





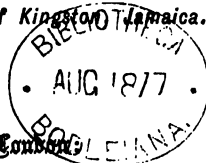
THE GOSPEL
OF THE
KINGDOM.

A Wade-Mecum of Texts & Prayers of Intercession

FOR USE AT THE BEDSIDE OF THE SICK AND DYING;
IN THE CONVALESCENT CHAMBER;
SUNDAY SCHOOLS;
ETC., ETC.,

BY
HUGH CROSKERY.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
THE RIGHT REVEREND REGINALD COURTENAY, D.D.,
Lord Bishop of Kingston Jamaica.



F. E. LONGLEY, 39, WARWICK LANE, E.C.
SOLD BY ALL BOOKSELLERS IN JAMAICA.

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Dedicated

WITH AFFECTIONATE REGARD,

BY KIND PERMISSION,

TO

THE RIGHT REVEREND REGINALD COURTENAY, D.D.

LORD BISHOP OF KINGSTON,

JAMAICA.



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NOTE.—The piece of Sacred Poetry, prefixed to any prayer of intercession, is to be *read* to the sick person, *and not sung*.

I should have been only too happy to have given the name of the Author of each piece of sacred poetry copied into this Manual, had I been able to find out the names of all the real authors; but this would be not an easy task. I feel assured, however, that permission to use even copyright pieces, will be readily conceded to me in so good a cause.

COMPILER.

INTRODUCTION.

BY THE RIGHT REVEREND

REGINALD COURTENAY, D.D. ;
LORD BISHOP OF KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

AN Introduction by the Bishop to whom it is dedicated is hardly needed for a work like this. Anyone may gather from the title-page alone that the Clergyman by whom it has been compiled possesses the confidence and esteem of the Bishop under whom he serves ; and may ascertain from it the most salient and remarkable fact in his history, and in that of his book, —that it was compiled, originally, for his own use, by one who combined the duties of a Medical man and of a Minister of religion. How all this occurred is more fully explained in the Preface, in which are related the circumstances in which the writer was placed, and the motives which led him to desire to possess full power and authority to minister to the soul as well as the body.

The Manual must speak for itself. It is only by close examination, or rather by actual use, that its real value can be ascertained: The passages of Scripture, of which the first part chiefly consists, seem to me to have been judiciously selected and grouped together ;

Introduction :

and the short devotional pieces of sacred poetry, which are interspersed between them, to be appropriate and beautiful. As regards the second part, it is scarcely possible to compose prayers which shall perfectly harmonize with the habitual tone of devotional thought in the minds of all religious persons who may use them. But I may at least say that, in my judgment, these prayers manifest true love of God, and love of souls ; and are so suitable, under a great variety of circumstances, that anyone who will peruse them carefully beforehand,—and indeed it would be an act of sinful presumption to use them otherwise,—will be enabled to select from them, in almost every case, fitting words in which to clothe his petitions.

Here I might close this brief introduction.

That union of the Clerical and Medical offices, however, of which the case of the Author of this Manual affords an example, though not wholly without precedent in the Colonial Church, is still so infrequent,—so much less frequent than in my judgment it deserves to be,—that I gladly avail myself of the present occasion to point out, though very briefly, the great blessings to the members of our Church which will follow whenever one who is engaged in the professional practice of medicine is found willing to devote himself, in the spirit of self-sacrificing love for souls, to the work of the Ministry also, and can obtain Episcopal ordination.

Few, indeed, are the parishes, even in England, in which the personal influence of the Clergy is so great with men of all classes and conditions, and of all religious views, that they can secure a welcome in *every* sick room. But the Physician is gladly received *everywhere*.

If he be a truly Christian man, he can, *and he will*, seize the most favorable moments, in the intervals of comparative freedom from bodily pain, or of worldly anxieties, to turn the thoughts of his patient to the state and prospects of the soul. He can, and he will, give spiritual counsels; and, sometimes, offer a prayer by the bedside; will, of his own accord, make the case known to some Minister of religion, or advise that such should be besought to attend. But, alas! in how many of our populous towns and cities are the Clergy willing in spirit, but in the flesh half-worn-out; and, overwhelmed by numbers, utterly unable to exercise that close spiritual supervision, that sedulous attention to the care of each sick soul which it urgently needs,—without which it will wander on in darkness, unable to find the Saviour. How great their need of help,—of all the help that Christian piety can give them!

WHY NOT, then, enable the Physician, when duly qualified by piety and learning, and by his readiness to engage in this holy work, to perform the priestly office? Why not empower him, to whom, perhaps, the soul owes its first conscious movements heavenward, and who is fully *competent* to conduct its further progress, by the ministry of God's holy word to convey the benefit of absolution; and, in the last dread hour, when the flesh and the heart are failing, to administer the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of the Lord, who shall be its portion for ever?

If help be required in England, surely still more in the *Colonial* branches of the Anglican Church! The need of *more labourers* is universal. On our great day of intercession,—on the 20th of December 1872,—our

Introduction.

Church confessed before God and man her deep sense of its urgency.

The district of Chapelton,* in Jamaica, lies amid the interior mountains of a tropical Island, over which the residences of the peasantry are scattered far and wide. The Rector is no longer young. His most remote station is at a distance of more than twenty miles from his residence, to be traversed, for the most part, by bridle path, narrow, steep, and rugged. He has an Assistant, qualified and empowered as I have above described, who, with the following Manual in his breast-pocket, its texts and its prayers in his heart, aids him in the priestly duties of this overwhelming curse,—receiving an income from his public and private Medical duties, but for spiritual ministrations accepting no recompense, and desiring none, until the resurrection of the just.

In Jamaica alone, there are many places like Chapelton; in India, in our vast Colonial Empire, hundreds, if not thousands such: and there must be many Medical men, of earnest piety, and with a sufficiency of sacred learning, and with a true love for Christ and for the souls which He came to save, who would, with due encouragement, offer their aid.

Would to God that my Episcopal brethren, laying aside their too exclusive rules, would recognize the work which such men are doing already; would give them the right-hand of fellowship; would receive them into the Ministry as Deacons; and bestow on those that were most worthy the honour even of the Priesthood.

R. K.

* NOTE.—This introduction was written during the Author's residence at Chapelton, when the publication of the Manual was first contemplated.

P R E F A C E :

BY THE EDITOR AND COMPILER.

IT may be unnecessary for me to say that I am a Medical Practitioner ; but *it is quite necessary to add* that I am also,—and I feel every day more and more thankful to be able to say so,—A MINISTER OF RELIGION.

My professional work, for the past twenty years, has been, as—D.V.—it will continue to be, to administer such earthly means as God's good providence has supplied for the relief of sickness and disease amid the mountains of Jamaica.

Some seven years ago, I began to feel my position to be one of the gravest responsibility. I felt, in my intercourse with the sick and the dying, that I was not “ ready, always, to give an answer to every man that asked me a reason of the hope that was in me, with meekness and fears.” I felt, sometimes, a feeling of extreme weakness and helplessness when dealing with patients to whose sickness I felt unable to minister, because it was often a sickness of body and soul combined. The two seemed to be so bound together,—so intimately connected,—as only to be considered one living thing ! Cases occurred in which I was appealed to for spiritual aid. A sick and heavy-laden soul has cried out to me in piteous accents,—“ “ Pray for me, doctor ! ” And many there are who will be willing to bear me out in saying, that, in medical practices, such is not an unusual occurrence.

I soon began to feel that the calling of a Medical man, which most men will admit to be a glorious calling, could be made still more perfect. I asked myself why should I not minister to spiritual as well as to bodily disease? Why should I not improve the advantages of my position in the far-away hills of this, so to speak, still heathen land, to lead anxious souls to the great living fountain? Our Saviour, Himself, went about "preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people:" and should not I, poor worm of the earth that I am, try, however imperfectly, and though it be only at a humble distance, to follow the example of my gracious Lord and Master?

Such were the reasons which *chiefly* prevailed with me in coming to the determination to seek admission to Holy Orders.

I had, already, been serving for some time as a catechist and lay-reader (licensed by the Bishops), under the supervision of the Rector of the Parish in which I reside; after assisting him in the Services of the Church,—frequently acting for him during his absence, while visiting the different out-stations of this extensive district.

While acting in the above capacity for some time, I at length began to feel that I must be no longer faint-hearted. I felt that I must come forward openly and boldly before men, to confess the Saviour. I felt, in fact, that I must become a Clergyman, in order to obtain greater power to do good to the souls of men. I desired to possess *that greater influence which could only be acquired through my formal and solemn recognition as a Minister of Christ*, and through that special blessing which is conveyed, where ordination is rightly received, to God's ministers by the laying on of hands.

Here, I must express my very deep sense of the debt of

Preface: By the Editor and Compiler.

gratitude which I owe to the Bishop of Kingston, the good Prelate who admitted me, first to Deacon's, and then, after a reasonable interval, to Priest's Orders, for the ready acquiescence with which he met my views; and also for the extreme kindness and paternal regard which he has ever shewn towards me.

And now that I have been permitted thus to set an example, and to establish a precedent for similar ordinations in future, my earnest wish and prayer is that very many Medical men in active practice, all over the world, who love their Saviour, and who desire to point sick souls to Him who, alone, can save them, may seek admission to Holy Orders, as I have done.* Those only who feel themselves, from previous training and education, to be fully competent, should thus come forward; and none should think of taking upon themselves this holy office, who do not feel, in their hearts, that they have been inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost, and truly called thereto.

There can be no doubt but that the arguments brought forward as a plea for the *occasional* union of these two kindred professions—twin sisters as they undoubtedly are,—shew also the great power for good which the Christian Medical man possesses, *whether he be in Holy Orders or not*. I do not wish to underrate the value of such a power. Nay, I would impress its value most urgently on my Medical brethren. They can exercise it without being obliged to

* Resolution agreed to by the Bishops of Guiana, Kingston, Antiqua, Nassau, Barbadoes (Bishop Parry also consenting), at a Conference of the West Indian Bishops assembled at Georgetown, Demerara, in 1873.

“It is the opinion of this Conference that the practice of the Medical Profession is peculiarly compatible with the ministration to sick souls, and with the discharge of the office of a Deacon or Priest.”

become either Priests or Deacons. I must, therefore, not be understood to advocate the union of the two professions *as a rule*; but such a union is greatly to be desired where a man's lot is cast in the wilds of a distant land, where the harvest is plenty, and the labourers are few. In all such cases, however, I would ask my Medical brethren who may thus come forward as Ministers, *with the avowed intention of combining Ministerial and Medical functions*, in order to increase their opportunities of usefulness in Christ's Church, if they offer their services at all, *to offer them voluntarily and gratuitously.*

It seemed to me to be necessary to make these preliminary observations before introducing my little Book. I wrote it,—or rather I compiled it,—*for my own use*, at the bedside of the sick and the dying. I felt the great want of such a Manual; for it is not always that a Bible or Prayer-book can be found, and even then few men, unless they have the gift of language and powerful memories to help them, can do or say, on the spur of the moment, *and especially in the presence of grief*, all they desire to say,—all they feel that *they ought to say*. I know that this is the case with myself, and I have no doubt but that others have felt this great want—the want of a complete VADE-MECUM—a useful and portable manual, such as I hope mine may prove to be, a book, in fact, which might be carried without inconvenience in the breast-pocket of one's coat, so as to be ready for use on any emergency. A brother Clergyman, who looked over the pages of the manuscript, told me that such a book, if printed, would greatly help him in his work; and I doubt not but that others—clergy, doctors, catechists, managers of hospitals, nurses, heads of families, nay, all who are earnest labourers in the Lord's vineyard,—will find it to be an invaluable aid.

Preface : By the Editor and Compiler.

“He which converteth the sinner from the error of his way, shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.”

I shall print my little Book, then, in the hope that it may be useful to very many, and I pray that God's blessing may be with it to the saving of the eternal souls of men.

HUGH CROSKERY.

Kingston, Jamaica

THE
GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM;
OR,
SPIRITUAL MEDICINE.

PART I.

SELECT PASSAGES OF HOLY SCRIPTURE:
IN TWELVE CHAPTERS.

NOTE.

It will be observed that, in giving quotations from the Book of Psalms in the course of the following chapters, I have often used the beautiful and much-prized edition of these sacred hymns, as contained in our Book of Common Prayer.

In preparing these Prayers, I have not scrupled to avail myself of all the aid I could obtain from various writers, adopting their very words, where I felt it to be desirable.

H. C.

THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM.

CHAPTER I.

THE SHORTNESS AND VANITY OF LIFE: THE PROSPECT OF DEATH
NO TERROR TO THE BELIEVER IN JESUS.

1. Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower and is cut down. He fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not.—Job xiv., 1, 2.

2. The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and though men be so strong that they come to fourscore years, yet is their strength, then, but labour and sorrow; so soon passeth it away, and we are gone.—Psalm xc., 10.

3. Man walketh in a vain shadow, and disquieteth himself in vain: he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them.—Psalm xxxix., 7.

4. Man dieth, and wasteth away: yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?—Job xiv., 10.

5. For when the breath of man goeth forth, he shall turn again to his earth; and, then, all his thoughts perish.—Psalm cxlvi., 3.

6. What is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.—James iv., 14.

7. Boast not thyself of to-morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.—Proverbs xxvii., 1.

8. There is but a step between me and death—1 Samuel, xx., 3.

9. Be ye, therefore, ready also, for the Son of Man cometh at an hour when ye think not.—Luke xii., 40.

The Shortness and Vanity of Life.

10. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.—Psalm xc., 12.

11. O! that men were wise; that they understood this;—that they would consider their latter end.—Deut. xxxii., 29.

12. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.—Psalm xxiii., 4.

13. For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though, after my skin, worms destroy this body, yet, in my flesh, shall I see God.—Job xix., 25, 26.

14. God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, for He shall receive me.—Psalm xlix., 15.

15. Therefore, my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth; my flesh also shall rest in hope.—Psalm xvi., 9.

16. I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day.—2 Timothy, i., 12.

17. Every man that hath this hope in Him, purifieth himself, even as He is pure.—1 John, iii., 3.

18. Ye are washed,—ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.—1 Cor. v., 11.

19. Whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins.—Acts x., 43.

20. The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin.—1 John, i., 7.

21. The dust shall return to the earth, as it was; and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.—Eccl. xii., 7.

22. It is written, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard;—neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.—1 Cor., ii., 9.

23. Merciful men are taken away . . . from the evil to come.—Is. lvii., 1.

24. Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.—Rev. xiv. 13.

25. Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his.—Numbers xxiii., 10.

The Prospect of Death no Terror to the Believer in Jesus.

- “ My life, whilst thou preserv'st my life
Thy sacrifice shall be ;
And death, when death shall be my lot,
Shall join my soul to Thee.
- “ Guarded by Thee, my dying day
Shall need no help beside ;
Thy rod and staff shall be my stay ;
Thy light shall be my guide.
- “ Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear none ill ;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.”

PRAYER.

THE SHORTNESS AND VANITY OF LIFE. THE PROSPECT
OF DEATH NO TERROR TO THE BELIEVER IN JESUS.

Almighty God, and Heavenly Father ; Thou who art good and gracious, teach us Thy statutes. Thy hands have made us and fashioned us : Thou art our defence and our shield, and our trust is in Thy Word. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. May we ever remember, blessed Lord, that there is, indeed, but a step between us and death. Deliver us, Lord, from every evil work ; and preserve us unto Thee Heavenly Kingdom. Redeem our souls from the power of the grave. Let our flesh rest in hope. Though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we need fear no evil ; for Thou shalt receive us. Worms shall destroy these bodies of ours, yet in our flesh we shall see God ; for we know that our Redeemer liveth, and are persuaded that He is able to keep that which we have committed unto Him.

AMEN.

CHAPTER II.

THE IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL :

THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY : LIFE ETERNAL.

1. Marvel not at this : for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth,—they that have done good unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation.—John v., 28, 29.

2. Behold, I shew you a mystery : we shall not all sleep ; but we shall be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump ; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.—**1** Cor. xv., 51-53.

3. There shall be a resurrection both of the just and unjust.—Acts xxiv., 15.

4. Now, that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he called the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. For He is not a God of the dead, but of the living, for all live unto Him.—Luke xx., 37, 38.

5. The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised.—**1** Cor. xv., 52.

6. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,—some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.—Daniel xii., 2.

7. The Lord Jesus Christ shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, whereby He is able to subdue all things unto Himself.—Phil. iii., 20, 21.

8. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be : but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him ; for we shall see Him as He is.—**1** John, iii., 2.

9. Jesus said,—I am the Resurrection and the Life : he

Resurrection of the Body: Life Eternal.

that believeth on me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die.—John xi., 25, 26.

10. This is the will of Him that sent Me, that everyone that seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have Everlasting Life; and I will raise him up at the last day.—John vi., 40.

11. Father, I will that they also whom Thou hast given Me be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which Thou hast given Me, for Thou lovest Me before the foundation of the world.—John xvii., 24.

12. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which, according to His abundant mercy, hath begotten us again unto a lively hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away.—1 Peter i., 3, 4.

13. We know that, if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens.—2 Cor. v., 1.

14. I have fought a good fight: I have finished my course: I have kept the faith.—2 Timothy iv., 7.

15. Henceforth, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.—2 Timothy iv., 8.

16. When the Chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory, that fadeth not away—1 Peter v., 4.

17. I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction.—Hosea, xiii., 14.

18. Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. xv., 57.

“ We know that, when the soul, unclodeth,
Shall from this body fly,
'Twill animate a purer frame
With life that cannot die.

Resurrection of the Body: Life Eternal.

“ A few short years of evil past,
We reach the happy shore.
Where death—divided friends, at last,
Shall meet to part no more.

“ In mercy, Jesus, bring us
To that dear land of rest,
Where Thou art, with the Father
And Spirit, ever blest.”

PRAYER.

THE IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL. THE RESURRECTION
OF THE BODY. LIFE ETERNAL.

O God of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Resurrection and the Life, and in whom whosoever liveth and believeth shall never die; grant that, when the trumpet shall sound, and the dead be raised, we may awake to everlasting glory,—to eternal life. Grant, blessed Lord, that, when the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and when these bodies of ours shall rise from their kindred dust, we may have a place in the resurrection of the just,—an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away. Grant, Lord, that, when we have finished our course, and when our earthly house of this tabernacle shall be dissolved, we may have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. AMEN.

CHAPTER III.

THE CERTAINTY OF A FUTURE JUDGMENT: CHRIST THE JUDGE OF THE QUICK AND THE DEAD.

1. I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at His appearing, and His kingdom: preach the word: be instant in season,—out of season; reprove,—rebuke; exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.—2 Timothy iv., 1, 2.

2. Know thou that, for all these things, God will bring thee into judgment.—Eccles. xi., 9.

3. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil.—Eccles. xii., 14.

4. Because He hath appointed a day in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that Man whom He hath ordained, whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He raised Him from the dead.—Acts xvii., 31.

5. For we shall all stand before the Judgment-Seat of Christ.—Romans xiv., 10.

6. In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ.—Romans ii., 16.

7. So, then, everyone of us shall give an account of himself to God.—Romans xiv., 12.

8. God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost, and with power and He commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of Quick and dead.—Acts x., 38 and 42.

9. For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son.—John v., 22.

10. The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into His hand.—John iii., 35.

11. And hath given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man.—John v., 27,

12. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying,—

The Certainty of a Future Judgment : Christ the Judge.

All power is given unto Me in Heaven, and in earth.—
Matt. xi., 27.

13. All things are delivered unto Me of My Father.—
Matt. xi., 27.

14. For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and re-
vived, that He might be Lord both of the dead and the
living.—Rom. xiv., 9.

15. For we must all appear before the judgment-seat of
Christ, that everyone may receive the things done in his
body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good
or bad.—2 Cor. v. 10.

16. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in
the kingdom of their Father.—Matt. xiii., 43.

17. They shall receive a glorious kingdom, and a beau-
tiful crown from the Lord's hand : for with His right hand
shall He cover them ; and with His arm shall He protect
them.—Wisd. v., 15, 16.

18. For the Lamb, which is in the midst of the Throne
shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of
waters ; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.
—Rev. vii., 17.

19. After this, I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude,
which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds,
and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and be-
fore the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in
their hands—..... These are they which came
out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and
made them white in the blood of the Lamb.—Rev. vii.,
9-14.

20. And He, that sat upon the throne, said unto me,
—Write:—He that overcometh shall inherit all things ;
and I will be his God, and he shall my Son.—Rev. xxi., 5-7.

21. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abomin-
able, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers,
and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake
which burneth with fire and brimstone : which is THE
SECOND DEATH !—Rev. xxi., 8.

THE JUDGMENT.

“ The day of wrath ! That dreadful day !
When heaven and earth shall pass away !

The Judgment.

What power shall be the sinner's stay?—
How shall he meet that dreadful day

“ When, shrivelling like a parched scroll,
The flaming heavens together roll;
When louder yet, and yet more dread,
Swells the high trump that wakes the dead!

“ Oh! on that day—that wrathful day!
When man to judgment wakes from clay!
Be thou, O Christ, the sinner's stay,
Though heaven and earth shall pass away.”

Sir W. Scott.

PRAYER.

THE CERTAINTY OF A FUTURE JUDGMENT. CHRIST THE JUDGE OF THE QUICK AND THE DEAD.

Blessed Jesus! to whom all power is given in Heaven and on earth, we know that we shall stand before Thy Throne at that awful day when Thou shall judge the secrets of men. Enable us, blessed Saviour, to make our peace with God. Our many sins we cast on Thee, our precious Saviour. Thou hast made atonement for sins of every name,—of every dye. Thy Blood cleanseth from all sin. We trust not in our own strength, but in Thee alone. We cast ourselves and our sins solely and wholly upon Thee. Lord, we would consecrate ourselves to Thy service. We ask Thee, blessed Saviour, to be ours, from this time forth and for ever. We trust in Thee: we cling to Thee, the living Redeemer, who art ever able, ever ready to help the contrite and the penitent. And, O Lord, grant that, when we come to die, we may rejoice, indeed, and in truth, in a *living* Christ, a *present* Saviour. AMEN.

CHAPTER IV.

BIBLE WARNINGS.

1. Thou believest that there is one God: thou doest well: the devils also believe and tremble.—James ii., 19.
2. Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in Heaven —Matt. vii., 21.
3. Be not deceived: God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.—Gal. vi., 7.
4. For the wrath of God is revealed from Heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness.—Rom. i., 18.
5. Whosoever shall be ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of Man be ashamed, when He cometh in the glory of His Father, with the holy angels.—Mark viii., 38.
6. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: but he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.—1 John ii., 23.
7. The Son of Man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His Kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.—Matt. xiii., 41, 42.
8. The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out, without mixture, into the cup of His indignation.—Rev. xiv., 10.
9. Be ye, therefore, ready, for the Son of Man cometh at an hour when ye think not—Luke xii., 40.
10. It is appointed unto men once to die,—but, after this, **THE JUDGMENT.**—Heb. ix., 27.
11. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened.....and they were judged, every man, according to their works; and whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the **LAKE OF FIRE.**—Rev. xx., 12--15.

Bible Warnings.

12. Strive to enter in at the straight gate, for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.—Luke xiii., 24.

13. Love not the world,—neither the things that are in the world: if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him: for all that is in the world,—the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.—1 John, ii., 15, 16.

14. Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it; pass not by it: turn from it, and pass away.—Prov. iv., 14, 15.

15. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye, through the spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.—Rom. viii., 13.

16. What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?—Mark viii., 36, 37.

17. To be carnally minded is death.—Rom. viii., 6.

18. The Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.—Psalm i., 6.

19. If we sin wilfully, after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses' law, died without mercy under two or three witnesses: of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the spirit of grace?—Heb. x., 26—29.

20. God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world, through Him, might be saved.—John iii., 17.

21. All men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son, honoureth not the Father which hath sent Him.—John v., 23.

22. Search the Scriptures. They are they which testify of Me.—John v., 39.

Bib! Warnings.

“Sun of my soul! Thou Saviour dear!
It is not night if Thou be near;
Oh! may no earth-born cloud arise
To hide Thee from Thy servant’s eyes!

Abide with me from morn till eve;
For without Thee I cannot live:
Abide with me when night is nigh;
For without Thee I dare not die.

Come near, and bless us when we wake,
Ere through the world our way we take;
Till, in the ocean of Thy love,
We lose ourselves in Heaven above.”

PRAYER.

BIBLE WARNINGS ; OR, ROCKS AHEAD.

O, Lord of Hosts, Who art worshipped by all the inhabitants of Heaven, follow with Thy blessing the reading of Thy word, and impress upon our hearts the solemn warnings which it contains. Thy wrath, O great and eternal God, is revealed from Heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men. Thou hast appointed unto men once to die,—but, after this, the judgment, when we shall be judged according to our works. Thou hast told us that, in that day, Thy Son shall send forth His angels; and that they shall gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and them which have done iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire, where shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. But, eternal thanks be unto Thee, O God, Thou hast told us, also, that, if we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, we shall be saved. Thou hast warned us, that we can lay no other foundation than that which Thou, Thyself *hast laid*, which is JESUS CHRIST. AMEN.

