

For the Wesleyan.

## FRIENDSHIP.

O dear and strong are friendship's ties,  
That heart to heart so sweetly bind—  
But friendship's bond there sever'd lies,  
And moans are wafted on the wind.

The friend more dear itself than life  
Must from each kindred spirit part—  
With sorrows here each hour is rife,  
Whilst DEATH with anguish wrings the heart

Life's sweetest pleasures pass away,  
Like eagle's pathway thro' the air—  
E'en life itself courts dread decay—  
Expires—once beauteous and so fair!

Thus sink we to our mother's breast—  
Thus friend here sees his friend no more—  
Thus sinks the sighing breeze to rest—  
Thus dies away old ocean's roar.

But will this parting be for aye?  
Shall friendship's bonds no more unite?  
Shall DEATH his triumphs e'er display,  
And spread around an endless night?

No—the blest morn shall soon arise,  
When death shall yield his ransom'd prey;  
And friends shall greet each other's eyes,  
In regions of ETERNAL DAY.

There shall the friends of Jesus meet,  
When the deep sleep of DEATH is o'er,—  
How joyous is the thought most sweet,  
That they shall meet to part no more.

Guysborough October 1833.

A. W. M.

## YOUTH'S DEPARTMENT.

## THE REWARD OF DISOBEDIENCE.

It blew a tremendous gale last night, exclaimed Mr. Thompson to his son, as he entered the breakfast room; I fear we shall hear that it has done great damage to the shipping.

Thomas has just told me, replied Lewis, that there are two brigs on the sands, near the Goodwin light; and only think, papa, the large vessel that sailed with the evening tide is totally wrecked. She too was driven on the sands, but succeeded in getting off; however, she was so much injured, that before she could get back again into the harbour, she went to pieces, and almost all on board perished.

Put on your hat, said Mr. Thompson, we will walk to the pier; we shall be back before mamma is ready for breakfast.

Lewis readily obeyed; not that it was his usual custom to do so, for, like many other little boys, he was very headstrong, and preferred his own gratification to complying with the wishes of his parents—but curiosity now prompted him, and he eagerly accompanied his father.

They soon beheld a dreadful spectacle. The sea was still agitated in a frightful manner; and the wind continued to blow very strongly. All was bustle and anxiety among the sailors and the fishermen; and the bodies of several persons lay extended on the pier-head. Lewis shuddered. 'O pray let us go back he exclaimed.' But before his father could make any reply, the attention of both was attracted by the piercing lamentations of a poor woman, who was kneeling by the side of a boy apparently about twelve years old, and wringing her hands in an agony of distress.

Oh! Ned, she sobbed, and it is come to this!—Oh, Oh! he would always have his own way; an expression which she repeated several times.

Mr. Thompson turned to one of the spectators, and asked the cause of her words.

'Why, your honour, replied the fisherman whom he addressed, that poor boy who lies there (Lord have

mercy on him,) was always a sad, wilful lad,—he was very anxious to go to sea, but neither his father or mother were willing, for he was their only child, and not very strong. All they said however, was of no use; nay, perhaps, it made him still more determined to have his own way; so last night (while his father was gone out with the mackerel boats,) he got on board the Resolution, and sailed before any one knew any thing about the matter. His mother was looking for him the whole of the night, almost wild with distress; his dead body has just been hauled up with those poor fellows."

Dreadful, murmured Mr. Thompson. Unable to endure the scene longer, Lewis grasped his father's hand, and drew him away. He did not attempt to speak a single word as they walked home;—and when seated at the breakfast table his looks showed so much distress that his mother anxiously enquired if he were well? Lewis made no answer, but rising from the table, threw his arms around her neck, and for some minutes wept violently. Oh, mamma, at length he cried, I have seen such a—sight, I never have seen—oh, I shall never forget them! I forgive me for being so naughty and obstinate as I have often been, and never, never, I think will I disobey you again.

Mrs. Thompson looked at her husband for explanation, which he in a few words gave her.

"Thus," said he, as he concluded his distressing narrative, "thus has God thought fit to punish the breach of his holy commandment, 'honour thy father and mother that thy days may be long in the land.' The sea at his word, has opened her mouth and swallowed up the disobedient child, almost all of his home; and made his fate an awful warning to all who like him, are tempted to forget the sacred duty they owe their parents.—*National Miscellany.*

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