accustomed to attend the ministry of the late Rev. Rowland Hill, at Surrey Chapel. But as soon as Lambeth Chapel was opened, the father and son were more commonly to be found hearing the Wesleyan Methodist Ministers. In his youth Mr. Farmer, sen., had been for a time a member of the Society, and had won Wesley's smile and word of approval by bringing five pounds, his savings during his apprenticeship, and adding that sum to the larger offerings for the building of City-road Chapel. Among the Ministers whom my father used to hear most frequently were the late Revs. Dr. Clarke and Joseph Benson, and these men of power exerted a strong influence on his early decisions. By their ministry he became more fully convinced of his nature's sinfulness, and was shown more clearly the way of salvation. Yet he was long in finding rest to his soul. No slight healing would suffice for his deep wound; no peace self-spoken would avail. With the energy that marked the doings of his whole life, my father, at this time, gave himself to the practical work of the manufactory through the day, and to the acquirement of chemical knowledge in the evening. Thorough in everything, he laboured with his own hands, beginning with plumbing, and measuring his strength and skill with that of every workman in the place,—till all they could do had been done by their young master, and knew himself competent to take the lead in each department. Yet paramount even to business success, was the welfare of his soul ; and no day passed of which the earliest and the latest hours were not given to religious reading, meditation, and earnest pleading with God. Sometimes he would retire to his room, after a day's hard work in the factory, and an evening's attendance at a chemical lecture, so weary in body that it was scarcely pos