CHAPTER V.

BIBLE JEWELS :

OR COMFORT FOR THE BELIEVER.

1. Herein is love,—not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.—1 John, iv., 10.

2. That, as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto Eternal Life, by Jesus Christ, our Lord.—Romans v., 21.

3. Who is He that condemneth?—It is Christ that died;—yea, rather, that is risen again; Who is even at the right hand of God,—Who also liveth to make intercession for us.—Romans viii., 34.

4. Wherefore, He is able also to save them to the uttermost who come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.—Hebrews vii., 25.

5. For this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God.—Hebrews x., 12.

6. For by one offering, He hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.—Hebrews x., 14.

7. Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard; neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.—1 Cor., ii., 9.

8. Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.—Luke xii., 32.

9. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb?—yea, they may forget, yet will not I forget thee.—Isaiah xlix., 15.

10. In my Father's House are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. And if I go, and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself; that, where I am, there ye may be also.—John xiv., 2, 3.

11. If any Man serve Me, him will My Father honour.—John xii., 26.

12. O! fear the Lord, ye that are His saints; for they that fear Him lack nothing,—Psalm xxxiv., 9.

13. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.—Matthew v., 8.

14. Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son, in whom we have redemption through His blood,—even the forgiveness of sins.—Col. i., 13, 14.

15. Come, now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.—Isaiah i., 18.

16. We know that, if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God,—a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens. 2 Cor., v., 1.

17. And God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will, with the temptation, also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. 1 Cor., x., 13.

18. A bruised reed shall He not break; and smoking flax shall He not quench, till He send forth judgment unto victory. Matthew xii., 20.

19. Ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold,.....but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb, without blemish, and without spot. 1 Peter, i., 18, 19.

20. Watch ye: stand fast in the faith: quit you like men: be strong.—1 Cor., xvi., 13.

21. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith, without wavering; for He is faithful, that promised.—Heb. x., 23.

22. Now, unto Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first-begotten of the dead, and the Prince of the kings of the earth: unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father: to Him be glory and dominion, for ever and ever. Amen.—Rev. i., 5, 6.

“ Just as I am ! without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee,—
O ! Lamb of God ! I come !

Just as I am ! And waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,—
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,—
O ! Lamb of God ! I come !

Just as I am ! Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve !—
Because Thy promise I believe !
O ! Lamb of God ! I come ! ”

PRAYER.

BIBLE JEWELS; OR COMFORT FOR THE BELIEVER.

O, Almighty and most merciful Father ! We thank Thee for the privileges we enjoy. Thou didst send Thy Son, Thine only Son, to be the propitiation for our sins. We thank Thee, Lord, that Jesus died and rose again ; and that He is even now at Thy right hand, ever living to make intercession for us. Blessed Saviour ! we thank Thee ; we praise and bless Thee for THAT OFFERING,—for *that one sacrifice* for sin by which Thou hast perfected for ever them that are sanctified. We thank Thee that Thou has gone to prepare a place for us in Thy Father's House of many mansions ; that, were Thou art, there we may be also. O, gracious God, we thank Thee for Thy merciful declaration that the blood of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, cleanseth from all sin. We thank Thee that we have been redeemed with the precious blood of Christ : we bless Thee that there is, now, no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus. AMEN.

CHAPTER VI.

THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS THROUGH OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR,

JESUS CHRIST.

1. This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.—1 Timothy, i., 15.

2. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God—Rom., iii., 23,

3. And God commended His love towards us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.—Much more, then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son;—much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.—Romans v., 8, 10.

4. If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father,—Jesus Christ, the Righteous; and He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.—1 John, ii., 1, 2.

5. Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.—Romans, v., 1.

6. For the Son of Man is come to save that which was lost.—Matthew xviii., 11.

7. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.—Acts xvi., 31.

8. Christ gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father—Gal., 1, 4.

9. He that spared not His Own Son, but delivered Him up for us all,—how shall He not, with Him also, freely give us all things.—Romans, viii., 32.

10. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God, that ye may know that ye have eternal life.—1 John, v., 13.

11. Jesus saith, I am The Way, The Truth, and

The Forgiveness of Sins through our Lord and Saviour.

The Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by ME.—John xiv., 6.

12. Verily, verily, I say unto you,—*whatsoever ye shall ask THE FATHER IN MY NAME, He will give it to you.* Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.—John xvi., 23, 24.

13. And whatsoever ye shall ask IN MY NAME, *that will I do*, that The Father may be glorified in the Son. *If ye shall ask anything in My name, I WILL DO IT.*—John xiv., 13, 14.

14. And we have seen, and do testify, that The Father sent The Son to be the Saviour of the world. . . . I John, iv., 14.

15. In whom we have redemption through His blood, —even the forgiveness of sins.—Col., 1, 14: and Ephes., 1, 7.

16. The law was given by Moses; but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.—John, 1, 17, 18.

17. A man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.—Galatians, ii., 16.

18. That no man is justified by the law, in the sight of God, *it is evident*; for, the just shall live by faith. *And the law is not of faith.*—Galatians, iii., 11, 12.

19. If righteousness come by the law, THEN CHRIST IS DEAD IN VAIN.—Galatians, ii. 21.

20. Christ died for all, that they which live, should not, henceforth, live unto themselves, but unto Him which died for them, and rose again.—2 Cor., v., 15.

21. Who, HIS OWN SELF, bore our sins, in His OWN BODY, on the tree; that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.—1 Peter, ii., 24.

22. Thus God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself,—not imputing their trespasses unto them: For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.—2 Cor., v., 19 and 21.

23. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John iii., 16.

The Forgiveness of Sins through our Lord and Saviour.

24. There is, therefore, no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.—Romans viii., 1.

25. For, if we believe that Jesus died, and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.—1 Thess., iv., 14.

“ Jesu ! the very thought of Thee
With sweetness fills my breast ;
But sweeter far Thy face to see,
And in Thy presence rest !

O ! hope of every contrite heart !
O ! joy of all the meek !—
To those who fall, how kind Thou art !
How good to those who seek !

Jesu ! our only joy be Thou,
As Thou our prize wilt be ;
Jesu ! be Thou our glory now,
And through eternity.”

PRAYER.

THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS THROUGH OUR LORD AND
SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST.

Almighty God, our most merciful and loving Father, who spared not Thine Own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, we come to Thee, pleading no merits of our own, but only the merits of Jesus Christ. We bless Thee for Thy Word which tells us that, although we have sinned and come short of the glory of God, if we believe on the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we shall be saved. Oh ! may Thy Spirit ever enable us to come to Thee, only in the Name of Jesus Christ, that we may *know* that we have Eternal Life. O, help us to look to Christ and live. O, help us to look for justification to Jesus, the Saviour of the world. Help us to depend on Him alone for salvation.

And, oh ! blessed Jesus ! Thou Advocate with The Father !—may we live henceforth unto Thee. Lord ! keep us near Thy side in this life, that, in death and in judgment, we may be Thine forever, world without end. Amen.

CHAPTER VII.

THE BELIEVER'S TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN GOD.

1. Be careful for nothing ; but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God.—Philippians iv., 6.

2. As for me, I will call upon God, and the Lord shall save me. Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray and cry aloud : and He shall hear my voice.—Psalm lv., 16, 17.

3. For the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him : for whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.—Romans x., 12, 13.

4. The Lord is nigh to all them that call upon Him,—to all that call upon Him in truth.—Psalm, cxlv., 18.

5. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God, that ye may know that ye have eternal life : and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us : and if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.—1 John, v., 13, 15.

6. And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know Him that is true, and we are in Him that is true, even in HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST.—THIS IS THE TRUE GOD, AND ETERNAL LIFE.—1 John, v., 20.

7. God is our God, for ever and ever : He will be our guide even unto death.—Psalm xlviii., 14.

8. For He hath said,—I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.—Hebrews xiii., 5.

9. The Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto His heavenly kingdom. 2 Timothy, iv., 18.

10. Therefore, my heart is glad ; and my glory rejoiceth : my flesh also shall rest in hope.—Psalm xvi., 9.

The Believer's Trust and Confidence in God.

11. The Lord is my light and my salvation : whom shall I fear?—The Lord is the strength of my life : of whom shall I be afraid?—Psalm xxvii., 1.

12. I will not suffer mine eyes to sleep, nor mine eyelids to slumber : neither the temples of my head to take any rest.—Psalm cxxxii., 4.

13. Because He hath inclined His ear unto me ; therefore will I call upon Him as long as I live.—Psalm cxvi., 2.

14. Naked came I out of my mother's womb ; and naked shall I return thither : the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away : blessed be the name of the Lord.—Job 1, 21.

15. My flesh and my heart faileth ; but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.—Psalm lxxiii., 26.

16. In God is my salvation and my glory : the rock of my strength and my refuge is in God.—Psalm, lxii. 7.

17. I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me.—Philippians iv., 13.

18. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again : even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.—1 Thess., iv., 14.

19. The same shall be clothed in white raiment ; and I will not blot out his name out of the Book of Life : but I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels.—Rev. iii., 5.

20. The Lord is our defence ; and the Holy One of Israel is our King.—Psalm lxxxix., 18.

21. Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear Him, upon them that hope in His mercy.—Psalm xxxiii., 18.

22. Let us not be weary in well-doing ; for, in due season, we shall reap, if we faint not.—Gal., vi., 9.

23. Being confident of this very thing, that He, which hath begun a good work in you, will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.—Phil., i., 6.

24. For our heart shall rejoice in Him, because we have trusted in His Holy name.—Psalm xxxiii., 21.

25. Trust in the Lord with all thine heart ; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways ac-

The Believer's Trust and Confidence in God.

knowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.—Proverbs iii., 5, 6.

26. And now, Lord, what is my hope? Truly, my hope is even in Thee.—Psalm xxxix., 8.

27. The Lord redeemeth the soul of His servants : and none of them that trust in Him shall be desolate.—Psalm xxxiv., 22.

“ Jesus lives ! No longer now
Can thy terrors, Death, appal us !
Jesus lives ! and thus we know
Thou, O Grave, canst not enthrall us !

Jesus lives ! Henceforth is death
But the gate of life immortal :
This shall calm our trembling breath,
When we pass its gloomy portal.

Jesus lives ! For us He died :
Then alone to Jesus living ;
Pure in heart may we abide,
Glory to our Saviour giving.”

PRAYER.

THE BELIEVER'S TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN GOD.

O Lord God, gracious and merciful Father ! Who hast said “I will never leave Thee, nor forsake Thee,” we call upon Thee who art worthy to be praised : we offer to our God the sacrifice of thanksgiving. As for us, we will call upon God, and the Lord shall save us : evening and morning, and at noon will we pray and cry aloud, and He shall hear our voice. We do not present our supplications before Thee, O Lord, trusting in any righteousness of ours : but, for Thy great mercies, O Lord, hear ; O Lord, forgive ; O Lord, hearken and do : defer not, for Thine own sake, O our God. O Lord, our hearts rejoice in Thee, because we have trusted in Thy Holy Name. Thou art our salvation and our glory, our refuge, and the rock of our strength,—our defence and our King. Though our flesh and our hearts may fail ; yet Thou art the strength of our hearts, and our portion for ever. Lord, redeem the souls of Thy servants, for none that trust in Thee shall be desolate.

AMEN.

CHAPTER VIII.

GOD'S READINESS TO ANSWER PRAYER.

1. Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you.—James iv., 8.
2. For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty, —and shalt lift up thy face unto God. Thou shalt make thy prayer unto Him, and He shall hear thee.—Job xxii., 26, 27.
3. And it shall come to pass, that, before they call, I will answer ; and, while they are yet speaking, I will hear.—Isaiah lxv., 24.
4. And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.—Matthew xxi., 22.
5. He that overcometh shall inherit all things ; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son.—Rev. xxi., 7.
6. If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.—John xv., 7.
7. My God shall supply all your need, according to His riches in glory, by Christ Jesus.—Philip iv., 19.
8. He is the rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.—Hebrews xi., 6.
9. Ask, and it shall be given you ; seek, and ye shall find ; knock, and it shall be opened unto you : for every-one that asketh receiveth ; and he that seeketh findeth ; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.—Luke xi., 9, 10.
10. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts : and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him : and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.—Isaiah lv., 7.
11. He shall pray unto God, and He will be favourable unto him ; and He shall see his face with joy : for He will render unto man his righteousness.—Job xxxiii., 26.
12. For Thou, Lord, art good and ready to forgive ;

God's Readiness to Answer Prayer.

and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee.—Psalm lxxxvi., 5.

13. The eyes of all wait upon Thee, O Lord; and Thou givest them their meat in due season.—Psalm cxlv., 15.

14. This is it that the Lord spake, saying, I will be sanctified in them that come nigh Me; and before all the people I will be glorified.—Levit. x., 3.

15. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.—Proverbs iii., 6.

16. Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.—1 Peter, v., 7.

17. Commit thy way unto the Lord: trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.—Psalm xxxvii., 5.

18. If My people shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then, will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin.—2 Chron., vii., 14.

19. And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us: and if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.—1 John, v., 14.

20. And, whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His commandments.—1 John, iii., 22.

21. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits; who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies.—Psalm ciii., 2, 3, 4.

22. Like a father pitieth his children; so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him.—Psalm ciii., 13.

23. If ye, then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him.—Luke xi., 13.

“ Is there no balm to soften grief?
No antidote to care?
The God of Heaven will give relief,
If asked in holy prayer.

God's Readiness to Answer Prayer.

Is there no friend to soothe our woe,
Or check the ills we bear?
Sufferer! look up from earth below,
And call on God in prayer!

Then, call on God, thou child of dust;
Flee from each earthly snare.
Wait but His will; His mercy trust;
And He shall hear thy prayer."

Wallace

PRAYER.

GOD'S READINESS TO ANSWER PRAYER.

Almighty and everlasting God, our Heavenly Father, who forgiveest all our iniquities, who healest all our diseases, who redeemest our lives from destruction, who crownest us with loving kindness and tender mercies; who art good and ready to forgive, and plentiful in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee; we cast all our care upon Thee who carest for us. Hast Thou not told us that, where two or three are gathered together in Thy name, there Thou art in the midst of them: that, before they call, Thou wilt answer; and that while they are yet speaking, Thou wilt hear? We draw nigh to Thee, O Lord; and we ask Thee to grant us Thy Holy Spirit. We ask Thee to supply all our need, according to Thy riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Feed us, Lord, with the bread of Life. Forgive our sins; receive our prayers; and, when we come to die, receive our souls, for Jesus Christ's sake. AMEN.

CHAPTER IX.

“**FERVENT IN SPIRIT ; SERVING THE LORD ;—CONTINUING INSTANT IN PRAYER.**”—ROMANS xii., 11, 12.

1. O come, let us worship and bow down : let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.—Psalm xcv., 6.

2. Let us lift up our heart with our hands, unto God in the Heavens.—Lament. iii., 41.

3. For we have not an High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities ; but was, in all points, tempted like as we are ; yet, without sin. Let us, therefore, come boldly unto the Throne of Grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.—Hebrews iv., 15, 16.

4. Having, therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He hath consecrated for us through the Veil,—that is to say, His Flesh ; and having an High Priest over the House of God, let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith.—Hebrews. x., 19 and 22.

5. Jesus said unto them, “ I am the Bread of Life. He that cometh to Me shall never hunger ; and he that believeth in Me shall never thirst.”—John vi., 35.

6. “ Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in My name, He will give it you. Hitherto, ye have asked nothing in My name : Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.”—John xvi. 23, 24.

7. Stand, therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness ; and your feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace ; above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God ; praying always, with all prayer and supplication, in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance.—Ephesians vi., 14, 18.

Fervent in Spirit : Serving the Lord.

8. I will, therefore, that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.—1 Timothy ii., 8.

9. Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving.—Colossians iv., 2.

10. Pray without ceasing : *In everything give thanks ;* for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.—2 Thessal., v., 17, 18.

11. Pray to thy Father which is in secret ; and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.—Matthew vi., 6.

12. Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation.—Matthew xxvi., 41.

13. The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord ; but the prayer of the upright is His delight.—Proverbs xv., 8.

14. The Lord is far from the wicked ; but He heareth the prayer of the righteous.—Proverbs xv., 29.

15. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous ; and His ears are open to their cry.—Psalm xxxiv., 15.

16. The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth ; and delivereth them out of all their troubles.—Psalm xxxiv., 17.

17. Be careful for nothing ; but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. And the Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.—Philippians iv., 6, 7.

18. In God have I put my trust. I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.—Psalm lvi., 11.

19. My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord. In the morning will I direct my prayer unto Thee, and will look up.—Psalm v., 3.

20. I will greatly praise the Lord with my mouth ; yea, I will praise Him among the multitude.—Psalm cix., 30.

21. What reward shall I give unto the Lord ? Behold, O Lord, how that I am Thy Servant.—Psalm cxvi., 11, 14.

22. Thou art my God, and I will thank Thee. Thou art my God, and I will praise Thee.—Psalm cxviii., 28.

23. With my soul have I desired Thee in the night ; yea, with my Spirit within me will I seek Thee early.—Isaiah xxvi., 9.

24. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of

my heart, be acceptable in Thy Sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer,—Psalm xix., 14.

“ Prayer is the breathing of a sigh,—
The falling of a tear ;
The upward glancing of an eye,
When none but God is near.

Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,
The Christian's native air,—
His watchword at the gates of death :
He enters Heaven with prayer.

O ! Thou ! by whom we come to God !
The Life ! The Truth ! The Way !
The path of prayer Thyself hast trod :
Lord ! teach us how to pray ! ”

Montgomery.

PRAYER.

“ FERVENT IN SPIRIT ; SERVING THE LORD. CONTINUING INSTANT IN PRAYER.”

Almighty God, Lord of Heaven and earth ; we come boldly, in the name of Jesus Christ, unto Thy Throne of Grace. Thou art our God, and we will thank Thee. Thou art our God, and we will praise Thee. Let the words of our mouth and the meditation of our hearts be, now and always, acceptable unto Thee, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer.

We approach Thee, O God, through the Blood of Jesus, in the full assurance of faith. We ask for all the blessings which Thou seeest we need, in the Name of Him whom Thou hearest always ; and who hath, even Himself, told us, “ Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in My name, He will give it you.” Send home, blessed Lord, Thy Word with power to the hearts of all who hear it. Lord Jesus ! Thou art the Bread of Life. Thou art, at all times, our refuge from guilt, our rest in trouble. We come to Thee, then, pleading only Thine own most gracious words,—“ Him that cometh to Me, I will in no wise cast out.” AMEN.

CHAPTER X.

“RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH.” 2 Tim. ii., 15.

1. Dearly beloved, I beseech you, as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul.—1 Peter, ii., 11.

2. What fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?—2 Corinth., vi., 14.

3. Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord; and touch not the unclean thing.—2 Corinth., vi., 17.

4. We command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly.—2 Thessal., iii., 6.

5. Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.—Romans xiii., 14.

6. That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation.—Philippians ii., 15.

7. This I say, then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.—Galatians v., 16.

8. For, if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye, through the spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.—Romans viii., 13.

9. To be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.—Romans viii., 6.

10. Be not deceived: God is not mocked; for, whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.—Galatians vi., 7.

11. The wicked shall be turned into hell; and all the nations that forget God.—Psalm ix., 17.

12. As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die?—Ezekiel xxxiii., 11.

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth.

13. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him ; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.—Isaiah lv., 7.

14. Verily, I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven.—Matthew xviii., 3.

15. Seek ye the Lord while He may be found : call ye upon Him while He is near.—Isaiah lv., 6.

16. Pray without ceasing.—1 Thessal., v., 17.

17. Behold, now is the accepted time : behold now is the day of salvation.—2 Corinth., vi., 2.

18. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.—Acts xvi., 31.

19. The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin.—1 John, i., 7.

20. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.—1 Timothy, i., 15.

21. Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow ; though they were red like crimson, they shall be as wool.—Isaiah i., 18.

22. Having, therefore, these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.—2 Corinth., vii., 1.

23. God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ.—Romans ii., 16.

24. And when the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory : and before Him shall be gathered all nations.—Matthew xxv., 31, 32.

25. Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand,—“Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”—Matthew xxv., 34.

26. Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand,—“Depart from Me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.—Matthew xxv., 41.

27. These shall go into everlasting punishment ; but the righteous into life eternal.—Matthew xxv., 46.

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth.

“ Ashamed of Jesus ! can it be !
A mortal man ashamed of Thee !—
Scorned be the thought by rich and poor ;
O ! may I scorn it more and more !

Ashamed of Jesus ! that dear Friend
On whom my hopes of Heaven depend !—
No ! when I blush, be this my shame,
That I no more revere His name !

Till then,—nor is my boasting vain,—
Till then I'll boast a Saviour slain !
And, O ! may this my portion be,—
My Saviour's not ashamed of me ! ”

Gregg.

PRAYER.

“RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH.”—2 Timothy,
ii., 15.

O God, the Creator and Governor of all things ! Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness. We thank Thee for the revelation of Thy Truth, and the knowledge of Thy will. Thou hast told us, on the one hand, that the wicked shall be turned into Hell, and all the people that forget God : but Thou hast comforted us, on the other hand, with the assurance, that **THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST CLEANSETH FROM ALL SIN** ; and that, **BY HIM ALL THAT BELIEVE ARE JUSTIFIED FROM ALL THINGS**. Nay, to make assurance doubly sure, Thou hast recorded Thy gracious promise that, *if we believe on THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, we shall be saved.*

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father, that, although Thou canst not accept us for ourselves, or for any righteousness of ours, yet that Thou wilt accept us, wholly and entirely, on the ground of the Atonement of Thy blessed Son. Jesus ! Our Redeemer ! Our Judge ! We cast ourselves before Thee : we come unto Thee as we are ; and we know that Thou will not cast us out. AMEN.

CHAPTER XI.

THE SUFFERINGS OF OUR BLESSED REDEEMER WHO DIED,—

“THE JUST FOR THE UNJUST, THAT HE MIGHT BRING US TO GOD.” 1 Peter, iii., 18.

1. Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.—Matthew xxvi., 36.

2. And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down and prayed, saying, Father, if Thou be willing, remove this cup from Me: nevertheless, not My will, but Thine be done.....

3. And, being in an agony, He prayed more earnestly; and His sweat was, as it were, great drops of blood falling down to the ground.—Luke xxii., 41, 42, 44.

4. Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus and took Him.—Matthew xxvi., 50.

5. Then all the disciples forsook Him, and fled.

6. And they that had laid hold on Jesus led Him away to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the scribes and elders were assembled.—Matthew xxvi., 56, 57.

7. And the high priest arose and said unto Him..... I adjure Thee, by the living God that Thou tell us whether Thou be The Christ, The Son of God.—Matthew xxvi., 62, 63.

8. And Jesus said, I AM: and ye shall see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of Heaven.—Mark xiv., 62.

9. Then did they spit in His face, and buffeted Him; and others smote Him with the palms of their hands, saying, Prophecy unto us, O Christ, who is he that smote Thee.—Matthew xxvi., 67, 68.

10. And the whole multitude of them arose, and led Him unto Pilate; and they began to accuse Him.—Luke xxiii., 1, 2.

11. Then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him.....

12. And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put it on His head; and they put on Him a purple robe,

The Sufferings of our Blessed Redeemer.

and said, Hail! King of the Jews! And they smote Him with their hands.—John xix., 1, 2, 3.

13. And they smote Him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon Him; and, bowing their heads, worshipped Him.—Mark xv., 19.

14. Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them,—Behold the man!

15. When the chief priests, therefore, and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying,—Crucify Him! Crucify Him! —John xix., 5, 6.

16. And Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they required.—Luke xxiii., 24.

17. And when they had mocked Him, they took off the purple from Him, and put His own clothes on Him, and led Him out to crucify Him.

18. And they bring Him unto the place, Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, the place of a skull.—Mark xv., 20, 22.

19. Where they crucified Him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst.—John xix., 18.

20. Then said Jesus,—Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do! And they parted His raiment, and cast lots.—Luke xxiii., 34.

21. And they that passed by reviled Him, wagging their heads.—Matthew xxvii., 39.

22. It was about the sixth hour; and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour.—Luke xxiii., 44.

23. And, about the ninth hour, Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying,—Eli, Eli, Lama Sabacthani?— that is to say, My God! My God! why hast Thou forsaken Me? —Matthew xxvii., 46.

24. And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, He said,—Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit!—and, having said thus, He gave up the Ghost.—Luke xxiii., 46.

25. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain, from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints, which slept, arose, and came out of the graves, after His resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.—Matthew xxvii., 51, 52, 53.

The Sufferings of our Blessed Redeemer.

26. TRULY THIS WAS THE SON OF GOD!—Matthew xxvii.,
54.

“ Who is this?—Behold Him raining
Drops of blood upon the ground!—
Who is this?—despised, rejected,
Mocked, insulted, beaten, bound!

See! how the nails those hands
And feet so tender rend!
See! down His face, and neck, and breast,
His precious blood descends!—

’Tis our God! our glorious Saviour!
Who, above the starry sky,
Now prepares the many mansions,
Where no tear can dim the eye!”

PRAYER.

THE SUFFERINGS OF OUR BLESSED REDEEMER WHO
DIED “THE JUST FOR THE UNJUST, THAT HE MIGHT
BRING US TO GOD.”—I Peter, iii., 18.

Jesus! our blessed and adorable Redeemer! Thou who didst die, the just for the unjust, that Thou might’st bring us to God, it was our sins that caused Thy sufferings. It was Thy kindness and love that led Thee to such depths as these. Thou, the great God above, didst clothe Thyself in human form. Thou didst suffer Thyself to be arraigned as a malefactor. They mocked Thee; they buffeted Thee; they spat upon Thee; they forced a wreath of thorns roughly on Thy tender brow. They nailed Thee to the tree! They drove spikes of iron through the tendons of Thy hands and of Thy feet: yet, notwithstanding all this, while hanging in that cruel and painful posture; while undergoing pain and agony of mind and body indescribable, words of peace and pardon came from Thy lips,—“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do!” Jesus, our crucified, and now exalted Redeemer! we plead Thy sufferings in the Garden of Gethsemane! Lord! remember us when Thou comest into Thy Kingdom. AMEN.

CHAPTER XII.

THE SINNER'S PRAYER,

DEVOTIONAL TEXTS TAKEN FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE.

1. O Thou that hearest prayer : unto Thee shall all flesh come.—Psalm lxxv., 2.

2. Thou, O Lord, art our Father, our Redeemer : Thy name is from everlasting.—Isaiah lxiii., 16.

3. Look down from Heaven, and behold from the habitation of Thy holiness and of Thy glory.—Isaiah lxiii., 15.

4. Cause me to hear Thy loving kindness in the morning ; for in Thee do I trust : cause me to know the way wherein I should walk ; for I lift up my soul unto Thee.—Psalm cxliii., 8.

5. Lord, what is man, that Thou takest knowledge of him ! or the son of man that thou makest account of him ! —Psalm cxliv., 8.

6. Man is like to vanity : his days are as a shadow that passeth away.—Psalm cxliv., 4.

7. Search me, O God, and know my heart : try me, and know my thoughts ; and see if there be any wicked way in me ; and lead me in the way everlasting.—Psalm cxxxix., 23, 24.

8. Let my cry come near before Thee, O Lord : give me understanding according to Thy word.

I have gone astray like a lost sheep : seek Thy servant ; for I do not forget Thy commandments.—Psalm cxix., 169, 176.

9. Give me understanding, and I shall keep Thy law : yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.—Psalm cxix., 34.

10. Whither shall I go from Thy Spirit ; or whither shall I flee from Thy presence ? If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there : if I make my bed in hell, behold, Thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall

The Sinner's Prayer.

Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me.—
Psalm cxxxix., 7, 10.

11. God be merciful to me a sinner!—Luke xviii., 13.

12. I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is
ever before me.—Psalm li., 3.

13. Teach me to do Thy will; for Thou art my God.—
Psalm cxliii., 10.

14. Hold up my goings in Thy paths, that my footsteps
slip not. Keep me as the apple of the eye: hide me under
the shadow of Thy wings.—Psalm xvii., 5, 8.

15. Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my trans-
gressions; according to Thy mercy, remember Thou me,
for Thy goodness' sake, O Lord.—Psalm xxv., 7.

16. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse
me from my sin. Against Thee, Thee only
have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight.—Psalm li.,
2, 4.

17. Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy
loving-kindness: according unto the multitude of Thy
tender mercies, blot out my transgressions.—Psalm li., 1.

18. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant; for
in Thy sight shall no man living be justified.—Ps. cxliii., 2.

19. O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger; neither
chasten me in Thy hot displeasure.—Psalm vi., 1.

20. I have sinned greatly, in that I have done: and
now, I beseech Thee, O Lord, take away the iniquity of
Thy servant: for I have done very foolishly.—2 Samuel,
xxiv., 10.

21. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear,
O God of Jacob.—Psalm lxxxiv., 8.

22. Make Thy face to shine upon Thy servant: save
me, for Thy mercies' sake.—Psalm, xxxi., 16.

23. Hide Thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine
iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and re-
new a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy
presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.—Psalm
li., 9, 11.

24. Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come
unto Thee.—Psalm cii., 1.

25. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken
and do: defer not, for Thine own sake, O my God.—
Daniel, ix., 19.

The Sinner's Prayer.

“ Jesus! Lord! I kneel before Thee!
Bend from Heaven Thy gracious ear!
While my waiting soul adores Thee,
Friend of helpless sinners! Hear!

Not my sins, O Lord, remember;
Nor Thine own avenger be:
But, for Thy great tender mercy,
Saviour! God! deliver me!

Mercy! Mercy! God the Father!
God, the Son! Be Thou my plea!
God, the Holy Spirit! comfort!
Triune God! deliver me!”

P R A Y E R.

THE SINNER'S PRAYER.

O, Thou that hearest prayer: unto Thee shall all flesh come. Thou art our Father and our Redeemer. Lord, look down from Heaven upon us Thy servants; and behold us from the habitation of Thy holiness, and of Thy glory. Lord, hear our prayer. Lord, be Thou our helper. Cause us to know the way wherein we should walk; for we lift up our souls unto Thee. Search us, O Thou God of our salvation, and see if there be any wicked way in us. Lord, be merciful unto us: heal our souls; for we have sinned against Thee. Remember not, O Lord, the sins of our youth. For Thy Name's sake, O Lord, pardon our iniquity, for it is great. Lord, we have sinned greatly in that we have done. We are ashamed, O God; and we blush to lift up our face unto Thee. Lord, cast us not away from Thy presence. Lord, give ear unto our prayer. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do: defer not, for Thine own sake, O our God. Lord, hide not Thy face from us. Into Thy hand we commit our spirits, O Lord God of truth. AMEN.

END OF PART I.

THE
GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM;
OR,
SPIRITUAL MEDICINE.

PART II.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION.

For use at the bedside of the Sick and Dying; in the
Convalescent Chamber;

&c., &c., &c.

“O Jesus! Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee,
That, where Thou art in glory,
There shall Thy servant be.

And, Jesus! I have promised
To serve Thee to the end:
O! Give me grace to follow
My Master and my Friend!

“The Prayer of Faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and, if he hath committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.”

“Pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

“Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; let him know that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.”—James v., 15, 16, 19, 20.

NOTE.

It may be objected, that some of the Prayers in this Manual are too long,—too diffuse. To meet such objections, the longer prayers have been arranged in sections, an asterisk, thus: * being placed at the end of, and below each section, *which forms a complete prayer in itself*. The intercessor will thus be guided where to begin, and where to pause, or to cease praying for a time; or possibly, according to circumstances, to conclude his prayer.

The attention of the sick person may be called off by bodily suffering; or he may be too much enfeebled in body, or in mind, to fix his attention for a longer period.

A long prayer, and a strong prayer is, however, too often required to be used, before a groan of true penitence, sorrow, or regret, can be drawn from the hearts of those who have lived unto themselves, and not unto God. It is, indeed, hard to bring such, in faith and love, to the Cross of Jesus!—*Editor*.

I.

“NOT MY WILL, BUT THINE, BE DONE!” *

Luke xxii., 42.

My God! my Father! while I stray
Far from my home, on life's rough way,—
O teach me from my heart to say,—
“Thy will be done!”

Should grief and sickness waste away
My life in premature decay:
My Father! still I'll strive to say,—
“Thy will be done!”

If Thou should'st call me to resign
What most I prize; it ne'er was mine:
I only yield Thee what was Thine,—
“Thy will be done!”

If but my fainting heart be blest
With Thy sweet Spirit for its guest,—
My God! to Thee I leave the rest,—
“Thy will be done!”

Renew my will from day to day,
Blend it with Thine, and take away
All that now makes it hard to say,—
“Thy will be done!”

Then, when on earth I breathe no more
The prayer, oft mixed with tears before,
I'll sing upon a happier shore,—
“Thy will be done!”

ASKING A BLESSING ON THE MEANS USED FOR THE
RECOVERY OF A VERY SICK PERSON.

O! Most blessed and eternal Jesus! The Great Physician, the compassionate High Priest, who disposest every great and little accident to the glory of God, and to the comfort of the souls of them that love and serve

* I wish it to be distinctly understood that the pieces of Sacred Poetry, prefixed to the Prayers of Intercession in this Manual, *are not intended to be sung*. THEY ARE TO BE READ SLOWLY, *in a devotional tone of voice*, to sick persons—*Editor*.

Lord! Speak the word only?

Thee, be pleased, in Thy great pity, to look upon Thy servant here lying on a bed of sickness. Come into his heart, Thou that art precious to those who know and love Thee, and let him feel that Thou art there. Do thou, O Lord, look graciously upon Thy servant, and visit him with Thy salvation. Send him help from above, and deliver him from the snares and terrors of the wicked one. O, bring him nearer to Thyself; and give him a quiet conscience, and a sense of reconciliation with his God, through the alone merits of his Saviour.

O, Jesus, Thou Lamb of God, Thou that takest away the sins of the world, cleanse him from sin. Purge his conscience from dead works to serve the living God. Lord, make him ever mindful that he is not his own, but that he has been bought with a price, even with the precious blood of the Son of God. O, may the consideration of God's love and mercy, in providing a ransom for the lost, so powerfully affect his heart, that he may be persuaded to glorify Thee in his body and in his spirit, which are Thine; and that, if spared yet a little, he may live, henceforth, not unto himself but unto God.

*

O, blessed Jesus! let the sense of Thy wonderful love, in dying for sinners, inflame the soul of this Thy servant with so strong a love for Thee, and such an ardent yearning for Thy glory, that he may be ready cheerfully to embrace even death itself, though armed with its utmost terrors, rather than forsake Thee.

O, Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we implore Thy aid on behalf of our sick brother. To Thine ever watchful care we commend his body and his soul. O, Thou Heavenly Physician! Thou only can'st heal him. O, Thou merciful and Omnipotent Creator! Thou only can'st strengthen and comfort him. If Thou speak the word only, Thy servant shall be healed. But without Thy blessing, O Lord, the best skill of man is folly, and his strength but weakness. Be pleased, therefore, O Lord, if it be Thy will, to bless the efforts that are put forth, and the means that are used for the relief of the sufferings of the body, and for the restoration of the health of the sick.

Lord! Speak the word only?

But grant, O Lord, that, in all his distress, he, on whose behalf we pray, may patiently submit to Thy Heavenly guidance ; and that, looking Heavenwards, he may be able to say, in humble confidence and faith, "Not my will, Lord, but Thine be done !"

O God, guide, support, and bless him in this life ; and, after this life is ended, oh, receive him unto Thy Kingdom, through Him who died and rose again, even Thine only and beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Saviour. Amen.

" Afflicted saint !—to Christ draw near ;
Thy Saviour's gracious promise hear :
His faithful word declares to Thee,
That, as thy day, thy strength shall be.

Thy faith is weak ; Thy foes are strong ;—
And if the conflict should be long ;
Thy Lord will make the tempter flee,
For, as thy day, thy strength shall be."

II.

BRIEF LIFE IS HERE OUR PORTION.

“ Brief life is here our portion,
Brief sorrow, short-lived care ;
The life that knows no ending,
The tearless life is *there*.

O, happy retribution !
Short toil, eternal rest !
For mortals and for sinners,
A mansion with the bless'd !

There, grief is turned to pleasure !
Such pleasure as, below,
No human voice can utter,
No human heart can know !

Reach forward to that glory ;
Press onward to that light :
And strive by hope to grasp it,
Till faith be lost in sight.

The morning shall awaken,
The shadows pass away ;
And each true-hearted servant
Shall shine, as doth the day.

Exult, O dust and ashes ;
The Lord shall be thy part :
His only,—His for ever,
Thou shalt be, and thou art.”

PRAYER ON BEHALF OF A PENITENT SINNER,—SICK OR OTHERWISE.

O Lord ! Eternal, Immortal, Invisible ! The only true
God ! To Thee shall all flesh come ; to Thee shall all men
cry ; for whom have we in Heaven but Thee ? Who is a

God like unto Thee? Glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders! Thou art the fount of every blessing; Thou art the source of every good thing, temporal and spiritual; for every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of Lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

We come to Thee, then, on behalf of this (sick) person. We come in obedience to Thy command which bids us come: "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy and eat; yea, come; buy wine and milk without money and without price."

We come, Lord, pleading Thine own faithful word of promise,—“Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.” We come, knowing that Thou art a God that hearest prayer; and that Thine ears are ever open, ever attent unto the cry of such as be of a humble, penitent, and contrite spirit.

We come to Thee with all confidence. Lord! In our times of need and necessity, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the Words of Eternal Life. Thy word is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword: and Thou art a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. All things are manifest in Thy sight; all things are naked and open unto Thine eyes, O God, with whom we have to do.

Even now, therefore, we come with all humility. Thou knowest the aspirations and the thoughts of each soul that here bows in prayer before Thee. To Thee we lift up our hearts. With our hearts, as well as with our lips, we cry unto Thee, "Lord save us! we perish!"

Especially, on behalf of this (sick) person, we present our humble petitions. He has gone astray. He has followed too much the devices and desires of his own foolish and wicked heart; but he confesses his iniquities, transgressions, and sins. They are a weighty burden, unbearable; in number more than the sands of the sea; in hue as deep as scarlet, and red like crimson. Behold, he was shapen in iniquity. Against Thee has he sinned, and done evil in Thy sight; but do Thou purge him, and he shall be clean; wash him, and he shall be whiter than snow.

Have mercy, Lord! O Lord, forgive.

Hide Thy face from his sins, and blot out all his iniquities. Create in him a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within him. Cast him not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from him.

“Have mercy, Lord: O Lord, forgive;
And let a repenting rebel live?”

Thou art our Father, who hast made us; Thou art our God, who hast saved us. In Thy dear Son, Christ Jesus, Thou hast reconciled sinners unto Thyself, not imputing their iniquities unto them.

In that Glorious Name, then,—a Name surpassing every name that's named in earth, or Heaven, we offer up our fervent prayers and entreaties (on behalf of a sick brother), on behalf of one who bewails the errors and the many sins of his past life; and who now earnestly desireth pardon and forgiveness at the hands of a gracious and merciful God.

*

Lord! stretch forth Thy hand! Save and deliver our brother! (Spare further, if it be Thy will, for years to come, the life of this Thy servant.) Draw near to him, and bless him with Thy presence: and grant him grace, blessed Lord, that, for the remainder of his days, he may cast off sin and Satan,—living in Christ,—trusting only in the blood of Jesus for the pardon of his sins,—looking for the coming of the Lord,—longing for the day, the glorious, happy day, when, with a robe of spotless white around him, a robe made white in the Blood of the Lamb, he and all the pardoned ones shall receive from the outstretched hands of a loving Saviour, a Crown of Righteousness.
AMEN.

* Collect, 14.

III

“Sinners, turn ; why will ye die ?
God, your Father, asks you why :
He, who calls you from above,
Wooes you to embrace His love !

Sinners, turn ; why will ye die ?
Christ, your Saviour, asks you why :
He, who loved you unto death,
Calls you with His dying breath !

Will you let Him die in vain ?
Crucify your Lord again ?
Why, ye ransomed sinners, why
Will ye slight His grace, and die ?”

Wesley.

PRAYER ON BEHALF OF A PERSON STRUCK DOWN
WITH SUDDEN ILLNESS IN THE MIDST OF HIS SINS,
BUT SHOWING, AS YET, NO CONTRITION.

*

O, Lord, our God !—“how excellent is Thy name in all the earth ;—Who hast set Thy glory above the Heavens ;” Who never failest to help and hear all those who call upon Thee in sincerity and godly fear : we draw nigh to Thee in a time of sore distress, on behalf of our brother, (or, this person,) whom Thou hast been pleased to lay low with a sudden stroke of illness. We entreat that Thy compassionate mercy may be extended both to his body and his soul. We are encouraged to come unto Thee, for Thou, Lord, wilt not always be chiding ; neither wilt Thou keep Thine anger for ever. Thou hast not dealt with us after our sins ; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities : for look ! how high the Heaven is in comparison of the earth ! So great is Thy mercy towards them that fear Thee ! Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children ; even so is the Lord merciful unto them that fear Him ! Knowing, then, that Thou art a God of love ; that in this was manifest Thy

* Suitable Collects,—9, 10, 11, and 12.

Prayer on behalf of a person struck down with sudden illness

love, that Thou didst send Thy Son to be the propitiation of our sins; that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life; and that the vilest sinner can live through Him whose blood cleanseth from all sin,—we call upon Thee in faith, and beseech Thee to bestow upon this our brother (or, upon this sick person,) that measure of assistance and relief which he so greatly needs.

Consider, Lord, his helpless state, his desperate condition! Here he lies,—one who makes no boast of God! who knows not Thy will! approves not the things that are excellent! is ignorant of the way of salvation!—: one who has rejected the teachings of Thy Holy Word! despised the admonitions of Thy Holy Spirit! set at naught all Thy counsel, and would have none of Thy reproof! Forgetful of God all the days of the years of his pilgrimage, he is dead while he liveth! All is dark, Lord, both for body and soul!

In this state, who can bring him relief? Who can bring him help? None, Lord, but Thee! Thou, O God, art the Light. Of old, Thou spakest the word, “Let there be light!—and there was light:” and all things in Heaven and earth are made manifest in the light of Thy countenance. The darkest night becomes the brightest day at Thy good will and pleasure; and the evil heart of unbelief lights up with faith, and hope, and love at Thy command.

Lord! speak the word! Lift up the light of Thy countenance, and this sinner shall be whole! Thou art the Life! To know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent, is Life eternal! Without that knowledge, man is no better than a beast! With the Psalmist he must say, “So foolish was I, and ignorant: I was as a beast before Thee!” Grant, Lord, that this man (or, this our brother,) may learn to know Thee; for Heavenly wisdom, knowledge, and understanding alone come from Thee. Then, Lord, help him (or, our brother), in this extremity! An immortal soul lies in darkness on the confines of the grave,—dead in trespasses and sins! Eternity, and Oh! what an eternity! is ready to open its everlasting portals to receive him, while the sleeper fails to call upon God!

in the midst of his sins ; but shewing, as yet, no contrition.

*

O Lord, have mercy upon our brother, and rouse him from this dreadful lethargy, this sleep of death! Have mercy upon him, O most merciful Father, though he has despised and neglected Thy great salvation. Let light shine into his dark understanding, and life into his benighted soul! Awaken him to a full knowledge of the terrors of the Lord. Let this sudden illness, O Lord, this correction of the body,—prove a blessing to his soul; and cause him to comprehend the terrible peril of his situation; and that there is but a step between him and Eternal Death.

O Lord! hear us on behalf of our brother! Thou art the Author of all being, the Fountain of Eternal Life! Thou hast formed our bodies. Thou hast breathed into our nostrils the breath of life; and hast made us living souls. We are accountable to Thee, and responsible to Thee for the proper use and employment of all our faculties. Thou art our Father, and we owe Thee obedience. Thou art our Master, and we owe Thee a service. Thine injunction to each and all of us is,—“Occupy till I come!”

Thou hast come to this servant with the message,. . . “The Master calleth!”—“Thy soul is required of thee!”—and Thou hast found him sleeping! Rouse him, O Lord, that he may flee, if it be yet possible, from the wrath to come, and find refuge in the Ark of Safety. Reveal to him Thy dear Son, Thy Beloved, Thine Elect, in whom Thy soul delighteth. Let him hear Thy voice speaking in Thy Holy Word, and in accents of compassionate invitation, saying:—“Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and unto our God, for He will abundantly pardon.”

* *

O, Thou gracious Saviour of the world! bid our brother to come to Thee; and help him to cry, “Lord, remember

* Should there be a pause, Collect 10, may here be added.

* * Collects, 2 and 4.

Prayer on behalf of a person struck down with sudden illness.

me when Thou comest in Thy kingdom!" And, O Lord, do Thou, who never breakest a bruised reed, nor quenchest smoking flax, vouchsafe to behold and to accept the faintest stirrings of faith and repentance in his soul. O Jesus, cleanse him from sin in Thy most precious blood. Grant him Thy Holy Spirit. Impute not unto him his past follies. Forgive all his iniquities, in thought, word, and deed ; all the ungodly deeds which he has ungodly committed ; and all the hard and unbelieving speeches which he has spoken against Thee. Thou hast chastened and corrected him, O Lord ; but we pray Thee, give him not over unto death. Rebuke this disease ! If it be Thy good pleasure, and for Thine own honour and glory, spare his life, that he may redeem the past, and prove a holy and useful servant unto Thee in the future.

And, O Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve, pour down upon this sick person (or, our sick brother), the abundance of Thy mercy ; forgiving him those things whereof his conscience is afraid ; and giving him those good things which he is not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. **AMEN.**

[“ Why will ye chase the fleeting wind,
And famish an immortal mind ;
While angels with regret look down,
To see you spurn a heavenly crown.

Shall God invite you from above ?
Shall Jesus plead His dying love ?
Shall troubled conscience give you pain ?
And all these pleas unite in vain ?

Not so, your dying hours shall view
Those objects which you now pursue :
Not so shall heaven and earth appear
When the decisive hour is near.”

Doddridge.

PRAYER ON BEHALF OF A GRIEVOUS SINNER, STRUCK
DOWN WITH A SUDDEN AND DANGEROUS ILLNESS ;
AND SHOWING, AS YET, NO CONTRITION FOR SIN.

*

Blessed Jesus ! Thou risen and exalted Redeemer ! Thou Advocate with the Father, who hast ascended up on high to plead our cause before the Throne of God ! Thou Son of Man, who didst come into the world to call sinners to repentance, and to save the lost,—hear our prayer, and let our cry come unto Thee. Hide not Thy face from us, in this our time of trouble. Incline Thine ear unto us when we call. Hear us, Lord Jesus, and that now : hear our prayer, and hide not Thy face from our petition.

Our heart, blessed Saviour, is disquieted within us : fear-

* Suitable Collects, 9, 10, 11, and 12.

NOTE.

First read the 16th Chapter of St. Luke, from the 19th verse to the end ; and then read, *slowly and deliberately*, to the sick person, the account of the sufferings of our Blessed Redeemer, in Chap. ii., part 1 :—then use this prayer.—*Editor.*

Prayer on behalf of a grievous sinner, dangerously sick ;

fulness and trembling are come upon us ; and an horrible dread hath overwhelmed us.

O God ! our brother, who has been struck down with this (sudden and) alarming illness in the midst of his sins, is in danger of being lost eternally. This night, his soul may be called upon, in all the hideous deformity, in all the leprous loathsomeness of its sins, unshielded and unsheltered, altogether unmeet for Thy presence, to appear before its God !

Oh ! what shall we do for our brother, whose soul is in danger of the torments of hell, ere it be too late to seek mercy and forgiveness for him, through the shed blood of that gentle Saviour, whose love he has so often slighted,—nay, trampled under foot. O God, speak to our brother's soul ! O Holy Spirit, Thou Lord and Giver of life, take possession of this sinner's soul ; and, oh ! leave him not, nor forsake him, until, having found peace in Jesus, he shall be for ever beyond the reach of Satan, sin, and death !

*

O, Almighty Father, who canst enlighten the darkest mind, and soften the hardest heart, be pleased to manifest the power of Thy Grace in a case so sad and deplorable as this, our brother's, is. Convince him, O Lord, of the great danger his soul is in : open, for Thy mercy's sake, the eyes of his understanding, that he may repent and be saved, before that gulf,—that deep and dreadful gulf,—be for ever fixed between him and Jesus. That gulf is not yet fixed ! Our brother's condition is not, as yet, beyond redemption ! He may yet escape that place of torment ! He may yet be for ever safe and happy ! His time is now well-nigh past ; and the night cometh ! But, O merciful Father, we thank Thee that our brother has been spared from sudden death ; and that Thou hast given him time to flee for pardon to a compassionate Redeemer who is able and willing, even at this eleventh hour, to cleanse and to wash away all the defilements of his soul. One more

* Collect 18.

and shewing as yet no contrition.

loving warning,—one word of hope,—one whisper of mercy ;—and, yet, our brother may be safe !

*

Oh ! may the Saviour's love for fallen man meet with a kindred feeling in this sinner's heart. May this, our brother, amid his sickness and suffering, and with the prospect of death and judgment before him, be led to think of that meek and lowly Saviour, who, for his sake, underwent sorrow, and pain, and suffering, and death, that he might not die eternally. Lord ! enable him to breathe this heart-felt prayer, " My Heavenly Father ! give me the good gift of faith in Thee." Enable him truly to say,—Lord, I believe ! I believe in Thy Son, Jesus Christ ! " Lord, let him pray with a penitent and contrite heart, and make him to know and feel that, if he thus prays, his prayer will have an abundant answer.

Above all things, O merciful Father, show our brother **THE WAY**, *the only way*, to Heaven. Point this wanderer to the path, *the only path*, that can lead to that happy place where Jesus dwells. His time is short, and we know not how long he may have to live. Lord, wake him up from this sleep of death. O God, forgive him, and pardon him, and save him, for Christ's sake. Cause him to know and to feel that there is none other name, under Heaven, by which he can be saved but the Name of Jesus. Cause him, at last, to believe that he can only know God through Jesus, his Redeemer.

May this, our brother, notwithstanding all his guilt and all his sin, be remembered, O Lord, as was the penitent thief, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom. May he, notwithstanding all his many and grievous sins, at length be able to find peace in Him " Whose blood cleanseth from all sin."

Merciful God and Father ! Thou who wouldest not the death of a sinner's soul, grant unto our brother, on his earnest prayer for pardon, a happy sense of sins forgiven, through the blood of Him who came to seek and to save

* Collects 26 and 27.

the lost. He has been a wicked, hell-deserving sinner. He has lived without Jesus. He has fed upon a vain hope, and trusted in a false security. God grant that he may know, ere it be too late, that there is no possibility that death can be his gain, if he cannot appear before Thee with a blood-washed robe around him,—the pure and spotless robe of the righteousness of the Son of God !

*

O God ! Thou righteous Judge. Open the understanding of this our brother, for the safety of whose soul we are so much concerned, that he may now see that he has been walking hitherto in the broad road that leadeth to destruction. Incline his heart, O God, to confess, and to deplore his sins ; and to lay them all in time before Jesus Christ, Thy Son, “ whose blood cleanseth from all sin.”

Lord, our brother stands, as it were, on the confines of an eternal world. He is enfeebled and palsied by sin. He is in danger as to his immortal soul. May God, in his mercy, grant that our brother may yet be saved from future and eternal woe, through the alone merits of our precious Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

And, O Jesus !—the Ransom, the Friend, the Brother of all who love and serve Thee, bid this sinful creature, for whose soul we pray, to look upon Thee in the garden where Thou didst suffer,—the garden of Gethsemane. Ask the still small voice within his breast to remind him of Thine agony, when great drops of blood rolled as sweat from Thy forehead on the ground. They mocked Thee ; they buffeted Thee ; they spat upon Thee ; they forced a crown of thorns roughly, and without mercy, on Thy tender brow. They nailed Thee to the tree ; they drove spikes of iron through the bones and tendons of Thy hands, and of Thy feet ! And yet, notwithstanding all this, while undergoing pain and anguish of mind and body, Thou didst bear it all with patience. Nay, even in Thy death-throes, words of peace and of pardon for fallen man came from Thy lips,—“ Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

* Collects 41 and 42.

and shewing as yet no contrition.

Lord Jesus! they who reject such love as this know not what they do! And shall this our brother, for whom, as for all who here kneel before Thee, Thou did'st suffer and die, shall he hear this tale of love unmoved, even while standing on the brink of eternity! Oh! if, the terrors of the law have never made any impression on him, let the love of a dying Saviour break his hardened heart.

*

Lord Jesus! bid our unhappy brother to come to Thee; and give him rest according to Thy word. Bid him to come to Thee NOW,—to come, *just as he is*, with all his sins upon him. Bid him to come *boldly* to the Throne of Grace, and to ask for a full and free pardon from his maker, pleading *only* the merits of the Son, “whose blood cleanseth from all sin.” Tell him, blessed Saviour, that Thou wilt take his prayers, if they be but breathed from the sanctuary of a contrite heart, and that Thou wilt present them with acceptance before the Throne of God. Tell him, gentle and forgiving Saviour, that the worst may go to Thee; that the worst may find acceptance. Lord! assure our brother, *if he be but truly penitent and contrite*, that Thou wilt not flee from him, that Thou wilt not reject him.

Jesus! bid a sinner to look up, in prayer and supplication, to the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world. Tell him, blessed Saviour, that there is a HOME in THY FATHER'S HOUSE “*of many mansions*,” which Thou hast already prepared, and furnished, and made ready for those who love Thee. Tell him that this HOME is the HOME of Thy Heavenly Father, “a House not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”

May God grant that, at the great day of final reckoning, when the marriage supper of the Lamb is laid, our dear brother may be among the invited and welcome guests, a redeemed, a justified and pardoned sinner, clothed in the pure and spotless robe of the righteousness of the Son of God. AMEN.

* Collects 28 and 31.

IV.

“Come unto Me, all ye who mourn,
With guilt and fears oppress'd :
Resign to Me the willing heart,
And I will give you rest.

Take up My yoke, and learn of Me,
A meek and lowly mind ;
And this your weary troubled souls
Repose and peace shall find.

For light and gentle is My yoke :
The burden I impose
Shall ease the heart that groaned before
Beneath a load of woes.”

Logan.

PRAYER ON BEHALF OF A PERSON WHO HAS LED AN
IRRELIGIOUS LIFE, BUT WHO NOW, IN FEAR AND TREMB-
LING, EARNESTLY DESIRETH TO OBTAIN PARDON AND
PEACE.

*

O, Eternal and most gracious Father, who hast declared
in Thy Holy Word that Thou desirest not the death of a
sinner, but rather that he should turn from his wickedness
and live, enter not into judgment with Thy servants, O
Lord, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified.

When we look upon our Saviour, O Lord, and then
upon ourselves, we are astonished at the wonders of His
love. It surpasseth our knowledge and comprehension.
“Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He
loved us, and sent His Son to the propitiation for our

* Suitable Collects, 13, 14, 15, or 16

sins ;” “ that as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign, through righteousness, unto eternal life, by Jesus Christ, our Lord.”

We come to Thee, then, our gracious Heavenly Father, acknowledging our transgressions, and with our sins ever before us. We come to Thee in the name of One whom Thou hearest always, in the name of Him whose tender supplication, on behalf of those who mocked amid His sufferings, even now resoundeth in this chamber,—“ Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do !”

We come to Thee, O thou gracious God, with a broken spirit : “ A broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.” To Thee, O God, belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against Thee : “ neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord, our God, to walk in His laws which He set before us.”

O God ! The Scriptures tell us that judgment came upon all through the offence of one ; and that everyone of us shall give an account of himself unto God, in the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ. But, thanks be unto Thee, O Heavenly Father, the Judge on the Great White Throne, at the day of Judgment, will be none other than that dear Redeemer, who shed His precious blood for us, that we might not suffer the pains of death eternal.

O, our Heavenly Father, what joy should we feel, knowing that we can approach Thee in the name of Him who died for us,—of Him who is now interceding at Thy right hand for all who pray to Thee for forgiveness—pleading no merits of our own, *but only* the merits and sufferings of the Redeemer.

We come to Thee, then, O Lord, on behalf of our brother, who, now, in fear and trembling, earnestly desireth to obtain pardon for his sins, and peace for his soul. He comes to Thee, O God, in the lowest prostration of soul and body. He comes to Thee with a heart full of grief and sorrow for those many great and grievous sins which he has, from time to time, committed against Thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly Thy wrath and indignation against him. He earnestly repents, and is heartily sorry for these his misdoings. The burden of

Prayer on behalf of a person who has led an irreligious life, &c.

them is intolerable. Have mercy upon him ; have mercy upon him, most merciful Father : for Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive him all that is past ; and grant that he may ever, hereafter, serve Thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of Thy name ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

PRAYER ON BEHALF OF THE SAME, WHEN
STRUCK DOWN WITH SUDDEN ILLNESS.

“ Seek ye the Lord, while yet His ear
Is open to your call:
While offered mercy still is near,
Before His footstool fall.

“ Let sinners quit their evil ways,
Their evil thoughts forego;
And God, when they to Him return,
Returning grace will shew.”—*Logan*.

PRAYER.

*

O, most mighty God, and merciful Father, who sufferest not Thy servants to be tried above that they are able, but who, with the temptation also, makest a way to escape, that they may be able to bear it, have mercy upon a sinner thus suddenly brought, as it were, face to face with an offended God. Strengthen, we beseech Thee, this our brother in this trying illness, that he may bear it without murmuring, and that he may meekly submit to whatever Thou mayest be pleased to lay upon him. Sanctify this sickness unto him, O Lord; and, in Thy good time, save and deliver him.

Behold, O God, a creature, liable every moment to death, prostrate before Thee, begging, for Christ's sake, that faith and patience to which Thou hast promised mercy, peace and pardon. Discover to him, O Thou searcher of hearts, the charge that is against him; that he may know and confess, and bewail, and abhor, and

* Suitable Collects, 13, 14, 15 or 16.

Prayer on behalf of a person who has led an irreligious life,

forsake, and repent of all the evils of which he has been guilty.

And, O, Thou blessed Jesus, our Advocate and Mediator, who art able to save for ever them that come unto God by Thee, we put our brother's cause into Thy hands. Let Thy power defend him: let Thy blood and merits plead for him. Supply all the defects of his repentance. Procure for him a full discharge from all his sins; blot them for ever out of the book of God's remembrance; and write his name in the Lamb's Book of Life.

O, Thou advocate with the Father!—Jesus Christ, the Righteous! Let Thy glory be magnified by saving a sinner; by enlightening a heart overwhelmed in darkness, by pardoning innumerable transgressions, iniquities and sins.

Enable, O Lord, our brother, who earnestly desireth to obtain the pardon of his sins, to work out the salvation of his soul in fear and trembling, that, through the merits of Jesus Christ, he may escape the awful doom prepared for the ungodly. We thank Thee, O Lord, that Thou hast given him time and the will to think of, and to prepare for death; and that Thou hast not suddenly brought him face to face with death and judgment.

*

O, Jesus! Thou hast made known to us another death besides that which separates the body and the soul! Thou hast made known to the world what it is to die in sin!

Thanks be to God, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Righteous! Thanks be to God, we know that there is no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus! They *believe* on the name of the Son of God; and they *know* that they have eternal life. They know that, if their earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, they have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens.

O, Gracious and merciful God, grant unto Thy servant,

* Should there be a pause, Collect 39, may here be added.

Struck down Sudden Illness, &c., &c.

our brother, on behalf of whom we plead, true repentance for all the sins and errors of his life, and a steadfast faith in Thy Son, Jesus Christ. For Thy dear Son's sake, forgive him all that is past; blot out his sins; deliver him from fear; and give him peace and joy and gladness, through the merits and mediation of The Redeemer.

Almighty and most merciful God and Saviour!—if it be Thy good pleasure to restore our brother to his former health, grant that he may lead the residue of his life in Thy fear and to Thy glory; or else give him grace so to take Thy visitation, that after this painful life is ended, he may dwell with Thee in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

V.

JESUS THE PLEDGE OF GOD'S LOVE.

“ Let Christian faith and hope dispel
The fear of guilt and woe ;
The Lord Almighty is our Friend,
And who can prove a foe ?

He who, His Son most dear and loved,
Gave up for us to die ;
Shall He not all things freely give,
That goodness can supply.

Behold the best, the greatest gift
Of everlasting love !
Behold the pledge of peace below,
And perfect bliss above.

The Saviour died, but rose again
Triumphant from the grave ;
And pleads our cause at God's right hand,
Omnipotent to save.

Who, then, can e'er divide us more
From Jesus and His love ?
Or break the sacred chain that binds
The earth to Heaven above ?”

Logan.

PRAYER ON BEHALF OF A PERSON OPPRESSED WITH
THE SORE BURDEN OF SIN ; WHOSE MIND IS TROUBLED ;
WHOSE HEART IS SORROWFUL AND HEAVY ; AND
WHOSE DARK AND GLOOMY PROSPECTS HAVE NOT, AS
YET, BEEN BRIGHTENED BY ANY CHEERFUL RAY OF
HOPE.

O, most gracious God, and Heavenly Father ! Who
dispenseth sickness and health, and in whose hands are

Suitable Collects, 17, 18, 19.

Prayer on behalf of a person oppressed with sin, &c.

the issues of life and death, we come to Thee on behalf of a sinful and erring brother, earnestly imploring Thee, who art rich in mercy, to hear our prayer, and to let our cry come unto Thee.

O, our Lord and God!—help this our brother, whose soul is full of trouble. His heart is disquieted within him; and the fear of death, and *of what comes after death*, has fallen upon him! Fearfulness and trembling have come upon him: an horrible dread hath overwhelmed him! O Lord, help this our afflicted brother: save him according to Thy mercy. Let him know, O Lord, that this affliction is from Thy hand, and that Thou, Lord, hast done it.

Thy servant, O Lord, on whose behalf we plead, is grievously oppressed with the burden of his sins. His mind is troubled; his heart is sorrowful and heavy: but he humbles himself before Thee, O Almighty God, for all the unrighteous actions of his life, which he has, from time to time, committed. For all the sins, the many great and grievous sins of which he has been guilty, he is sorry in his soul. He has wickedly broken Thy statutes, O Thou righteous God!—; and for this his mind is troubled and distressed. But, he confesses all his wickedness before Thee, humbly beseeching Thee to have compassion upon him. Forgive his sins, O Thou who madest him and fashioned him, of whatever kind and degrees they be, his sins of omission, his sins of commission, the sins of his body, the sins of his soul;—his more wicked, deliberate, presumptuous sins: forgive them, O Lord; forgive them all, for the sake of Him who suffered, and died, and rose again, even Jesus Christ, our Lord and Master, who sitteth at Thine own right hand, ever living to make intercession for us.



O Thou merciful Saviour and Redeemer!—hear the prayers with which we would approach Thy throne. Let us never be confounded, O blessed Jesus, when we sue to Thee for mercy and for pardon. O Thou, who art infinite

Prayer on behalf of a person oppressed with sin ;

in power and compassion, and goodness, look down from Thy throne in Heaven, and comfort our afflicted brother. Brighten, O Lord, his dark and gloomy prospects by a cheerful ray of hope. Give him a happy sense of sins forgiven. Take away from him the heavy burden which weighs him down, that, being restored to a quiet and easy frame of mind, he may serve Thee with delight in the duties of his heavenly calling. Grant, O Lord, that this affliction may move his heart more effectually to consider how frail and uncertain his own condition is. Grant that this great sorrow may awaken him to a more careful performance of his duty, that he may, henceforth honour Thee and love to do Thy will: and, O Lord, grant that, when he shall depart out of this valley of tears, he may die the death of the righteous, and be numbered among the redeemed.

*

O God, the Father! God the Son! and God, the Holy Ghost! have mercy upon all of us who are now kneeling before Thee! We are all sinners by nature,—wicked, hell-deserving sinners; but we cry to Thee for mercy. We come to Jesus, and we lay our sins at the foot of the cross in humble penitence. His blood cleanseth from all sin. We know, O Lord, that there is but one path to walk in, if men would be saved from hell. O, may this our brother and all here present believe in the Lord Jesus Christ to the salvation of their souls! May they take Him for their pattern, their Master, and their Guide; and may they all love Him as those for whom He died *ought* to love Him! May they have nothing more to do with sin. Give them strength to resist it,—to turn their backs upon it, and to lay hold on Christ; for hast Thou not told us that He is able to save *to the uttermost* all who come unto Thee by Him?

Thus strengthened, O God, may our brother and all here kneeling in Thy presence, live and die in Jesus! Thus, may we all appear before the judgment-seat of Christ! Thus,

* Collect 17.

whose mind is troubled ; and whose heart is sorrowful.

with a robe around us,—a robe made white in the Redeemer's blood—we need have no fear of death, or of judgment. We know that all *who love* THE SAVIOUR shall receive a crown—a beauteous heavenly crown—from the Redeemer's hands at the Judgment-day. The Judge on the Great White Throne will be no stranger to them, but One whom they have long loved and served, even their own gentle, loving, faithful Saviour, now reigning for them, as once He died for them, their Ransom, their Friend, their Brother, their God, their Strength and portion for ever.

God grant that such may be the case with our afflicted brother, and with all who now kneel before Thee. AMEN.

The Almighty Lord, who is a most strong power to all that put their trust in Him ; to whom all things in Heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence ; and make thee to know and feel that there is *none other name* under Heaven given to man, in whom, and through whom, thou mayest receive health and salvation, BUT ONLY THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. AMEN.

PRAYER ON BEHALF OF THE SAME, WHEN
STRUCK DOWN WITH SICKNESS.

“THERE IS A PATH THAT LEADS TO GOD.”

“ There is a path that leads to God :
All others go astray ;
Narrow, but pleasant, is the road,
And Christians love the way.

It leadeth straight through this world of sin, .
And dangers must be passed ;
But they who boldly enter in,
Will get to Heaven at last.

While the broad road, where thousands go,
Lies near, and opens fair ;
And many turn aside I know,
To walk with sinners there.

But lest my feeble ways should slide,
Or wander from Thy way ;
Lord! condescend to be my guide,
AND I SHALL NEVER STRAY.”

A SUITABLE PRAYER UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.

Most merciful and gracious Lord God, we desire to commend to Thy special care our sick and afflicted brother. We know, O merciful God, that, when Thou sendest affliction, it is done for a good purpose. Thou, who art the God of life and death, of joy and grief, who art able to give, and able to take away ! Thou who canst heal sor-

* Suitable collects, 17, 18, and 19.

Prayer on behalf of a person &c., struck down with sickness.

rows in a moment, Thou whose counsel it is to make all things work together for our good, dost not willingly afflict Thy people.

Thou, the God of Israel, infinite in power, infinite in love, infinite in sources of joy and gladness. Thou knowest our sorrows! Thou, who art the Spirit of holiness, whose office it is to comfort: Thou, who dwellest in the hearts of Thy people, enabling them to sanctify every sorrow, and to turn it into a blessing! Thou knowest our sorrows!

Thou, whose name is Love; who, rather than that sinners should perish, emptiedest Thyself of Thy glory, and laidst down Thy life upon the Cross: Thou, the Redeemer, knowest our sorrows!

*

Thou, the omniscient and omnipresent Jehovah, seest the beginning and the end of an event at once. Thou knowest our sorrows; and Thou dost watch them in their sources, and to their full extent. Thou knowest whence they come, how they come, and why they come. Thou knowest, precisely the weight of each burden and the strength given us to bear it. Not a fear, not an anxiety, not a groan escapes Thy notice. Thou knowest, as man *cannot* know, the secrets and the perplexities of our inmost hearts. Thou art about our path, and about our bed; and thou spiest out all our ways. All things are naked and open unto Thine eyes, O God, with whom we have to do!

*

Blessed Jesus! who art as compassionate as Thou art powerful, and as full of pity as Thou art full of grace and mercy, Thou who didst endure toil, pain, anxiety, trouble, sorrow, desolation. Thou Friend "who stickest closer than a brother,"—we come boldly to Thy footstool to ask, for grace and mercy, for peace and pardon for Thy sick

and afflicted servant. It cuts our griefs in twain to tell them to, and share them with another. We come to Thee, then, our Redeemer, our Saviour, our Judge, as the surest means of obtaining peace, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, to let our requests be made known unto God.

Grant, blessed Jesus, that this sick and afflicted one may, hereafter, look with thankfulness upon this sickness and this sorrow (as the cause of this conversion,—as the turning-point in his life,—the beacon which warned him of the danger he was in). May he, for the remainder of his days, should it be God's will to spare his life, be able to say,—and to say it with a thankful heart,—“It was good for me to have been afflicted, that I might learn Thy statutes : before I was afflicted, I went astray.”

*

O, God, the Holy Spirit!—cause this our brother to feel happy in his soul. (May religion become with him a reality.) Happy in the Saviour's love, may he become calm, and thankful, and full of the praises of God. Give him, O blessed Spirit, peace and joy in believing. In this trouble and sorrow, may he see a Father's loving hand. May he believe and feel that this sickness has been sent by God to remind him of death and of judgment. Give him grace, O Thou Spirit of God, to improve this sickness to the good of his soul. May this sorrow end in joy. (May he pass from this furnace of affliction to a glorious and a happy rest.) We beseech Thee that this bitter cup may pass away from Thy servant. Look down upon him from Heaven : behold, visit, and in Thine own good time relieve him. Bless the means employed for his recovery ; and dispose him to place all his trust and confidence in Thee, and not in the help of man. We beseech Thee to raise him up again, if it be Thy good pleasure. Nevertheless, let Thy dealings with him be according to Thy blessed will, and as Thou see'st best for his soul. Above all, keep him constantly mindful how short his time is ; and that he is

* Collects 21 and 23.

when struck down with sickness.

drawing nearer, day by day, to the close of life. May each day find him more happy and more holy; sitting more loosely to this world, and more ready to leave it; growing in grace; more conformed to the image of Christ, and more meet for Heaven. And grant, O Lord, that when his days on earth are ended, he may be received into Thy presence, to dwell with Thee for ever, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer.

All we ask for we ask in the name of Jesus. AMEN.

Unto God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. AMEN.

“ O ! blessed souls are they,
Whose sins are covered o'er !
Divinely blest, to whom the Lord
Imputes their guilt no more !

Let sinners learn to pray ;
Let all approach the Throne :
Our help, in times of deep distress,
Is found in God alone.”

NOTE.

It will be for the intercessor to determine whether the whole prayer should be used; or whether he should pause for a time, or cease praying.

VI.

PRAYER.

ON BEHALF OF A PERSON WHO HAS FOUND PARDON AND PEACE: WHO PROFESSES A GODLY SORROW FOR SIN: AND WHO IS DETERMINED, GOD HELPING HIM, TO LEAD, FOR THE REMAINDER OF HIS DAYS, THE LIFE OF A CHRISTIAN.

O Lord, God Almighty! who fillest Heaven with Thy greatness, and power, and glory, and majesty, grant us Thy peace, whilst we now approach Thy mercy-seat in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Son.

O Lord! the High and Holy One, who dwellest in Heaven, and who, upon earth, didst manifest Thy mercy, and compassion, and love, in the salvation of sinners,—a work the height, and length, and breadth of which passeth knowledge, and which the angels desire to look into,—we would laud and magnify Thy glorious name for the fresh proof which Thou hast given us, in this our brother's case, that Thy mercy endureth for ever. He has found pardon and peace, when he might justly have looked for condemnation and judgment. The Sun of righteousness, arisen with healing in His wings, has been pleased to shine into his heart, and to say unto his soul, "Peace! Be still! It is I! Be not afraid!"

Thankfully, O God, would our brother ascribe his state of reconciliation with Thee to the exercise of that free grace and love, which, in Thy prerogative of Sovereign and Almighty power, Thou art pleased to bestow upon the creatures of Thy providence. "It is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that showeth mercy."

Suitable Collects, 20, 21, 22, or 23.

Prayer on behalf of a person who has found pardon and peace.

It is "not by might, nor by power, but by My Holy Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts."

Our brother, Lord, accepts as Thy free gift the "Peace which passeth all understanding." Help him, O our God and Father, to persevere, and to hold steadfast unto the end. May that godly sorrow for sin, which now worketh in his breast, never depart from him; and, though he has, through Thy grace, cause to rejoice in the Lord, may it ever be with fear and trembling, knowing whose mighty hand it is that worketh in him. Let that "still small voice," which says, "I am Thy salvation," also say to him, "Watch, and pray!"

Graciously bless Thy servant, O our God, in his daily work. May he do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him. And should temptation come, and perplexities beset him, Oh, hold Thou up his goings in Thy paths, that his footsteps slip not.

Lord, help and enable our brother, during the remainder of his life, to give full proof of the sincerity of his repentance. May he prove an humble, meek, quiet, and patient follower of the Lord Jesus. May he suffer what Thou dost inflict, and perform all that Thou dost command, with a sole eye to Thine honour and glory. Fix his mind steadfastly on the Great Redeemer. Make him bold to confess Christ before men; and may the name of Jesus daily become more precious to him.

May no thoughts of death, or of judgment, disturb our brother's mind; but, looking beyond the confines of the grave to that high and lofty place, where the Lord Jesus reigneth in the bosom of the Father, may he be filled with joy unspeakable, and ever rejoice in the hope of glory.

Grant him, Lord, these blessings, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

PRAYER ON BEHALF OF A SICK PERSON WHO HAS
FOUND PARDON AND PEACE.

“PEACE! BE STILL!”

“When thine heart with sorrow acheth,—
‘Peace, peace, be still!’
When the sad lone memory waketh,—
‘Peace, peace, be still!’
List to music softly stealing,
O’er life’s ocean sweetly pealing,
Jesu’s voice, with balm and healing,—
‘Peace, peace be still!’

When the wave and billow rolleth,—
‘Peace, peace, be still!’
This the word which us consoleth,—
‘Peace, peace, be still!’
When life’s battle fiercely rageth,
Foe with deadly hatred wageth,
Ever this our heart engageth,—
‘Peace peace, be still!’

He can walk upon the ocean,—
‘Peace, peace, be still!’

He can quell its wild commotion,—
‘Peace, peace, be still!’
Soon shall we behold His glory,
Sing with joy the wondrous story,
So, till grace is crowned with glory,—
‘Peace, peace, be still!’”

PRAYER.

LET US PRAY.

*O most merciful God, who, according to the multitude of
Thy mercies, dost so put away the sins of those who truly

(Collects 20, 21, 22, and 23, may be used here.)

Prayer on behalf of a sick person who has found pardon &c.

repent, that Thou rememberest them no more ; open Thine eye of mercy upon this Thy servant, who most earnestly desireth pardon and forgiveness. Renew in *him*, most loving Father, whatsoever hath been decayed by the fraud and malice of the devil, or by *his own* carnal will and frailness ; preserve and continue this sick member in the unity of the Church ; consider *his* contrition, accept *his* tears, assuage *his* pain, as shall seem to Thee most expedient for *him*. And forasmuch as *he* putteth *his full trust* only in Thy mercy, impute not unto *him his* former sins, but strengthen *him* with Thy blessed Spirit ; and, when Thou art pleased to take *him* hence, take *him* unto Thy favour, through the merits of Thy most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

¶ *Then shall the Minister say,*

* The Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore Thy defence ; and make thee know and feel, that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom, and through whom, thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. AMEN.

¶ *And after that shall say,*

* Unto God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. AMEN.

* Taken from the Order for the Visitation of the Sick.

VII.

“HOW SWEET THE NAME OF JESUS SOUNDS!”

“How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer’s ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole,
And calms the troubled breast;
’Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary rest.

Dear Name! the Rock on which I build,
My shield and hiding-place;
My never-failing treasury, fill’d
With boundless stores of grace.

Weak is the effort of my heart,
And cold my warmest thought;
But, when I see Thee as Thou art,
I’ll praise Thee as I ought.

Jesus! my Shepherd, Kinsman, Friend!
My Prophet, Priest, and King!
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End!
Accept the praise I bring.

Till then I would Thy love proclaim
With every fleeting breath;
And may the music of Thy name
Refresh my soul in death!”

PRAYER ON BEHALF OF A SICK PENITENT WHEN
THERE APPEARETH TO BE BUT LITTLE HOPE OF
RECOVERY.

(From “The New Manual,” by HELE).

O Lord, we pray Thee, raise up Thy power and come
among us, and with great might succour Thy servant now

Suitable Collects, 24, 25, 26, or 27.

Prayer on behalf of a sick penitent, &c.

languishing in great weakness of body. Look with mercy on him who, in our eyes, is drawing near to the time of his dissolution. Perfect, O Lord, his repentance, and make it effectual through the blood of the ever-blessed Jesus. For Christ's sake pardon all the offences of his past life, that he may come to his great change without guilt, and that he may feel its approach without fear. O grant that, through the valley of the shadow of death, he may look to the bright regions of eternal bliss, in a well-grounded assurance of reconciliation with Thee. But whether Thou seest fit to give him such a foretaste of happiness, yet, O merciful God, take him not out of this world until Thou hast fitted and prepared him for a better; that when he goes forth to meet the bridegroom, he may not find the door shut against him.

O Lord, with Thee nothing is impossible. If Thou wilt, Thou canst even yet raise him up, and grant him a longer continuance amongst us; nevertheless, not our will, but Thine be done. Into Thy hands we desire to commit him: to Thy mercies in Christ Jesus we commend him. O Lord, hear his prayers, and the prayers of all his friends for him. Support him in his last agonies; strengthen him under all his weaknesses; visit him with the strong consolations of Thy Holy Spirit; and, finally, receive him into the blessed society of saints and angels,—there to love and praise and adore Thee to all eternity, through the merits of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN and AMEN.

We humbly beseech Thee, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities; and, for the glory of Thy name turn from us all those evils that we most righteously have deserved; and grant that, in all our troubles, we may put our whole trust and confidence in Thy mercy, and evermore serve Thee in holiness and pureness of living, to Thy honour and glory, through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

Our Father, &c., &c., &c.

Prayer for a sick person, with small hope of recovery.

A Prayer for a sick Person, when there appeareth small hope of recovery.

(From the "Order for the Visitation of the Sick.")

O Father of mercies, and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need; we fly unto Thee for succour in behalf of this Thy servant, here lying under Thy hand in great weakness of body. Look graciously upon *him*, O Lord; and the more the outward man decayeth, strengthen *him*, we beseech Thee, so much the more continually with Thy grace and Holy Spirit in the inner man. Give *him* unfeigned repentance for all the errors of *his* life past, and stedfast faith in Thy Son Jesus; that *his* sins may be done away by Thy mercy, and *his* pardon sealed in heaven, before *he* go hence, and be no more seen. We know, O Lord, that there is no word impossible with Thee; and that, if Thou wilt, Thou canst even yet raise *him* up, and grant *him* a longer continuance amongst us: yet, forasmuch as in all appearance the time of *his* dissolution draweth near, so fit and prepare *him*, we beseech Thee, against the hour of death; that after *his* departure hence in peace, and in Thy favour, *his* soul may be received into Thine everlasting kingdom, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Thine only Son, our Lord and Saviour.

AMEN.

“THE ROCK THAT IS HIGHER THAN I.”

“ When sorrows arise, and when dangers are near,
When joys have all fled, and my pathway is drear ;
When my heart is o'erwhelm'd, to Thee will I cry,—
' Lead me to the Rock that is higher than I.'

My refuge is sure, whilst I'm resting on Thee,
Whose blessings are lasting, whose mercies are free ;
For wants that are many, there is a supply,
Stored up in 'The Rock that is higher than I.'

Life's tempests will come, and when billows of care
Shall roll o'er my head, O Lord, be Thou near !
To comfort and help me, when dangers are nigh,
And show me 'The Rock that is higher than I.'

If in sickness, or health, in joy, or in woe.
Be with me, and bless me ; Thy love, Lord, I know.
And when Thy good Spirit thinks fit I should die,
' Lead me to the Rock that is higher than I.'”

G. R. Delevante.

PRAYER FOR THE SAME WHERE THERE APPEARETH TO
BE NO HOPE OF RECOVERY.

O, The hope of Israel!—The Saviour thereof in time of trouble!—; when all other hope and help fails, it is not in vain to seek unto Thee for succour, who canst bring back from the mouth of the grave, and quicken the very dead : and where Thou art not pleased any further to prolong the temporal life, yet canst deliver from eternal death, and bring safe to blessedness and glory.

This beautiful prayer is taken from “ Offices of Devotion,” by the Rev. B. Jenks,—re-edited, altered, and improved by the Rev. Charles Simeon, Fellow of King's College, Cambridge.

Prayer on behalf of a sick penitent,

We think it too late to beg the recovery of Thy servant, O Lord, now that he seems to us to be going the way of all flesh, and just launching forth into his everlasting condition. But, though the time of his departure appears to be at hand, yet we cannot think it too late to beg Thy mercy for him, as long as life is in him: and, as we cannot but be greatly concerned for him, so we know not how to express this our concern for him better than in beseeching Thee to be good and gracious unto him.

O Lord, our God, leave him not, nor forsake him; but support and assist him, now, in his sorest extremities, and in his last agonies, when he has to conflict with the King of Terrors. Let him find the most sweet and seasonable aid from Thee, the God of his salvation: and take him not out of this life, till Thou hast fitted him for a better.

O, Thou ever-living God, stand by our brother in the dying hour. Secure him in Thy hands from the enemies of his soul; and finish all that is wanting of the work of Thy grace upon his heart. Freely and fully pardon him, and deliver him from all his sins; and fit him to appear with comfort and rejoicing, in Thy blessed presence. O, make his departure easy, and full of peace and hope. Carry him safe through the valley of the shadow of death; and let him find a joyful admission into the everlasting Kingdom of his Lord.

Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend his spirit. O, Thou Father of mercies, be merciful to him, and receive his departing soul: and, when he is numbered among the dead, let him be also numbered among the redeemed and blessed of the Lord,—for His sake, who died for sinners, and rose again, and lives, and is alive for evermore, and has the keys of death and of Hell.

To Thy mercy, in that Blessed Saviour of the world, O most merciful Father, we now humbly recommend him, beseeching Thee to be all in all to him, and infinitely better than we are worthy, or able, to ask for him. Let him be Thine, O merciful Creator, in life, and death, and for evermore, through the all-sufficient merits and mediation of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, our all-prevailing Advocate and Redeemer. AMEN.

where there appeareth to be no hope of recovery.

*

(And this Prayer may be added.)

Father! we humbly thank Thee that Thou hast given Thine only begotten Son to take upon Himself the ransom of our sins. We do now beg Thee to have mercy upon us; and to let the agony and bitterness of *that* death take away the sting and bitterness of *our* death; through the sprinkling of the precious blood of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

* This beautiful and simple prayer was composed by "D. W.,"—a sinner who had found peace in the near prospect of death, and whose repentance was a wonderful trophy of the grace of God. It was taken down by a lady, (in Jamaica,) as it came from the lips of the dying penitent. EDITOR.

VIII.

COMMENDATORY PRAYERS BEFORE DEATH.

The Last Prayer of the Righteous.

“ The hour of my departure’s come ;
I hear the voice that calls me home :
At last, O Lord,—Let trouble cease,
And let Thy servant die in peace.

I come, I come, at Thy command ;
I give my spirit to Thy hand :
Stretch forth Thy everlasting arms,
And shield me in the last alarms.”

Logan.

1.—COMMENDATORY PRAYER ON THE DEATH OF A BELIEVER.

*

O most gracious and merciful Father ! Thou art pleased to make known to us Thy will to call our brother hence.

We commend his spirit into Thy hands !

We implore Thee by Thy great goodness and mercy !

Thou didst first call him into being ; and didst breathe into his nostrils the breath of life, and he became a living soul.

Thou didst invite him, and receive him into Thy holy Church ; and didst embrace his soul in the arms of Thy mercy, and put Thy Spirit within him.

* This Prayer was composed specially for this work by the Right Reverend Reginald Courtenay, D.D., the good Bishop who presides over the Diocese of Jamaica ; and to whom, under God, I owe my position as a Minister in the Church of Christ. EDITOR.

Suitable Collects,—28, 29, 30, or 31.

Commendatory Prayer for a Dying Christian.

But grant, O Lord, that when his earthly house of this tabernacle shall be dissolved, he may have a building of God, an house not made with hands,—eternal in the heavens;—a body fashioned like unto Thy glorious body, according to the mighty working whereby Thou art able even to subdue all things unto Thyself.

Thy Spirit strove with him !

Thou hadst led him to a knowledge of Jesus !

To feed on Christ !

O, complete Thy work in the world to come !

2.—COMMENDATORY PRAYER FOR A DYING CHRISTIAN
WHO IS STRONG IN THE LORD.

O most gracious and merciful Father, who hast been pleased to make manifest to us Thy will that the days of our dear brother, in this world, should be speedily brought to an end, hear us, now, we beseech Thee, in Heaven, Thy dwelling-place, when, with humble faith and hope, we commend his spirit unto Thee.

We know, O Father, that the soul for which Thy beloved Son hath died is precious in Thy sight. We trust in Thy love. We doubt not Thy Word. Thou wilt be faithful and just to forgive our dear brother his sins,—to cleanse him from all unrighteousness,—to receive him for Thine own,—to clothe him with immortality.

We bow to Thy decree ! Yea, we heartily thank Thee that it is Thy good pleasure to deliver this our brother from all evil, and grant him an entrance into a world wherein shall be no more sorrow, nor crying ; neither shall there be any more pain.*

*

Great has been Thy goodness towards Thy servant ; and we trust, O Heavenly Father, that Thou wilt complete Thine own gracious work in him.

* This beautiful prayer, also, was composed specially for this Manual by the Lord Bishop of Kingston.

Commendatory Prayer for a Dying Christian.

Thou didst breathe into his nostrils the breath of life, and he became a living soul. Thou didst baptize him with water and the Holy Ghost, and make him an inheritor of Thy Kingdom.

Thou didst instruct him in the truths of Thy Holy Word, and make Thy ways known unto him,—Even the great salvation which is in Jesus Christ, Thy Son.

Thy grace restrained him from sin, or gave him true repentance, and full pardon and absolution.

Thou didst deliver him from bondage: Thou didst feed him with the Bread of Life.

For these and all Thy mercies towards him, O Lord, we praise and bless Thee.

O! complete Thy work!

Accomplish in him all the good pleasure of Thy will!

Grant him a place in the resurrection of the just!

May Thy Holy Spirit quicken him both in body and soul,—Clothing the mortal with immortality!

May Thy beloved Son present him unto Thee as a member of the church of the glorified ones!

*

[And] We beseech Thee, O merciful Father, to accept us, [also, in that day,] through Thy beloved Son.

Keep us in Thy faith and fear.

Though our sins and transgressions be many; yet let Thy mercy prevail for the pardon of them all, and for our perfect cleansing, through the precious blood of Thy dear Son which was shed for us; and through His all-powerful intercession.

So shall we be kept from falling, and presented faultless before Thy presence with exceeding joy.

We know not yet what we shall be; but we know that those whom Thou callest, Thou wilt, in the end, glorify.

We pray, therefore, for Thy blessing, O Heavenly Father, on ourselves,—on this our brother,—and on all who are dear unto us.

Shew us, now, Thy salvation; and, in the ages to come, reveal to us the exceeding riches of Thy grace and kindness towards us,—through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

A Litany for a sick person, when death seems to be near, &c.

A LITANY FOR A SICK PERSON, WHEN DEATH SEEMS
TO BE NEAR;—OR AT THE TIME OF DEPARTURE.

(From BISHOP ANDREWS, slightly altered and amended.)*

O God, the Father of Heaven,—have mercy on our brother: help and defend him.

O God, the Son, Redeemer of the world,—save and defend him.

O God, the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son,—have mercy upon him; strengthen and comfort him.

O Holy, Blessed, and Glorious Trinity,—have mercy upon him.

Remember not, O Lord, his offences; but spare him, good Lord: spare Thy servant, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious blood, and be not angry with him for ever.

From Thy wrath and indignation; from the fear of death; from the guilt and burden of his sins; and from the dreadful sentence of the last judgment:

Good Lord, deliver him.

From the sting of conscience; from impatience, distrust, or despair; and from the extremity of sickness, or agony, which may, anyways, draw his mind from Thee:

Good Lord, deliver him.

From the powers of darkness; from the crafts and assaults of our ghostly enemy; and from the bitter pains of eternal death:

Good Lord, deliver him.

From all dangers and distress; from all terrors and torments;—from all pains and punishments, both of the body and of the soul:

Good Lord, deliver him.

By Thy manifold and great mercies;—by the manifold and great mercies of Jesus Christ, Thy Son: by His agony

* This beautiful prayer, which can be used in almost every case, was written out (with some alterations, additions and amendments,) by the Lord Bishop of Kingston, who very kindly forwarded it to the Editor of *this Manual*.

A Litany for a sick person, when death seems to be near ;

and bloody sweat ;—by His strong crying and tears ;—by His cross and passion ;—by His Resurrection and Ascension ;—by His intercession and mediation ; and by the graces and comforts of the Holy Ghost :

Good Lord, deliver him.

In this, his time of extremity ; in his last and greatest need ;—in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment :

Good Lord, deliver him.

*

We sinners, do beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord God,—that it may please Thee to be our brother's defender and keeper ; and to visit him with Thy salvation :

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee to be merciful and to forgive all the sins and offences which, at any time of his life, he hath committed against Thee :

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee not to lay to his charge what, in the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, or the pride of life, he hath committed against Thee :

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee not to lay to his charge what, in haste, or anger, or by voice or idle words, he hath committed against Thee :

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee to grant his body rest and peace ; and a part in the blessed resurrection of life and glory :

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee to vouchsafe his soul the enjoyment of everlasting happiness, with all the blessed saints, in Thy Heavenly Kingdom :

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God, we beseech Thee to hear us !

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world :

Grant him Thy peace !

O Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world :

Have mercy upon him !

Commendatory Prayer before death.

Unto Thee, O God, we commend him !
Make Thy face to shine upon him ; and be gracious
unto him !

Lift up the light of Thy countenance upon him, and give
him peace, both now and evermore ! AMEN.

4.—COMMENDATORY PRAYER ON BEHALF OF A DYING
CHRISTIAN, WHO HAS RECENTLY PARTAKEN OF THE
HOLY COMMUNION.

“ He has fought the good fight ; he has finished his course.”—
2 Timothy, iv., 7.

“ Servant of God, well done !
Rest from thy loved employ :
The battle's fought ; the victory's won :
Enter thy Master's joy !

Soldier of Christ, well done !
Praise be thy new employ :
And while eternal ages run,
Rest in thy Saviour's joy !”

Montgomery,

PRAYER.

O blessed Jesus, our Friend, our Brother, our Ransom,
our Judge ! We commend unto Thee the soul of our dear
brother, who must soon appear before Thy throne. O
take him to be with Thee, that he may stand in Thy pre-
sence for ever. O, receive his soul, when it shall put off
this earthly tabernacle, into that place of rest, where
tears shall be wiped from all eyes, and where there shall
be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain.

*

Guide our brother, O Lord, by Thy counsel, while he

Commendatory Prayer before death.

lives. Give Thine angels charge over him, to stand about him, to guard and receive his soul at its departure from the body.

Lord, our brother is about to be brought face to face with death and judgment. He will soon lie stiff and cold upon his bed. The body which has been so much cared for, will soon be a senseless clod, a mass of corruption and decay, to be put out of sight as soon as possible. But we thank God, that our dear brother has fed upon the Saviour; that he has become a child of God by faith in Christ Jesus. We thank God that our brother's love for an adorable Redeemer drew him by cords of love to His Holy Table.

*

O Lord, strengthen our brother's love for Jesus. May Christ be life, and all to him, in this his time of need. May he have no more doubt of his acceptance with God, than we who stand, or kneel around, have of our own existence. We know, Lord, that the sins of those who love the Saviour have all been cast into the depths of the sea. Grant to our brother, then, to know, and to experience the blessedness of knowing, that his house is built upon the Rock of Ages, that his name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life. O God, grant unto our dear brother to look unto his Saviour, and not to the difficulties and fancied obstacles in his path: grant unto him to look to the blood shed for his sins, the Redeemer's love pledged never to forsake him; grant unto him to feel assured that casting himself entirely upon Jesus, he must be safe; that, though he may stumble, he shall not perish, for the Lord "will preserve him unto the Heavenly Kingdom."

O God, may not we, who are left behind, be permitted to rejoice with our brother, and to say; "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? Thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!"—"The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin!"—O, what words of comfort to pour into a dying

* Here the Intercessor may pause, or cease praying for a time.

•

Commendatory Prayer before death.

Christian's ear, to calm his misgivings and his fears.—
"There is now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus!" Thanks be to God that death can possess no terror for the believer in Jesus; for he knows that he shall stand before the Judgment Throne, and before assembled worlds, with a robe around him, a pure, white, spotless robe, washed in the Redeemer's blood.

*

O, may this precious truth be imprinted on the heart of our dying brother, that "There is no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus." Their Master, their Friend, their Brother, on the first Easter morn, burst the fetters of the tomb! How glorious! Death vanquished! Hell overcome! God grant that our dear brother may realize the truth, that there is, now, no sting in death, no victory in the grave. Jesus came thence, laden with the spoils of victory!

God grant that this blood-bought sinner may take the Saviour's sufferings, His death, His glorious resurrection and ascension, as his only hope of peace in life, of comfort in death, and of happiness throughout all eternity.

Soon this body of his will have done its work: its trials and its sorrows here will soon be over; and when He who is our life shall appear, may our brother's soul then also appear with Him in glory. AMEN.

5.—A COMMENDATORY PRAYER FOR A SICK PERSON
AT THE POINT OF DEPARTURE.

("From the Order for the Visitation of the Sick.")

O Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of just men made perfect, after they are delivered from their

* Here, again, the Intercessor may cease praying for a time, or altogether, as the nature of the circumstances may lead him to determine.

•

Commendatory Prayer before death.

earthly prisons ; we humbly commend the soul of this Thy servant, our dear *brother*, into Thy hands, as into the hands of a faithful Creator, and most merciful Saviour ; most humbly beseeching Thee, that it may be precious in Thy sight. Wash it, we pray Thee, in the blood of that immaculate Lamb, that was slain to take away the sins of the world ; that, whatsoever defilements it may have contracted in the midst of this miserable and naughty world, through the lusts of the flesh, or the wiles of Satan, being purged and done away, it may be presented pure and without spot before Thee. And teach us who survive, in this and other like daily spectacles of mortality, to see how frail and uncertain our own condition is ; and so to number our days, that we may seriously apply our hearts to that holy and heavenly wisdom, whilst we live here, which may in the end bring us to life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, Thine only Son, our Lord. AMEN.

IX.

“HEAR US, GOOD LORD !”

“ God of Mercy ! deign to hear us,
As our humble notes we raise ;
Thou hast promised to be near us,
When we meet to sing Thy praise.

Send Thy Spirit to direct us,
In the straight and narrow way :
We are sinners !—Lord protect us !
Lest our wandering feet should stray.

Snares and dangers will beset us,
Ere we reach our journey’s end :
But, though all the world forget us,
Jesus still will be our Friend.

Earthly friendships may deceive us ;
Short, at best, their day must be :
Thou hast said Thou wilt not leave us,
If we put our trust in Thee.”

PRAYERS TO BE USED ON BEHALF OF A CHRISTIAN FAMILY,

1.—*Prayers that may be used in the Family circle ; or at a Pastoral visit.*

Lord Jesus ! Thou Lamb of God ! Thou Saviour of all who love and trust Thee ! come among us, and be with us, and bless us while we kneel before the throne of grace. Give us, we beseech Thee, penitent hearts, that we may pray humbly ; and put into our minds earnest desires, that we may be able to approach our Heavenly Father in child-like confidence, and in the full assurance of faith. And Oh, Thou advocate with the Father ! Jesus, our Ransom ! our Friend ! our Brother !—present our humble petitions before *Thy* Father, and our Father ; Thy

Prayers to be used on behalf of a Christian Family.

God and *our* God! O, Thou who comest into the world to save sinners and to save us, be with us while we pray; for hast Thou not promised that where two or three are gathered together in Thy name, Thou wilt be in the midst of them? O Holy Jesus; accept us, and hear and answer our prayers, unworthy though we be. Give us believing and loving hearts. Make us to know the blessedness of those whose unrighteousness is forgiven,—whose sin is covered. Enable us to lift up our hearts unto Thee, and to find Thee more and more precious to our souls. Help us to pray, and bless us, and all who are dear to us, for Thine own dear sake. AMEN.

Almighty and everlasting God, the Lord of life and of death, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, who reignest alone in the Heavens above, and in the earth beneath, we come to Thee in the name of Him whom Thou hearest always, even Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. We owe it to the kind forbearance of a gracious and merciful God that we are not lying under condemnation, and that we can plead the blood of Him who died for us, that we might live for ever. We cannot praise Thee enough, Lord, for Thy undeserved goodness to us. Great God! with Thee there is mercy. We confess, gracious Father, that we are unworthy even to appear before Thee. We have sinned often and grievously in Thy sight. Pardon, gracious and merciful Father, the many great and grievous sins which we have, from time to time, committed against Thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly Thy wrath and indignation against us. Father! we have sinned against Heaven, and in Thy sight, and are no more worthy to be called Thy children. But we would arise and come to Thee, earnestly imploring pardon and forgiveness. We come casting ourselves on Thy Fatherly compassion. Thou wilt not the death of a sinner. Have mercy upon us, then, O God, according to Thy loving kindness: according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies, blot out our transgressions.

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! look not upon us, but look upon the face of Thine anointed. We come to Thee without a claim of our own, without one single recommendation! But, Lord, we kneel at Thy

' Prayers to be used on behalf of a Christian Family.

footstool; we come boldly to the Throne of Grace; we approach Thy Glorious Majesty in our beloved Saviour's name. Clothed with the robe of His righteousness, the pure, white, spotless robe which He hath thrown around us to hide our sins from Thee, we enter Thy cloud of glory, and kneel with boldness, but with reverence and godly humility, before Thee. O give us, gracious Heavenly Father, a sweet sense of pardon through the blood of Jesus Christ. And yet, O Lord, we are unworthy of this blessedness, though we thus address Thee. We are among the evil and the unthankful. Thou mightest have led us forth with the workers of iniquity. We have no right or title of our own to justify us even in approaching Thee: and the love of Thy dear Son is our only plea.

O that at the great day of final reckoning, when our crucified and living Redeemer shall proclaim His Almighty Sovereignty, with ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands of the redeemed around Him, not one of those, now kneeling in the presence of our Maker! may be absent, or missing from that Heavenly throng!

Lord, bless this whole family. May it be a family among which Jesus may delight to dwell. May all of us, and all dear to us, be numbered among Thy saints, on earth, and be found daily kneeling at Thy footstool. May they be bright and living examples of the saving and sanctifying influence of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. And, O Lord, bring to Thy Son, Jesus Christ, any whom we love, who may be still living in sin. Bring all, blessed Lord, to a saving knowledge of Jesus. May not one be a cast-away.

The Lord bless us, and keep us. The Lord made His face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us. The Lord lift up His countenance upon us, and give us peace, both now and evermore. AMEN.

2.—To be added if any Member of the Family be Sick.

“ In every pang that rends the heart,
The Man of Sorrows had a part ;

•

Prayer on behalf of a Sick Member of a Christian Family.

He sympathises with our grief,
And to the sufferer sends relief.]

Though now exalted up on high,
He bends on each a brother's eye
Partaker of the human name,
He knows the frailty of our frame.

With boldness, therefore, at the throne,
Let us make all our sorrows known ;
And ask the aid of Heavenly power,
To help us in the evil hour."

Logan.

O Thou God of all compassion, who art a very present help in trouble, we desire to commend to Thy Fatherly care the sick member of this household. In Thee, O Lord, do we hope ; and Thou wilt hear us O Lord, our God. We meet together, therefore, to plead with Thee on behalf of that beloved member of this family who is visited with sickness. We know that sickness came into the world through sin. Our many and grievous sins, which we have from time to time committed, justly deserve to be visited with Thy displeasure, O God. But, Lord, Thine only Son came into the world to take our sins upon Him. For His dear sake forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Look down from Heaven, O Lord, and be pleased to hear the prayers which we would offer up to Thee on behalf of our sick brother. Bless the means used for his recovery ; and cause him to place full trust and confidence in a gracious Heavenly Father, who doeth all things well. Grant that this sickness may be a blessing to him. May he find comfort in the midst of trial, and that peace which the world cannot bestow. O Lord, we leave him in Thy hands: we commit him to Thy gracious mercy and protection. O Lord, bless him and keep him. O Lord, make Thy face to shine upon him, and be gracious unto him. O Lord, lift up Thy countenance upon him, and give him peace both now and evermore.

AMEN.

Prayer for One in Danger.

“THERE IS A LAND OF PURE DELIGHT.”

“There is a land of pure delight,
Where saints immortal reign:
There endless day excludes the night,
And pleasures banish pain.

There everlasting spring abides,
And never-withering flowers:
Death, like a narrow sea, divides,
This Heavenly land from ours.

But timorous mortals start and shrink
To cross this narrow sea;
And linger, shivering, on the brink,
And fear to launch away.

Could we but climb where Moses stood,
And view the landscape o'er;
Not Jordan's streams, nor death's cold flood,
Should fright us from the shore.” *Watts.*

3.—*To be added if the sick one be in danger.*

O most merciful and gracious Lord God, the God of all comfort, our only help in time of need; we fly to Thee for succour on behalf of this Thy servant here lying under Thy hand in great weakness of body. Look graciously upon him, O Lord; and the more the outward man decayeth, strengthen him, we beseech Thee, so much the more with Thy grace and Holy Spirit in the inner man. Give him unfeigned repentance for all the errors of his past life, and stedfast faith in Thy Son Jesus; that his sins may be done away, and his pardon sealed in Heaven, before he go hence to be no more seen. Sanctify to him, we beseech Thee, all Thy Fatherly corrections; give him an entire resignation to Thy blessed will; wean his affections from things below, and fix his thoughts on Heaven. O merciful Father, take him not out of this world until he has found pardon for his sins, and peace for his

Prayer for a Blessed Death.

soul, through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ, his Saviour.

Blessed Jesus! we remember what Thou didst for those who brought to Thee the sick of the palsy; how Thou said'st, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee," and didst then command him to arise and walk. O! do the same, if it be Thy will, for us! We know, O Lord, that nothing is impossible with Thee. Say the word only, and Thy servant shall be healed. Raise him from this bed of sickness; and, if it be Thy will, give him renewed health, and grant him a longer continuance amongst us. But, O Lord, we desire from the heart to say, "Thy will be done!" We know that it is appointed unto all men once to die. But Thou hast taken away the sting of death, and hast made it to Thy people the pathway to immortality. Thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

Lord! we commit the soul of our dear brother unto Thee. Deal with it as Thou mayest think best. Give our brother, blessed Lord, an entire resignation to Thy will. Wean his affections from the things of this world; and, whether it be Thy good pleasure to spare him, or to take him away, grant him the assurance that all his sins have been blotted out, and that his name has been written in the Lamb's Book of Life. AMEN.

4.—*Prayer for a Blessed Death.*

(From Hele's Offices—slightly altered.)

O eternal and ever-living God, who didst at first breathe into man the breath of life; and when Thou takest away that breath, he dies, and is turned again into his kindred clay: look with pity, we beseech Thee, upon our brother, for there is but a step between him and death. O, let Thy good Spirit work in him whatever Thou seest to be wanting, to fit and prepare him for the time of his dissolution.

Prayer for a Joyful Resurrection.

Give our brother, O Lord, that sincere and earnest repentance to which Thou hast promised mercy and pardon. Wean his heart from the world and all its fading vanities; and to make him to pant after those more excellent and durable joys which are at Thy right hand for evermore. Lord, lift Thou up the light of Thy countenance upon him; and in all the pains of his body, and all agonies of his spirit, let Thy comforts refresh his soul, that he may be enabled to wait patiently till his great change shall come.

And grant, O Lord, that when his earthly house of this tabernacle is dissolved, he may have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens; *and that* for His sake, who, by His precious death, hath purchased for all true believers a sure and certain title to everlasting life, Jesus Christ, Thine only Son, our Lord.

AMEN.

5.—*Prayer for a Joyful Resurrection.*

O merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! who is the Resurrection and the Life; in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he die; and whosoever liveth and believeth in Him shall not die eternally; we meekly beseech Thee, O Father, to raise our brother from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that, when he shall depart this life, he may rest in Jesus, as all the faithful do; and that at the general resurrection at the last day, he may be found acceptable in Thy sight; and receive that blessing which Thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all that love and fear Thee, saying: "Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world." Grant this, we beseech Thee, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer. AMEN.

“AND HE TOOK THEM UP IN HIS ARMS, PUT
HIS HANDS UPON THEM AND BLESSED THEM,”

—*Mark x., 16.*

“ There’s a Friend for little children,
Above the bright blue sky ;
A Friend that never changes,
Whose love will never die.
Unlike our friends by nature,
Who change with changing years ;
This Friend is always worthy
The precious name He bears.

There’s a rest for little children,
Above the bright blue sky ;
Who love the blessed Saviour,
And to His Father cry.
A rest from every trouble,
From sin and danger free ;
There every little pilgrim
Shall rest eternally.

There’s a home for little children,
Above the bright blue sky,
Where Jesus reigns in glory,
A home of peace and joy.
No home on earth is like it,
Nor can with it compare :
For everyone is happy,
Nor can be happier there.

There are crowns for little children,
Above the bright blue sky :
And all who look to Jesus
Shall wear them by and by ;
Yea, crowns of brightest glory,
Which He shall sure bestow
On all who love the Saviour,
And walk with Him below.”



Prayer for a Sick Infant.

6.—*Prayer for a Sick Infant.*

COLLECT.

O, Almighty God, who out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast ordained strength, and madest infants to glorify Thee by their deaths ; mortify and kill all vices in us, and so strengthen us by Thy grace, that, by the innocency of our lives, and constancy of our faith even unto death, we may glorify Thy Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—AMEN.

PRAYER.

(From "Prayers and Offices of Devotion,"—by Rev. B. Jenks. Slightly altered and amended).

O God of the spirits of all flesh, the only Giver and Preserver of life: the smallest, as well as the greatest, are Thy work and Thy care. Though Thou art so great, yet Thou despisest not any. O, dear Lord, let Thy thoughts be full of pity and tender mercy to this poor sick child, for whose affliction we are now concerned: send him that relief and comfort from above, which Thou alone canst bestow. Either lighten the load, or increase the strength to bear it. Deal gently and graciously with him, good Lord, beyond what we are worthy to ask at Thy hands,—even for Thine own goodness and mercy sake. Spare him, O Father of mercies; and grant him ease and relief from his trouble: yea, make haste to deliver him, we beseech Thee. We beg the recovery of his health, O Heavenly Father, and the continuance of his life, should it be Thy gracious will to spare him. May he live, O God, to give Thee glory, and to do Thee service.

But, forasmuch as children are shapen in iniquity, and conceived in sin, and are, therefore, subject to death; if Thou art pleased, O Lord, to take this child away, O let it be in mercy. Prepare him for Thyself, that it may be his greatest gain to die; that he may be delivered from the miseries and dangers of a wicked world, and be made ripe and ready for Heaven and eternal glory.

A Prayer for a Sick Child.

Hear us, O merciful God and Father, through the merits and mediation of Thy beloved Son, our compassionate Redeemer; who, in infinite condescension, embraced young children,—taking them up in His arms, and blessing them. To Thy mercy in Him, O most gracious God, we commend this sick child, beseeching Thee to deal well by him, and to be good and kind by him: out of the riches of Thy grace, provide for him as Thou seest best, in life, and death, and for evermore. Grant this, O Lord, for Thy mercies' sake, in the same, Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.—AMEN.

A Prayer for a Sick Child.

(From the Order for the "Visitation of the Sick.")

O Almighty God, and merciful Father, to whom alone belong the issues of life and death; Look down from heaven, we humbly beseech Thee, with the eyes of mercy upon this child now lying upon the bed of sickness: visit *him*, O Lord, with Thy salvation; deliver *him* in Thy good appointed time from *his* bodily pain, and save *his* soul for Thy mercies' sake: That, if it shall be Thy pleasure to prolong *his* days here on earth, *he* may live to Thee, and be an instrument of Thy glory, by serving Thee faithfully, and doing good in *his* generation; or else receive *him* into those heavenly habitations, where the souls of them that sleep in the Lord Jesus enjoy perpetual rest and felicity. Grant this, O Lord, for Thy mercies' sake, in the same Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. AMEN.

Collects 26 and 27 may be added.

DEATH IN A FAMILY.

CHRISTIANS COMFORTED FOR THE LOSS OF FRIENDS.

“ Take comfort, Christians, when your friends
In Jesus fall asleep:
Their better being never ends,
Why then, dejected, weep ?

As Jesus died, and rose again
Victorious from the dead ;
So His disciples rise, and reign
With their triumphant Head.

A few short years of evil past,
We reach the happy shore ;
Where death-divided friends at last
Shall meet to part no more.”

Logan.

(7.—*Prayer on the occasion of a death in a Family.*)

Ever-living and unchanging God ! hear us while we call upon Thee ! We kneel at Thy Throne ; and we bow before Thee, in the presence of death ! “ Man dieth and wasteth away ; yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he ? ” Verily, there is but a step between us and death. O Lord, may we understand this : may all here assembled, with sorrowing hearts for the death of a dear one whom, in Thy providence Thou hast seen fit to remove from amongst us, be led at this solemn time, to consider *our* latter end. We, too, shall be carried to our burial.

Teach us, Lord, to know the measure of *our* days, what it is, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Lord ! when we come to die,—when we are called upon to walk through the valley of the shadow of death, may we fear no evil. Be Thou with us, and let Thy rod and staff com-

Death in a Family.

fort and support us. O Lord! redeem the souls of those who now bow before Thy throne from the power of the grave; and when our bodies shall return to their kindred dust, may we receive an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour.

O, gracious God, and Heavenly Father! when *we* come to die; when we have to grapple with the last enemy; when this world fades, as doth the leaf, may Jesus, Thy Son, be present in our death-chamber, to meet our wants, and quiet our fears. In that dread hour, when the flesh and the heart faileth, when we are called upon to quit this world of sin, to hear from the lips of the Judge our final sentence, may we, all of us, be able to trust in Jesus. May we, with our latest breath, be able to add, in faithful and affectionate dependence,—“Lord Jesus! receive my spirit!”

Heavenly Father! Thou hast given all power in heaven and on earth unto Jesus Christ, before whose judgment-seat we all shall stand! Help us, Lord, to ask ourselves, individually, the question,—“Are we ready, each of us, to appear before Him to give a faithful answer as to the deeds done in the body?” Have we come to Jesus with all our sins, and laid them in humble faith before the Cross of Him whose blood cleanseth from all sin? Have we forsaken our evil ways, and our unrighteous thoughts? and have we given our hearts and our future lives to Christ Jesus?

Gracious God! who willest not the death of a sinner, but that all should be converted and live, look upon all who now kneel before Thee. Is any soul still dead in trespasses and sins? Visit that slumbering soul, O God, ere it be too late to seek after Christ, that it may obtain peace and pardon. Let Thy voice be heard, even now, in this solemn chamber, saying to that dead soul, “Come forth and live!” O Lord! let us not be separated at the last! May love,—a love which casteth out fear,—a love which brings us often to the throne of grace,—an earnest, yearning love for Him “whose blood cleanseth from all sin,” be shed abroad in all our hearts by the Holy Ghost.

Jesus! our Redeemer! our Advocate! our Judge! We come to Thee, now! We come to Thee just as we

The Holy Communion.

are, with all our sins upon us! Blessed Saviour! make us wholly Thine. Wash all our sins away, and when we are called hence to meet Thee as our Judge, may we hear this blessed invitation proceed from Thy holy lips: "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world!" AMEN.

*

8.—Prayer on behalf of a Sick or Infirm Person about to take the Holy Communion.

Almighty God and most merciful Father, who art present everywhere, and more especially nigh unto all them that call upon Thee, even to all who call upon Thee in truth; we approach Thee on behalf of our brother, who humbly desireth, at this time, the presence of Thy Holy Spirit, that he may be enabled to perform an acceptable service unto Thee, through Christ Jesus.

Blessed be Thy holy Name, O Lord, that he feels such a desire. Blessed be Thy Name that he feels thus disposed. He cannot, for reasons which Thou knowest, wait upon Thee in Thy house, and at Thine altar, but he earnestly desireth to be permitted (once more) to keep and observe the Saviour's command,—His last dying request,—a request made to sinners, so earnestly the night before He suffered,—“THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.”

In memory of the love of a dying Saviour, and of His bitter sufferings,—in deep thankfulness for the happiness which our brother has secured from the terrible agony which the Redeemer went through to the very end, a sinner would (again) observe his Saviour's last earnest dying wish, as the best preparation for the Day of Judgment, and for the account which he will then be called upon to give. He would (again) present himself before

* Before using this Prayer as a whole, or in part, first read to the Sick Person the historical relation of the sufferings and death of our Blessed Redeemer, as recorded, part 1, chapter 11.

Prayer on behalf of a Sick or Infirm person

God, to plead the death and sufferings of His precious Son in this holy manner of His own appointment. He would (again) embrace such an opportunity as is here presented, to renew the baptismal covenant which he, on his part, has failed to keep;—to make his peace with God.

Lord, our brother would (again,) receive the pledges of his Saviour's love in this blessed sacrament,—this Holy Ordinance of His own appointment. He would (once more,) receive the Communion of the body and blood of the Redeemer as the pledge and earnest of a blessed resurrection, and of a life eternal through the shed blood of Him whose death is herein commemorated.

Lord, fill our dear brother with such a deep sense of Thy love in Christ Jesus,—with such joy in remembering what our blessed Saviour hath done and suffered for him, —with such delight in doing what He hath commanded him, that he may have the unspeakable happiness of believing in his heart that he dwelleth in Christ, and Christ in him,—that he is a joint heir with the Son of God to the Kingdom of Heaven.

*

Here the Minister may End this Prayer, and proceed direct to the Communion Service; or he may complete the Prayer, or begin (in the first instance) a new Prayer, as follows:

In obedience to Thy command, our Saviour and our God, we come, now, to eat of that bread and drink of that cup, which is designed to set Thee forth manifestly crucified before our eyes. O, teach us that we may come with a full knowledge of the nature and infinite value of Thy sacrifice. May we *all* feel our poverty and defilement, and draw nigh with a true heart, utterly rejecting every other way of salvation, which men naturally trust in; and placing all our hope in Thy Blood to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. We would come with unfeigned love designing to make a full surrender of ourselves to Thee, Thou Lord over all, and Head of the Church.

Thou wast pleased to forgive the woman who was an infamous sinner; and Thou didst bid her go in peace.

about to take the Holy Communion.

Thou didst declare the publican justified. Thou didst put away the sin of Peter who denied Thee with oaths and curses. Thou didst take up the crucified thief immediately into glory upon his turning to Thee for mercy.

In this feast, O Lord, lift up the light of Thy countenance upon us, and upon him for whom especially we pray, that he may know that he is justified by Thy blood. Give him an earnest desire to eat this Passover. Lift up, blessed Lord, the doors of his heart, that the King of Glory may come in. Come, Heavenly Jesus, and dwell in his heart by faith; and abide with his spirit to the latest hour of his life. O Lord, to whom shall we go but unto Thee, our Life, our Strength, and our Redeemer!—O God, who knowest the secrets of our hearts, teach us, and help us, in our communion with Thee now, and in our life and conversation after, to act as becometh the redeemed of the Lord, and living members of Jesus Christ.

Again, we would implore Thy blessing for our brother. When the outward and visible signs of Thy meritorious death are put into his hands, may he, by a true faith, eat Thy flesh and drink Thy blood, so as to find it meat indeed, and drink indeed, unto his soul: that he may dwell in Thee, and Thou in him, that he may know that he has eternal life, and that Thou wilt raise him up at the last day. And, O Lord, may Thy love for our souls, stronger than death, unite us all in love to each other, as members alike of Thy body, the Church. While we look upon Thee, the just suffering for the unjust, may every angry and selfish passion die away; and may brotherly love reign in our hearts, and be continually exercised with delight amongst us all.

And all the time we sojourn in the flesh, give us, by the power of Thy grace, to keep the feast upon Thee, our Passover, sacrificed for us, not with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Lord! grant these our prayers, for the glory of Thy Great Name. AMEN.

X.

“There is a fountain filled with blood,
Drawn from Immanuel’s veins;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day;
And there may I, as vile as he,
Wash all my sins away.”

A PRAYER OF INTERCESSION, TO BE USED AT THE
BEGINNING OF ANY SERIOUS ILLNESS, IN CASE OF
SUDDEN SURPRISE AND IMMEDIATE DANGER.

COLLECT.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves, keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER.

(From the American Prayer-Book.)

O Most Gracious Father, we fly unto Thee for mercy on behalf of this Thy servant here lying under the sudden visitation of Thine hand. If it be Thy will, preserve his life, that there may be place for repentance: but, if Thou hast otherwise appointed, let Thy mercy supply to him the want of the usual opportunity for the trimming of his lamp. Stir up in him such sorrow for sin, and such fervent love to Thee, as may, in a short time, do the work of many days: that, among the praises which Thy Saints and

Prayer in case of sudden surprise, and immediate danger.

Holy Angels shall sing to the honour of Thy mercy through eternal ages, it may be to Thy unspeakable glory that, Thou hast redeemed the soul of this Thy servant from eternal death, and made him partaker of the Everlasting Life, which is through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

(Then may be added,—those present joining.)

Turn Thou us, O good Lord, and so shall we be turned. Be favourable, O Lord, be favourable to Thy people who turn to Thee in weeping and in prayer. For Thou art a merciful God, full of compassion, long suffering, and of great pity. Thou sparest when we deserve punishment, and, in Thy wrath, thinkest upon mercy. Spare Thy people, good Lord, spare them, and let not Thine heritage be brought to confusion. Hear us, O Lord, for Thy mercy is great, and, after the multitude of Thy mercies, look upon us, through the merits and mediation of Thy blessed Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

Then the Minister alone shall say :

The Lord bless us, and keep us : the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon us and give us peace, now and for evermore. AMEN.

XI

“If sickness waste me to decay,
Let me with humble faith obey;
And teach Thy servant still to pray—
Thy will be done!”

A PRAYER TO BE USED FOR A PERSON SUFFERING
PAIN, OR DURING THE CONTINUANCE OF SICKNESS.

COLLECT.

Almighty and everlasting God, who, of Thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent Thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, to take upon Him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of His great humility; mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of His patience, and also be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.—Amen.

GENERAL PRAYER FOR THE SICK PERSON, AND FOR
ALL PRESENT AT THE VISITATION.

O Lord God, and most merciful Saviour and Redeemer, who hast promised that Thou wilt surely hear and answer the prayers of Thy faithful people; incline Thine ears, we humbly beseech Thee, to us who now cry unto Thee for help on behalf of this Thy servant grievously vexed with sickness: and, although we are not worthy of the least of all Thy mercies, yet of Thy great goodness, and for Thine own sake, grant our petition, and let our prayer prevail with Thee, to look favourably upon this our brother, and to raise him up from the sickness wherewith Thou hast afflicted him. If it seem good to Thee to restore him whole to Thy church, that he may lead the rest of his life in Thy fear and to Thy glory,—give him patience and

Prayer for a Person in pain, or during continued illness.

entire submission to Thy Fatherly will ; revive in him all those graces that are languishing and ready to die ; and howsoever Thou mayest see fit to deal with his body, grant that his soul may be sanctified by Thy Spirit, and precious in Thy sight. O Lord, possess his soul with an entire confidence in Thy mercy, and a thankful remembrance of all Thy former goodness and loving kindness ; and grant him Thy peace which passeth all understanding, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

And, O God, when days are without end, and when mercies cannot be numbered, make us, we beseech Thee, deeply sensible of the shortness and uncertainty of human life ; and let Thy Holy Spirit lead us through this vale of misery, in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives, that, when we shall have served Thee in our generation, we may be gathered unto our fathers, having the testimony of a good conscience,—in the communion of the church,—in the confidence of a certain faith,—in the comfort of a reasonable, religious and holy hope, in favour, with Thee our God,—and in perfect charity with the world : all which we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
—AMEN.

THE PENITENT'S LITANY TO JESUS.

O Lord God, the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but that he should rather be converted and live, have mercy upon us who call upon Thee!

O Lord Jesus, Son of God, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us who call upon Thee!

O Holy Ghost, sanctifier of the elect, who, with the Father and the Son art one God, have mercy upon us who call upon Thee!

O Holy, glorious and ever-blessed Trinity, who at the beginning didst create man in Thine own image and likeness; and then, by Thy great love didst redeem and restore him after his fall; hear us, and help us, we humbly beseech Thee, O God!

Divine Saviour, Jesus Christ, who camest Thyself upon earth to seek and to save the lost, and to call sinners to repentance; have mercy upon us!

Jesus, who hast declared that, except we repent, we shall perish everlastingly; have mercy upon us!

Jesus, who hast assured us that there is joy in Heaven over every sinner that repenteth; have mercy upon us!

O blessed Jesus, who didst receive publicans and sinners, in order to draw them to repentance; have mercy upon us!

O Thou who art The Good Shepherd, and Bishop of Souls, and who, by Thy parables of the lost sheep, and the prodigal son returning home to the bosom of his father, hast inspired sinners with confidence in Thy tender love; have mercy upon us!

By Thy Holy name of Jesus, whereby alone we have life and salvation; good Lord, deliver us!

By Thy Baptism in the river Jordan at the hands of Thy creature St. John; good Lord, deliver us!

By Thy fasting for forty days in the wilderness, and Thine endurance and overcoming of the temptations of Satan; good Lord, deliver us!

By Thy watchings, fastings, and prayers; by Thy

The Penitent's Litany to Jesus.

many miracles of mercy and loving kindness; by Thy Holy Ministry and teaching; and by all Thy sufferings endured from the day of Thy birth to the hour that Thy soul departed from the body; good Lord, deliver us!

By Thine agony and bloody sweat in the Garden of Olives; by Thy prayer three times prayed; by Thy cross and passion; by Thy precious death and burial; good Lord, deliver us!

By Thy glorious Resurrection from the dead; and by Thy wondrous Ascension into Heaven, in the light of chosen witnesses; good Lord, deliver us!

By Thy miraculous and comfortable sending forth of the Holy Ghost on Thine Apostles in the form of fiery tongues; good Lord, deliver us!

By Thy sending forth Thine Apostles to preach the gospel to every creature; and by Thy glorious promise to be with Thy Church always, even unto the end of the world; good Lord, deliver us!

From all evil and mischief; from all sin, and pride of heart, and contempt of Thy Word; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; from Thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation; good Lord, deliver us!

From all murmuring, impatience, or dejection of spirit; from over confidence, or from despair; from the dread of death, and from the bitter pains of DEATH ETERNAL: good Lord, deliver us!

That it may please Thee to hear us, and to intercede for us; to pour upon us, now, the spirit of supplication and grace; to create in us a new heart, and a new mind; to give us true repentance, and Thy Holy Spirit,—that we may amend our lives according to Thy Holy Word!

That, as we have been like the Prodigal in his sins, so we may be like him in his repentance.

That, as we are like lost sheep which have gone astray, so Thou, the Good Shepherd, wilt carry us back to the fold upon Thy shoulders!

That, as hitherto, we have served iniquity unto iniquity, so, henceforth, we may serve righteousness unto holiness!

That, like the prudent virgins in the Gospel, we may be always watchful, having our loins girded, and our lamps burning!

The Penitent's Litany to Jesus.

That Thou wilt not deal with us after our sins; but, according to the multitude of Thy mercies, have compassion upon us!

Son of God!—we beseech Thee to hear us!

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world; have mercy upon us!

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God, receive our prayer: and have mercy upon us!

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord; Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. AMEN.

Our Father, &c., &c., &c.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. AMEN.

XII.

PRAYERS TO BE USED IN THE CONVALESCENT CHAMBER OF ONE WHO, DURING A PREVIOUS ILLNESS, MADE PROMISES OF AMENDMENT OF LIFE, AND RESOLUTIONS OF REFORMATION FOR THE FUTURE.

“ I cannot call affliction sweet,
Yet it was good to bear:
Affliction brought me to Thy feet,
And I found comfort there.

My wearied soul was all resigned
To Thy most gracious will:
O, had I kept that better mind,
Or been afflicted still!

Lord, grant me grace for every day,
Whate'er my state may be,
Through life, in death, with truth to say,
‘ My God is all to me!’ ”

Montgomery.

PRAYER.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE BEGINNING OF A
RECOVERY.

(From the American Prayer Book.)

*

Great and Mighty God, who bringest down to the grave, and bringest up again; we bless Thy wonderful goodness in having turned our heaviness into joy, and our mourning into gladness, by restoring this our brother to some degree of his former health. Blessed be Thy name that Thou didst not forsake him in his sickness; but didst visit

* Read the 30th Psalm.

Thanksgiving after recovery from a perilous sickness.

him with comfort from above; didst support him in patience and submission to Thy will, and at last didst send him reasonable relief. Perfect, we beseech Thee, this Thy mercy towards him, and prosper the means which shall be made use of for his cure; that, being restored to health of body, vigour of mind, and cheerfulness of spirit, he may be able to go to Thine House to offer Thee an oblation with great gladness; and to bless Thy Holy Name for all Thy goodness towards him; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour, to whom, with Thee and The Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. AMEN.

THANKSGIVING AFTER RECOVERY FROM A PERILOUS
SICKNESS.

(From "The Soldier's Guide."—Slightly amended.)

*

Blessed Lord! who hast vouchsafed to prolong the life of an unworthy sinner, and to raise him from a bed of sickness, receive our humble and hearty thanks for Thy great and undeserved mercy to our brother, who, himself also, here desireth to give Thee the thanks of a grateful heart,—the first fruits of his returning strength,—for his safe deliverance from the perilous sickness through which he has lately passed. Unto Thee, O God, would he pay his vows; unto Thee he giveth thanks; for Thou hast delivered his soul from death, and his feet from falling, that he may walk before Thee in the land of the living. O, who can express the noble acts of the Lord; or shew forth all His praise. Our brothers strength will we ascribe unto Thee; for Thou art the God of our refuge.

O may he, with restored health, put off, through Thy help, the evil ways of his former life, and be renewed in the spirit of his mind; to which end strengthen him in all good resolutions, which, in his hour of trial and great

* (Read the 103rd Psalm.)

Thanksgiving after recovery from a severe illness.

danger, he may have formed of henceforth walking in Thy ways, and regulating his future conduct by Thy laws. O Lord, the Holy Spirit! Cherish those emotions of gratitude, which, in gratitude for his escape from great peril, arise within his bosom. Grant that the remembrance of it may not soon be blotted out; but that he may ever retain a lively sense of his late danger, and of Thy Heavenly protection, to the advancement of Thy Kingdom within his heart, and to Thine own honour and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And grant, O Lord, that when he is able to return to his usual occupation, he may not again be led away by the follies and vanities of life, which, while tottering on the brink of the grave, he could not do otherwise than see in their true and proper colours. May he, O Heavenly Father, ever view them in that light; and live from this time forth to the honour of Thy name, and the benefit of his own immortal soul, through Jesus Christ our Saviour, to whom be glory, now and for evermore. AMEN.

THANKSGIVING AFTER RECOVERY FROM A SEVERE
ILLNESS.

(From "The Cottager's Friend."—Altered and amended.)

*

O Almighty and most merciful God, to whom alone belong the issues of life and death, Thine unworthy servant, who has been under Thine afflicting hand, and who has, by Thy mercy, been raised from a bed of sickness, here desireth to present himself before Thee, and to return Thee thanks for all Thy goodness and mercy towards him. Thou hast chastened and corrected him; but Thou hast not given him over unto death. Whilst many have been taken away in the midst of their sins, Thou hast in mercy spared our dear brother. O Lord,

* (Read the 116th Psalm.)

Thanksgiving for the recovery of a sick friend.

give him a thankful heart, that he may praise Thee with joyful lips, and glorify Thy name for ever and ever.

And now, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to grant him the assistance of Thy blessed Spirit to enable him to live for the time to come, as he promised Thee he would do when he was in trouble. O, let him not forget or neglect any one of those serious vows and resolutions he made in the hour of his distress; but let him continue steadfastly resolved to serve Thee, with restored strength, more faithfully. Let this gracious warning, O Lord, which Thou hast lately given him, teach him how uncertain his abode is in this world. May he learn, from henceforth, so to live, that he may be always fit and prepared to die. May he so profit by Thy Fatherly correction, that he may spend the remainder of his life to Thy glory, and to the salvation of his own soul: and may his lamp be trimmed, and full of oil, and brightly burning, when the bridegroom cometh to call him hence. All this we humbly beg, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our blessed Saviour and Redeemer. AMEN.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE RECOVERY OF A SICK
FRIEND.

*

O, Almighty God, the Father of the Spirits of all flesh, the Creator of all things, we humbly thank Thee, that Thou hast heard the prayers of Thy servant, and our prayers on his behalf. He was brought low by Thy visitation; but Thou didst raise him from the gates of the grave: Thou didst deliver his soul from death, his eyes from tears, and his feet from falling. We bring to Thee, O Lord, in great humility, our most hearty thanks for Thy great kindness and mercy. O Lord, sanctify, we beseech Thee (to all the members of this family), the affliction that is passing away. Let not our hearts grow

* (Read the 145th Psalm.)

Prayer on behalf of an aged person.

cold towards Thee, in forgetfulness of Thy great mercy. May Thy servant, who is spared to us, remember the way through which Thou hast led him ; and may he live henceforth a life of holiness unto the Lord, a life of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, who loves him, and who gave Himself for him. O, enlarge his heart with thankfulness, and fill his mouth with praise, that his returns of love and duty may bear some proportion to Thy marvellous loving kindness and mercy.

And, O Lord, teach us, who join in this service of praise, a lesson that may be profitable to our souls. May we, too, be prepared for whatever Thou mayest be pleased to lay up in store for us. Whether we live, may we live unto the Lord, and, whether we die, may we die unto the Lord. Whether we live or die, may we be the Lord's. And grant, O Lord, we earnestly beseech Thee, that, when Thou shalt be pleased to call us hence, we may have a Home in the House of many mansions, a Home in which Jesus will receive us, a House not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens!

PRAYER ON BEHALF OF AN AGED PERSON.

Lord ! Thou hast been our refuge from one generation to another. Before the mountains were brought forth, or the earth and the sea were made, Thou art God from everlasting, and world without end. For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday, seeing that is past as a watch in the night. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our heart unto wisdom.

O Lord ! may Thy servant, on whose behalf we pray, apply his heart unto wisdom. O ! may he be wise ; may he understand this, that he may consider his latter end. May he remember that there is but a step between him and death. But, O God, though our brother walketh through the valley of the shadow of death, may he fear no evil. May Thy rod and staff comfort and support him. May he know and believe in his heart that our Redeemer

Prayer on behalf of an aged person.

liveth; and that He shall stand, at the latter day, upon the earth; and may he be fully persuaded, though worms shall destroy his body, yet that in his flesh he shall see God.

O Lord, grant that our aged brother may be fitted for Heaven before he leaves this earth; and that he may have peace with God through Jesus Christ, before he departeth hence into that state in which he must abide for ever. O Lord Jesus, make him ready to meet Thee at The coming, that Thine appearance at the day of judgment may be to him a matter of joy, and hope, and happy expectation.

O Lord, blessed Jesus! the Ransom, the Friend, the Brother of those who love Thee, and yet The Judge of all who have lived upon the earth! help this aged brother so to live, during the short time that Thou hast yet given him upon earth, as he shall wish he had lived, when he comes to die. May he *so* make ready, that when Thou the Son of Man comest, he may cheerfully resign his spirit into Thy gracious keeping.

O Jesus! our only Saviour! may this our brother, who must very soon appear before Thee as his Judge, trust in Thee, now, as his only Mediator and Advocate. May he love Thee as one who died to wash his sins away; and when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom to judge the world, may our brother be thought worthy to be a partaker of the marriage feast of the Lamb in Heaven. AMEN.

"I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH."

Job xix., 25.

(From Boosey's Sacred Musical Cabinet).

"I know that my Redeemer lives :
Oh, the sweet joy this knowledge gives !
He rose triumphant from the grave,
And lives eternally to save.

He lives to bless me with His love ;
He lives to plead for me above ;
To comfort me whene'er I faint,
And soothe my heaviest complaint.

He lives, that He may in me dwell,
And save me from the powers of Hell :
He lives, my mansion to prepare,
And He will bring me safely there.

He lives, my kind and constant Friend,
Who loves His own unto the end :
He lives ; and while He lives, I'll sing,
Thanks to my Prophet, Priest and King."



ALAS ! AND DID MY SAVIOUR BLEED ?

(Attributed to Isaac Smith). Irish C. M.

"Alas ! and did my Saviour bleed ?
And did my Sovereign die ?
Did He devote that sacred Head
For such a worm as I ?

Was it for sins that I had done
He groaned upon the tree ?
Amazing pity ! Grace unknown !
And love beyond degree !

Well might the sun in darkness hide,
And shut his glories in ;

When I Survey the wondrous Cross.

When God, the mighty Maker, died
For man, the creature's sin.

So be my boastings silenced too,
And humbled be my pride,
When faith holds out before my view
The Saviour crucified ! ”

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS.

Angel's Hymn. Dr. Croft. L. M.

“ When I survey the wondrous Cross
On which the King of Glory died,
All other gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the Cross of Christ, my God ;
Let all the things that charm me most
Be held inferior to His Blood.

See ! from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down !
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown ?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small :
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.”

ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME.

“ Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee :
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Save from wrath, and make me pure.

Come let us to the Lord our God, &c.

Nothing in my hand I bring ;
Simply to Thy Cross I cling ;
Naked, come to Thee for dress,
Helpless, look to Thee for grace :
Foul, I to the fountain fly ;
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyelids close in death ;
When I rise to worlds unknown.
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,—
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.” *W. H. Birch.*

“COME, LET US THE LORD, OUR GOD.”

“Come, let us to the Lord, our God,
With contrite hearts return ;
Our God is gracious, nor will leave
The desolate to mourn.

His voice commands the tempest forth,
And stills the stormy wave ;
And though His arm be strong to smite,
’Tis also strong to save.”

Logan.

“WHEN WOUNDED SORE, THE STRICKEN HEART.”

“When wounded sore, the stricken heart
Lies bleeding and unbound ;
One only hand,—a pierced hand,—
Can save the sinner’s wound.

Lift up Thy bleeding hand, O Lord,
Unseal that cleansing tide ;
We have no shelter from our sin,
But in Thy wounded side.”

“WHEN SORROW SWELLS THE LADEN BREAST.”

“When sorrow swells the laden breast,
And tears of anguish flow ;
One only heart,—a broken heart,—
Can feel the sinner’s woe.

’Tis Jesus’ blood that washes white,—
His hand that brings relief :
His heart is touched with all our joys,
And feels for all our grief.”

“I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY.”

“I heard the voice of Jesus say,
‘Come unto Me and rest :
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
Thy head upon My breast.’

I came to Jesus as I was,
Weary, and worn, and sad ;
I found in Him a resting place,
And He has made me glad.”

THE HEAVENLY REST.

“There is an hour of peaceful rest,
To mourning wanderers given :
There is a tear for souls distressed,—
A balm for every wounded breast,—
’Tis found above in Heaven !

There fragrant flowers immortal bloom,
And joys supreme are given :
There rays divine disperse the gloom :
Beyond the confines of the tomb
Appears the dawn of Heaven !”

Tappan.

“BY GRACE YE ARE SAVED.”

—Ephes. ii., 5.

“Grace! ’Tis a charming sound,
Harmonious to the ear;
Heaven with the echo shall resound,
And all the earth shall hear!

Grace taught our wandering feet
To tread the heavenly road;
And fresh supplies each hour to meet,
While travelling home to God!

Grace all the work shall crown,
Of everlasting love;
And raise us, with the Lamb of God,
To His own throne above.” *Doddridge.*

THE NAME OF JESUS.

“There is a Name I love to hear;
I love to speak its worth:
It sounds like music on mine ear,
The sweetest name on earth.

It tells me of a Saviour’s love,
Who died to set me free:
It tells me of His precious blood,
The sinner’s perfect plea.

It tells of One whose loving heart
Can feel my deepest woe;
Who, in my sorrow, bears a part,
Which none can bear below.

It bids my trembling soul rejoice;
It dries each rising fear:
It tells me, in a still small voice,
To trust, and not to fear.

This Name shall shed its fragrance still
Along the thorny road;

The Name of Jesus.

Shall sweetly smooth the rugged hill
That leads me up to God.

And there, with all the blood-bought throng,
From sin and sorrow free,
I'll sing the new eternal song,
Of Jesus' love for me.

THE
GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM.

PART III.

**PRAYERS TO OPEN A SUNDAY SCHOOL ; AND
TO CLOSE THE SAME ; AND
COLLECTS,**

taken from the Book of Common Prayer, so arranged in chapters, that any three or four, or any single chapter, may form an appropriate Prayer to open or close a Sunday School.

The Collects are also so arranged and numbered, as to be readily found and appropriately used with any of the Prayers in this Manual.

**CONCLUDING COLLECTS,
THE LORD'S PRAYER ; AND FORMS OF BENEDICTION,**
which may be used by Catechists, and Persons not in Holy Orders.

PRAYERS TO OPEN A SUNDAY SCHOOL: AND
TO CLOSE THE SAME.

“HARK! WHAT MEAN THOSE HOLY VOICES?”

“Hark! what mean those holy voices,
Sweetly sounding through the skies?
Lo! the angelic host rejoices;
Heavenly hallelujahs rise.

Listen to the wondrous story,
Which they chant in hymns of joy:
‘Glory in the highest! Glory!—
Glory be to God most high!’

Peace on earth! good will from Heaven!—
Reaching far as man—is found:
Souls redeemed, and sins forgiven;
Loud our golden harps shall sound.

Christ is born—the Heaven appointed;
Heaven and earth His praises sing;
O, receive the great Anointed,
For your Prophet, Priest and King!

Sons of men, repeat the story;
Sing the gladness of His birth;—
Spread the brightness of His glory,
Till it cover all the earth.”

Carwood.

I.—PRAYER TO OPEN A SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lord of all power and might! The Father of our Spirits,
he framer of our bodies; the giver of every good and

Prayer to Open a Sunday School.

perfect gift,—of life and breath,—of health and strength,—of food and raiment,—of blessings temporal and spiritual,—culminating in a crown of eternal life: we praise and bless, we laud and magnify Thy Holy Name; and we tender unto Thee, on this Sabbath morn, the humble homage of our hearts and lips, for the bestowal and continuance of all these Thy mercies, countless as the sand.

We especially praise Thee for the institution of the Sabbath, an appointment Thou didst ordain for the benefit of man, from the creation of the world; when Thou, O Heavenly Father, having beheld all things which Thou hadst made, and pronounced them to be very good, didst rest on the Sabbath-day,—didst bless and sanctify it.

Thou didst make this Sabbath for man. Thou didst provide this rest for the weary body, doomed by Thy just judgment to live by the sweat of its brow;—this rest for the destitute soul, weary from the anxiety and worry of all the absorbing cares of life. Thou didst separate this portion of time, and sanctify it to Thyself, that man might find in Thee that rest and peace which the world cannot give. According to Thine invitation which says,—“Seek ye My Face,”—our hearts would respond—Thy face, O Lord, we will seek. Even now, in this Sabbath-School, we would seek Heavenly instruction out of Thy Holy Word,—that Word which shall judge us at the last day,—that wisdom from above, which is “first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy;” —a wisdom profitable for us both for time and for eternity.

We would seek, O Lord, the opening of our understandings, that we may understand the Scriptures; the increase of our faith, hope, and love that we may be profitable servants. O, grant us, this day, a portion of that knowledge that maketh wise unto salvation. Lord, bless the members of this Sabbath-School,—the adult and the child,—the teachers and the taught. Let them labour to enter into the rest that remaineth for the people of God. May they hold fast the beginning of their confidence steadfast unto the end. Let their feet ever stand in the gates of Jerusalem, whither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the

Prayer to Close a Sunday School.

Lord, to testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.

Let the dew of Thy blessing, Lord, rest on the labours of this day, and make glad the hearts of all that are present. Endue us with Thy Holy Spirit; enrich us with Thy Heavenly grace; prosper us with all happiness; and finally bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

TO CLOSE A SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

O Lord God, the high and lofty One that inhabitest eternity; whose name is Holy; who dost, from Thy high and holy place, behold all the dwellers upon earth, and, in Thy condescension, dost promise to all those who, with humble and contrite hearts, draw nigh to Thee, that Thou wilt draw nigh unto them; and that everyone who remembereth the Sabbath to keep it holy shall be made joyful in Thy House of Prayer: we beseech Thee mercifully to behold us who have cried unto Thee for help, that we may increase in spiritual knowledge, and be strengthened with might by Thy Spirit in the inner man.

Give us, blessed Lord, such a portion of Thy grace as may fit us, faithfully and uprightly, to discharge the various duties of our several stations during the new portion of our time on which we have entered; and grant that, having commenced the first day of the week in seeking Thy favour and blessing, we may continue it, and end it in Thy fear and love. Ever placing Jesus before us as our wisdom and righteousness, sanctification and redemption, may we pass the time of our sojourning here in Thy fear. May we depart from all evil and do good. May we ever commit our ways unto Thee, and ever consider our latter end; for, yet a little while, and our place shall know us no more for ever. We must depart hence, and be no more seen.

*

Prayer to Close a Sunday School.

Teach us, O Lord, so to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Let us labour earnestly for the meat that perisheth not, and for the riches that endure for ever ; whilst the daylight lasts let us seek those treasures which are above—where Christ sitteth at the right hand of God—before the hours of darkness come, when no man can work.

Fashion our hearts, blessed Lord, and mould them according to Thy Holy will. Give Thy blessing to all Thy servants, the members of this Sabbath-school. (*Go with them hence to Thy House of Prayer*). Let Thine eye be upon them for good. Let Thy gracious arm be their protection, shield, and buckler. Be ever unto them a very present help in every time of trouble. Let them receive with meekness the engrafted word which is able to save their souls.

And now dismiss us with Thy blessing, and be gracious unto Thy servants. Let the glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us. Prosper Thou the work of our hands upon us ; O prosper Thou our handiwork.

Hear our prayer, O God, and let our cry come unto Thee, for Jesus Christ's sake. AMEN.

“THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST CLEANSETH FROM ALL
SIN.”—1 John, i. 7.

“My dear Redeemer, and my God,
Fountain for guilt and sin!
Sprinkle me ever with Thy blood,
And cleanse and make me clean.

Wash me, and make me thus Thine own;
Wash me, for mine Thou art:
Wash me, but not my feet alone,—
My hands, my head, my heart.

The atonement of Thy blood apply,
Till faith to sight improve;
Till hope shall in fruition die,
And all my soul be love.

For ever here my rest shall be,
Close to Thy bleeding side:
’Tis all my hope, and all my plea,—
‘For me the Saviour died!’”

II.

PRAYER TO OPEN A SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

Almighty God! we praise Thee that Thou hast brought us to Thy day. In it we see Thy goodness to our souls and bodies. Bless the Lord, O our souls, and all that is within us bless His Holy Name! We praise Thee for this, and all Thy mercies to us in Christ Jesus.

O God, suffer us not, this day, to draw near to Thee with our lips, while our hearts are far from Thee. May we never neglect Thy holy day, or be cold and lukewarm in Thy service. In public and in private, give us grace to serve Thee in spirit and in truth. There has been much of wrong in our past Sabbaths. O pardon us for this, and

Prayer to Open a Sunday School.

make Thy day more blessed to us than any we have ever spent.

We ask Thee, by the help of Thy Holy Spirit, to bless to us, and to those who worship with us, the preaching of Thy word. Bless the Church to which we belong. Make it the means in Thy hands of leading many to Jesus. Bless all the ministers of Thy Word—(especially the Pastor whom Thou hast graciously set over ourselves. Bless him in himself; bless his family, and bless his work in and amongst us.)

Look down in mercy upon all who teach in this Sunday-school. In teaching others may they themselves be taught of Thee. Give them aptness to instruct, and gentleness to win. Grant them needful grace to show the children the path to heaven, and let them walk in it themselves. Enable them to pray in faith, and to labour in faith; and give them, here and everywhere, to see the fruit of their labour.

We pray for all who are taught in this Sunday-school. Let Thy good spirit guide them into the way of truth. Help them to keep in mind what they hear,—to guide their words, and rule their actions in obedience to the same; and may they come to Jesus with childlike faith to wash all their sins away in His most precious blood. And, finally, grant that, wherever Thy Gospel is preached this day, at home, or elsewhere, many hard hearts may be softened, and many sinners be brought into the fold.

O, answer us in the riches of Thy goodness, for Jesus Christ's sake. AMEN.

TO CLOSE A SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

Lord! Thy service is ended. Praise be to Thee for all its mercies and benefits! Of Thy great mercy, grant us pardon for all its failings. How stained with evil are our holiest services! How cold have been our prayers; how wandering our thoughts; how dead and faithless our souls! But Thou art a God that pardoneth sin. Thou hast told us to take refuge in Jesus, and that in Him Thou wilt be

Prayer to Close a Sunday School.

gracious to us: in humble trust in Thy word would we obey.

Write upon our hearts the holy truths which we *shall hear* (or, *have heard*), in Thy house; and may we be enabled to carry them into practice in our lives. [*Here a special petition, having reference to the leading subject of Sunday-school teaching for the day, may be introduced.*] May we be not only hearers, but doers of Thy will; and may we show, by our lives, conduct, and conversation, that Thy word has not been spoken in vain. Grant that what we have heard to-day may abide with us.

Pardon those who have been wilfully absent from (*Church and*) school this day. Pity those children who are living in ignorance and sin. Look in mercy on any dear to us who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any adversity—(especially——— who desires our prayers). Bless our parents, brothers, sisters, friends, and neighbours: may they seek Thee here, AND NOW keep us, during the week on which we have entered, from pride and anger,—idleness and selfishness. May we come to Thee for strength to resist every temptation.

Pour Thy Spirit upon us, old and young, rich and poor, ministers and congregations, in this place, and throughout the world, for the conversion of souls, and the enlargement of Thy kingdom.

Dismiss us, Lord, with Thy blessing, for Jesus Christ's sake. AMEN.

MAKE ME A NEW HEART AND A NEW SPIRIT.

“ O for a heart to love my God ;
A heart from sin set free ;
A heart that always feels the blood
So freely shed for me !

A heart resigned, submissive, meek,
My dear Redeemer's throne ;
Where only Christ is heard to speak,
Where Jesus reigns alone.

A lowly and believing heart,
Abhorring self and sin ;
A constant heart, which naught can part,
From Christ who dwells within.

A child-like heart, that cries for food,
And pines for love Divine ;
An upright heart, by grace renewed ;
A copy, Lord, of Thine ! ”

III.

PRAYER TO OPEN A SUNDAY-SCHOOL.*

O, our merciful Father !—we, Thy sinful children, kneel before Thee this morning to thank Thee for Thy wonderful love in sending Thine only Son, Jesus Christ, to become man for our redemption. What gratitude,

* NOTE.—The compiler is indebted for the thoughts and words embodied in this and the companion prayer, chiefly to some of the prayers in that excellent manual, “The Teachers' Note Book.”

what love should fill our hearts when we think of Jesus, Thine only, Thy well beloved Son, descending from Heaven,—taking upon Him the form of a servant,—being made in the likeness of man.

Help us, O Lord, to ponder these things in our hearts, and to adore Thee more and more. Especially we would ask that all here present may partake of the salvation which Jesus wrought. Open their hearts to listen to the glad tidings of great joy; and may they rest not, till they have found the Lord. Enable us to look at Jesus, not only as being present with those who worship at His footstool, but as now, at Thy right hand, *pleading for* those who love Him. Grant that we may know Him as a tender friend who feels for us in pain, sorrow, want, temptation,—and in all our distresses; and help us gladly to commit our immortal souls to Him who was born to save the souls of sinners,—and who lived and died, that those who love Him might die to live with him for evermore.

*

O Lord Almighty! Our Heavenly Father! God in Heaven above, and in the earth beneath, what thanks shall we, Thy sinful creatures, render for Thy great mercy in giving Thine only Son to die for our redemption. We bless Thee that Jesus was in this world, and that He suffered to bring us to Thee. We might well be afraid, in our own sinfulness, to come unto Thee; but we come in the Name of Him who is infinitely worthy,—and we ask Thee to permit us to approach Thee in the Name of Thy Son, our blessed Redeemer.

Merciful and gracious Father, rouse all here, both teachers and children, to a hearty and sincere repentance. Grant that, now, the children, in the days of their youth and health, may come to Him, who, alone, can wash their sins away. Constrain them to follow Christ, to take up their daily cross with meekness and humility; to bear mockings and reproaches for His sake; and willingly to renounce the world, and all these sins which brought Him to such a depth of woe. Heavenly Father!—Thou hast promised to hear the petitions of them that ask in Thy

General Prayer.

Son's Name : hearken unto us, *now*, we beseech Thee, and grant our requests, for His most blessed sake. AMEN.

GENERAL PRAYER, TO OPEN OR CLOSE A SUNDAY-SCHOOL, OR FOR USE IN A SICK CHAMBER, OR IN HOSPITAL, OR IN THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

O merciful Saviour and Redeemer ! Thou Shepherd of our souls, we, poor sinful creatures, bow the knee before Thee, and earnestly supplicate Thy blessing. We confess that we are unworthy to ask aught of Thee, for we have gone astray, like lost sheep. Thou mightest justly leave us to ourselves ; but we know that Thou art full of tenderness, and compassion, and love. For us, poor sinners, Thou didst lay down Thy life, Thou didst bear our griefs, and carry our sorrows. Thou wast wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities ; and by Thy stripes we are healed. This, Thy great love, encourages us to cast ourselves, just as we are, upon Thy mercy ; and humbly to pray that Thou wilt blot out of Thy remembrance all our past sins and provocations, and that Thou wilt work in our hearts a godly sorrow and a true repentance.

Jesus ! blessed Saviour ! Thou art the true Mediator between God and man. Thou art, indeed, God. Thou sittest with Thy Father on His Throne ; and at Thy feet the angels cry aloud,—“Holy, holy, holy,—Lord God of hosts !” But Thou art man also. Thou didst come into the world to save sinners. All praise and love be to Thee, Lord Jesus ! For all our sins ; for the sins of the whole world, Thou hast made full satisfaction. In Thy name we come to the Throne of Grace. O, blessed Saviour ! plead for us, that we may be pardoned ; plead for us that we may be blessed.

Be with us, dear Lord and Master, during our pilgrimage here : and when we come to the valley of the shadow of death, and our flesh and our heart fail, oh, strengthen

General Prayer.

us for the last conflict. Comfort and support us through weakness and suffering; and at length place us within that Heavenly fold where we shall go no more out, but ever join Thy ransomed people in singing praises to Him who bought us with His blood. Grant these our petitions, most merciful Saviour, for Thine own name's sake.

AMEN.

“THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD, I SHALL NOT WANT.”
Psalm xxiii.

“The Lord’s my Shepherd, I’ll not want
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green: He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again:
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
Even for His own Name’s sake.

Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale,
Yet will I fear none ill:
For Thou art with me; and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

Goodness and mercy, all my life,
Shall surely follow me;
And in God’s House, for evermore,
My dwelling-place shall be.”

Sternhold.

IV.

PRAYER TO OPEN A SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

O, Lord Jesus Christ! Who, in the days of Thy childhood here upon earth, didst visit Thy Father’s House, and sit among the doctors, “both hearing them and asking them questions,” teaching us thereby the great value of training the young to walk in the ways of Thy laws, and the works of Thy commandments; may Thy presence be with us to-day; and may Thy blessing rest upon the work, which we are now about to engage in.

O, Heavenly Father! we feel our weakness. We con-

Prayer to Open a Sunday School.

ness before Thee all our sins. We acknowledge that our best actions, when brought into the light of Thy holiness and truth, are poor and feeble, and sinful. Yet Thou hast graciously invited us to be fellow workers with Thee in making known Thy will to sinners, and in spreading Thy blessed Gospel through the world.

Give, O Lord, unto the teachers in this school that gift which Thou hast promised to all who ask for it in faith, even Thy Holy Spirit. Grant that He may give them understanding hearts, and that, by His teaching, their minds may be filled with treasures from the storehouse of Thy Divine Word.

Grant, O Lord, that, with humility and earnestness, they may lead Thy children into the full knowledge of Jesus Christ whom to know is LIFE ETERNAL. May they feel in their own hearts the exceeding love of Jesus in dying for sinners; and, out of the fulness of this knowledge, may they teach others to know Him and the power of His Resurrection.

We also pray Thee, O Father, to give unto the children grace, that they may receive with meekness the engrafted word which is able to save their souls. May the lessons we teach them be, by Thy Holy Spirit, written in their hearts so that, in years to come, they may bring forth the fruits of good living, to the honour and glory of Thy Holy Name.

O Lord! Hear this our imperfect prayer, which we offer unto Thee in the Name, and through the merits of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. AMEN.

TO CLOSE A SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Almighty God! Bless, we beseech Thee, the instruction given to Thy children in our Sunday School to day. May the lessons, taken from Thy Holy Word, be so impressed upon their hearts, that they may see their own sinfulness, and their need of a Saviour: and may they be led to love

Prayer to Close a Sunday School.

Thee for all Thy goodness and mercy vouchsafed unto them.

Lord! Thou wilt not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his sin, and be saved. Give, then, such success to the preaching of Thy Gospel this day, that many souls now sleeping the sleep of sin, and lying in darkness and in the shadow of death, may be aroused and awakened, and come to the fountain which Thou hast opened for sin, and for uncleanness.

Look mercifully upon us, O Lord; and, if Thou seest any careless and thoughtless ones, who are disobedient unto Thy Word, and hearken not to Thy voice, arouse them by the call of Thy Holy Spirit: Speak with that "still small voice" to their consciences; and let them at once flee for refuge to lay hold upon the hopes set before them in the Gospel.

*

O, Lord Jesus Christ!—Thou didst come to seek and to save the lost, and to lead them safe back to thy Father's home!—Grant, blessed Lord, that we may never doubt this Thy love; but thankfully cast ourselves upon it and live in its light and strength.

Look upon us, O, our precious Redeemer! and if Thou see any, who, like Samuel and Timothy, have known and loved Thee from childhood, keep them, we beseech Thee, from the snares and temptations that surround them on all sides, from the crafts and deceits of the devil, and from the evil tendencies of their own hearts. Give them grace to live and walk in the Spirit; and keep them safe under Thy protection, until they come to Thy eternal and everlasting kingdom.

All these blessings we ask of Thee, O Heavenly Father, through the merits of our ever blessed Saviour and Redeemer, Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

COLLECTS

AND

FORMS OF BENEDICTION.

“THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE.”

“Thou art **THE WAY!** by Thee alone
From sin and death we flee;
And he who would The Father seek,
Must seek Him, Lord, by Thee.

Thou art **THE TRUTH!** Thy word alone
True wisdom can impart:
Thou only canst instruct the mind,
And purify the heart.

Thou art **THE LIFE!** The rending tomb
Proclaims Thy conquering arm;
And those who put their trust in Thee,
No death nor hell can harm.

Thou art ‘**THE WAY, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE!**’
Grant us that **WAY** to know;
That **TRUTH** to keep, that **LIFE** to win,
Whose joys eternal flow.”

NOTE

Each chapter of Collects, along with the accompanying piece of Sacred Poetry, will be found to form appropriate devotional exercises at the opening or closing of a Sunday School. The use of one Collect at a time, and the reading of a verse of Sacred Poetry, may often give much consolation to a sick person, during intervals, when there is freedom from pain. It should be borne in mind that a person, suffering in body or mind, cannot fix his attention beyond a limited period.

COLLECTS ARRANGED IN NINE CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.

“ Jesus is The Name we treasure,
Name beyond what words can tell ;
Name of gladness, Name of pleasure,
Ear and heart delighting well :
Name of sweetness, passing measure,
Saving us from sin and hell ! ”

Collects 1, 2, 3, 4.

1. O God, who declarest Thy Almighty power most chiefly in shewing mercy and pity, mercifully grant unto us such a measure of Thy grace, that we, running the way of Thy commandments, may obtain Thy gracious promises, and be made partakers of Thy Heavenly treasure ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

2. O Lord, we beseech Thee favourably to hear the prayers of Thy people ; that we, who are justly punished for our offences, may be mercifully delivered by Thy goodness, for the glory of Thy name ; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. AMEN.

3. O Lord, we beseech Thee mercifully to receive the prayers of Thy people which call upon Thee ; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

4. Almighty God, who calledst Luke the Physician,

Collects, 1, 2, 3, 4.

whose praise is in the gospel, to be an Evangelist and Physician of the soul; may it please Thee that, by the wholesome medicine of the doctrine delivered by him, all the disease of our souls may be healed; through the merits of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

NOTE—Each chapter of collects will be found to form a beautiful and appropriate prayer, for use in the family circle.

CHAPTER II.

CHRIST PRECIOUS.

“ Jesus ! I love Thy charming Name ;
’Tis music to mine ear :
Fain would I sound it out so loud,
That earth and heaven might hear.

Yes, Thou art precious to my soul,
My transport and my trust :
Jewels, compared with Thee, are toys ;
And gold is sordid dust.

I’ll speak the honours of Thy name,
With my last labouring breath ;
And, dying, clasp Thee in my arms,
The antidote of death ! ”

Collects 5, 6, 7, 8.

5. Almighty God, who hast given us Thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon Him, and to be born of a pure virgin ; grant that we, being regenerate, and made Thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by Thy Holy Spirit : through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. AMEN.

6. O God, whose never-failing providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth ; we humbly besech Thee to put away from us all hurtful things, and to give us those things which be profitable for us ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

Collects, 5, 6, 7, 8.

7. O God, whose nature and property is ever to have mercy and to forgive, receive our humble petitions ; and, though we be tied and bound with the chain of our sins, yet let the pitifulness of Thy great mercy loose us ; for the honour of Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Advocate. **AMEN.**

8. O Lord, we beseech Thee mercifully to hear, and grant that we to whom Thou hast given an hearty desire to pray, may, by Thy mighty aid, be defended and comforted in all dangers and adversities ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

CHAPTER III.

THE GOSPEL INVITATION.

“ Oh ! ye that thirst, approach the spring
Where living waters flow :
Free, to that sacred fountain, all
Without a price may go !

Seek ye the Lord, while yet His ear
Is open to your call :
While offered mercy still is near,
Before His footstool fall !

Let sinners quit their evil ways,
Their evil thoughts forego ;
And God, when they to Him return,
Abounding grace will shew.”

Logan.

Collects *9, 10, 11, 12.

9. O Lord Jesus Christ, who, at Thy first coming, didst send Thy messenger to prepare Thy way before Thee, grant that the ministers and stewards of Thy mysteries may, likewise, so prepare and make ready Thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that, at Thy second coming to judge the world, we may be found an acceptable people in Thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **AMEN.**

10. O God, who, through the preaching of the blessed apostle, St. Paul, hast caused the light of the gospel to

* This Collect should only be used by one in Holy Orders.

shine throughout the world ; grant, we beseech Thee, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show forth our thankfulness unto Thee for the same, by following the holy doctrine which He taught ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

11. Almighty God, who shewest to them that be in error the light of Thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness ; grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may eschew those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same ; through our Lord Jesus Christ. AMEN.

12. O Lord, from whom all good things do come, grant unto us Thy humble servants, that, by Thy holy inspiration, we may think those things that be good, and, by Thy merciful guiding, may perform the same ; through our Lord Jesus Christ. AMEN.

CHAPTER IV.

FAITH IN THE REDEEMER ENCOURAGED.

“ Approach, my soul, the mercy-seat,
Where Jesus answers prayer ;
And humbly fall before His feet,
For none can perish there.

Be Thou my shield and hiding-place,
That, sheltered near Thy side,
My fierce accuser I may face,
And tell him Thou hast died !

O wondrous love, to bleed and die !
To bear the cross and shame !
That guilty sinners such as I,
Might plead Thy gracious Name.

Collects, 13, 14, 15, 16.

13. Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that Thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts ; that we, worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of Thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

14. Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire, or deserve ; pour down upon us the abundance of Thy mercy ; forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those *good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through*

Collects, 13, 14, 15, 16.

the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. AMEN.

15. O God, forasmuch as without Thee we are not able to please Thee; mercifully grant that Thy Holy Spirit may, in all things, direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

16. Grant, we beseech Thee, merciful Lord, to Thy faithful people, pardon and peace; that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve Thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

CHAPTER V.

THE DEATH OF OUR SAVIOUR.

“ Behold the Saviour on the Cross,
A spectacle of woe !
See, from His agonizing wounds
The blood, incessant, flow !

‘Tis finished ! ’ was His latest voice :
These sacred accents o’er ;
He bowed His head, gave up the ghost,
And suffered pain no more.

‘Tis finished ! ’ The Messiah died
For sins, but not His own !
The great redemption is complete,
And Satan’s power o’erthrown ! ”

Collects, 17, 18, 19.

17. Almighty God ! Give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now, in the time of this mortal life, in which Thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility ; that, in the last day, when He shall come again in His glorious Majesty to judge both the quick and dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through Him who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. AMEN.

18. O Lord, raise up, we pray Thee, Thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us ; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, Thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and

Collects, 17, 18, 19.

deliver us ; through the satisfaction of Thy Son, Our Lord, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be honour and glory, world without end. AMEN.

19. Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities ; and, in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth Thy right hand to help and defend us ; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. AMEN.

CHAPTER VI.

“ I LOVE TO THINK OF JESUS.”

“ I love to think of Jesus, 'mid all my anxious cares ;
I love to lean on Jesus, for He my burden bears :
I love to walk with Jesus, close to His loving side :
And see the wounds of Jesus, and know for me He died !

I love to ask of Jesus to keep me pure within ;
And hear the voice of Jesus, that pardons all my sin :
I love to sing of Jesus, of all, the sweetest Name !
The dying love of Jesus, to all around proclaim.

I lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God !
He bears them all, and frees us from the accursed load :
I bring my guilt to Jesus, to wash my crimson stains,
White in His blood most precious, till not a spot remains.”

Collects, 20, 21, 22, 23.

20. O God ! the strength of all that put their trust in Thee ; mercifully accept our prayers ; and because, through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without Thee, grant us the help of Thy grace, that, in keeping of Thy commandments, we may please Thee, both in will and deed ; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.—
AMEN.

21. O God, who hast prepared for them that love Thee such good things as pass man's understanding, pour into our hearts such love towards Thee, that we, loving Thee above all things, may obtain all Thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire ; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord **AMEN.**

Collects, 20, 21, 22, 23.

22. Lord of all power and might, who art the Author and Giver of all good things ; grant in our hearts the love of Thy Name ; increase in us true religion : nourish us with all goodness : and, of Thy great mercy, keep us in the same ; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. AMEN.

23. O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life ; grant us perfectly to know Thy Son, Jesus Christ, to be the way, the truth, and the life : that, following the steps of Thy Holy Apostles, we may stedfastly walk in the way that leadeth to eternal life ; through the same, Thy Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord. AMEN.

CHAPTER VII.

“ See Jesus stands with open arms !
He calls ! He bids you come !
Guilt holds you back, and fear alarms :
But see ! There yet is room !

Room in the Saviour’s bleeding heart !
There love and pity meet :
Nor will He bid the soul depart,
That trembles at His feet.

In Him, the Father, reconciled,
Invites your souls to come !
The rebel shall be called a child,
And kindly welcomed home.”

Collects, 24, 25, 26, 27

24. O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that He might destroy the works of the Devil, and make us the Sons of God, and heirs of eternal life ; grant us, we beseech Thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves, even as He is pure ; that, when He shall appear again, with power and great glory, we may be made like unto Him in His eternal and glorious Kingdom, where, with Thee, O Father, and Thee, O Holy Ghost, He liveth and reigneth, ever, one God, world without end. AMEN.

25. Grant, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, that, like as we do believe Thy only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to have ascended into the Heavens ; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with Him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. AMEN.

26. O God, the King of Glory, who hast exalted Thy only Son, Jesus Christ, with great triumph unto Thy Kingdom in Heaven; we beseech Thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us Thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. AMEN.

27. O God, the protector of all that trust in Thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; increase and multiply upon us Thy mercy; that Thou, being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we finally lose not the things eternal: grant this, O Heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our Lord.

AMEN.

CHAPTER VIII.

“ Salvation! O, the joyful sound!—
’Tis music to our ears;
A sovereign balm for every wound,
A cordial for our fears!

Salvation! O Thou bleeding Lamb!—
To Thee the praise belongs!
Salvation shall inspire our hearts,
And animate our songs.

Salvation!—Let the echo fly
The spacious earth around!
While all the armies of the sky
Conspire to raise the sound!”

Watts.

Collects, 28, 29, 30, 31.

28. We beseech Thee, O Lord, pour Thy grace into our hearts; that, as we have known Thy Son Jesus Christ, by the message of an angel, so, by His Cross and Passion, we may be brought unto the glory of His resurrection: through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

29. O Almighty God, who hast built Thy Church upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the head corner-stone; grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made an holy temple, acceptable unto Thee; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

30. O everlasting God, who hast ordained and constituted the services of Angels and men in a wonderful order,

mercifully grant that, as Thy holy Angels always do Thee service in Heaven, so, by Thy appointment, they may succour and defend us on earth ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

31. Grant, O Lord, that, as we are baptized into the death of Thy blessed Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, so by continually mortifying our corrupt affections, we may be buried with Him ; and that, through the grave and the gate of death, we may pass to our joyful resurrection ; for His merits, who died and was buried, and rose again for us, Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

CHAPTER IX.

FAMILY WORSHIP.

“ Yes! It is good to worship Thee,—
To tread Thy courts, O Lord!
To raise the voice,—to bend the knee,—
To hear Thy Holy Word!

How sweet, when every voice is heard,—
The aged and the young!
Sweeter, when every soul is stirred
To feel what we have sung!

But, oh! if songs like ours be sweet,
How sweet that song must be,
When all the ransomed ones shall meet,
From sin and sorrow free!”

Collects, 32, 33, 34.

Almighty God, who, through Thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life, we humbly beseech Thee, that, as by Thy special grace preventing us, Thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by Thy continual help, we may bring the same to good effect; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. AMEN.

33. O God, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that, by reason of the frailty of our nature, we cannot always stand upright; grant unto us such strength and protection, as may support us in all

Collects, 32, 33, 34.

dangers, and carry us through all temptations ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

34. O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men ; grant unto Thy people that they may love the thing which Thou commandest, and desire that which Thou dost promise ; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

CHAPTER X.

*Miscellaneous Collects.**

GLORIFYING IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST.

“ I'm not ashamed to own my Lord,
Or to defend His cause ;
Maintain the glory of His Cross,
And honour all His laws.

Jesus ! my Lord ! I know His Name !
His Name is all my boast :
Nor will He put my soul to shame,
Nor let my hope be lost.

I know that safe with Him remains,
Protected by His power,
What I've committed to His trust,
Till the decisive hour.

Then will He own His servant's name,
Before His Father's face :
And in the new Jerusalem,
Appoint my soul a place.”

Watts.

35. O, Almighty God, who, by Thy Son Jesus Christ, didst give to Thy Apostle Saint Peter many excellent gifts, and commandest him earnestly to feed Thy flock ; make, we beseech Thee, all Bishops and Pastors diligently to preach Thy holy Word, and the people obediently to follow the same, that they may receive the crown of everlasting glory ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

36. Blessed Lord, who has caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning ; grant that we may in such

* Any three of these Collects, along with the Lord's Prayer, may be very appropriately employed as devotional exercises at the opening or closing of a Sunday School.

wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience, and comfort of Thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which Thou hast given us in our Saviour, Jesus Christ: AMEN.

37. God, who didst teach the hearts of Thy faithful people, by the sending to them the light of Thy Holy Spirit; grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in His holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus, our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with Thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. AMEN.

38. Grant to us, Lord, we beseech Thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as be rightful; that we, who cannot do anything that is good without Thee, may by Thee be enabled to live according to Thy will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

39. O God, who declarest Thy Almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity; mercifully grant unto us such a measure of Thy grace, that we, running the way of Thy commandments, may obtain Thy gracious promises, and be made partakers of Thy heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

40. Grant, O merciful God, that as Thine holy Apostle Saint James, leaving his father and all that he had, without delay was obedient unto the calling of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, and followed Him; so we, forsaking all worldly and carnal affections, may be evermore ready to follow Thy holy commandments; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

41. O Lord, we beseech Thee, absolve Thy people from their offences; that through Thy bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the bands of those sins, which by our frailty we have committed: grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour. AMEN.

42. Almighty and everliving God, we humbly beseech Thy Majesty, that, as Thy only-begotten Son was pre-

sented in the temple in substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto Thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same, Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

43. Almighty God, who hast given Thine only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an ensample of godly life ; give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that, His inestimable benefit ; and also daily endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of His most holy life ; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

44. Grant, O Lord, we beseech Thee, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by Thy governance, that Thy church may joyfully serve Thee, in all godly quietness ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

45. We beseech Thee, Almighty God, mercifully to look upon Thy people ; that by Thy great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore, both in body and soul ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

46. O Almighty and most merciful God, of Thy bountiful goodness keep us, we beseech Thee, from all things that may hurt us ; that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that Thou wouldst have done ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

47. O Lord, who never failest to help and govern them whom Thou dost bring up in Thy stedfast fear and love ; keep us, we beseech Thee, under the protection of Thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of Thy Holy Name ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

48. Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in Heaven and earth ; mercifully hear the supplications of Thy people, and grant us Thy peace all the days of our life ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

49. Lord, we beseech Thee, grant Thy people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow Thee, the only God ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

CHAPTER XI.

The following Collects, &c., may be used after any of the other Prayers.

50. Assist us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers; and dispose the way of Thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that, among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by Thy most gracious and ready help; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. AMEN.

51. Almighty God, who hast given us grace, at this time, with one accord to make our common supplications unto Thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in Thy Name Thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil, now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of Thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of Thy truth, and, in the world to come, life everlasting. AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

*

Our Father, which art in Heaven; Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. AMEN.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. AMEN.

* *The Lord's Prayer* and some form of benediction should always be used after any other Prayer.

CHAPTER XII.

FORMS OF BENEDICTION WHICH MAY BE USED AFTER ANY OF THE PRAYERS IN THIS MANUAL.

*

1. The grace our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all, evermore. **AMEN.**

2. The Peace of God, which passeth all understanding keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord ; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst us, and remain with us always. **AMEN.**

3. The Lord bless us, and keep us : The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon, us, and give us peace, now and for evermore. **AMEN.**

4. Now, unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood : to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

5. Grace, mercy, and peace from God, the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and from the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, be upon us, and upon all whom we should remember, now, and evermore. **AMEN.**

6. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep us. The Lord, mercifully, with His favour, look upon us ; and fill us with all spiritual benediction and grace, that we may so live together in this life, that, in the world to come, we may have life everlasting. **AMEN.**

7. Unto Him, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, be honour and glory everlasting. **AMEN.**

*These forms of Benediction may be appropriately used by Catechists and persons not in holy orders.

Forms of Benediction.

8. Now unto Him who is able to keep us from falling, and to present us as faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy: to the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for evermore. **AMEN.**

9. Now, unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible,—the only wise God, be honour and glory, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

10. May the Lord direct our hearts this day, and for ever, in the love of God, and in the patient waiting for Christ. The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

11. And, now, to Him that loved us,—who freely gave His blood to save us,—who gave His life, that we might live for ever,—be the Kingdom, and the dominion, and the glory, now, and for evermore. **AMEN.**

12. And, now, may the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,—the great Shepherd of the sheep,—through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work, to do His will, and that which is well-pleasing in His sight; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom be glory and dominion, now, and for ever. **AMEN.**

I have to acknowledge the receipt of much valuable aid from brother clergymen in Jamaica, in the preparation of the **SUNDAY-SCHOOL SERVICES** appended to this work. I should be glad to give the names of the gentlemen who thus assisted me in preparing this valuable appendix: but, as my friends have declined to allow me to mention them by name, it is, nevertheless, my duty to acknowledge the kind service they have rendered to me, personally, and to **SUNDAY-SCHOOL** work, both in this island and elsewhere.—**EDITOR.**

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