

**THE HAPPY LAND; OR, EXAMPLES OF  
EARLY PIETY: IN THOSE WHO HAVE  
DEPARTED HENCE IN THE FAITH AND  
FEAR OF THE LORD. SELECTED FROM  
"THE COTTAGER'S MONTHLY VISITOR"**

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The Happy Land; Or, Examples of Early Piety: In Those Who Have Departed Hence in the Faith and Fear of the Lord. Selected From "The Cottager's Monthly Visitor" by Henry Clissold

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**HENRY CLISSOLD**

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EXAMPLES OF EARLY PIETY,

IN THOSE WHO HAVE DEPARTED HENCE IN THE  
FAITH AND FEAR OF THE LORD.

Selected from "*THE COTTAGER'S MONTHLY VISITOR*."

BY THE REV. HENRY CLISSOLD, M.A.  
AUTHOR OF "LAST HOURS OF EMINENT CHRISTIAN MEN AND WOMEN."

" 'Tis religion that can give  
Sweetest pleasures while we live;  
'Tis religion must supply  
Solid comfort when we die."



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ADDRESS  
TO  
THE YOUNG READER.

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MY DEAR YOUNG FRIEND,

I HAVE always been very fond of my National, Sunday, and Infant Schools. There I have passed some of my happiest hours.

Some time ago, one of my scholars became dangerously ill, and was confined to his bed, so that his place in school was vacant. The teacher called my attention to the circumstance, and, as the child had expressed a desire to see me, I went as soon as I could. I found him very ill and lying on his little bed, too weak to say much; but



what he did say showed that he was one of God's dear children. Having read to him suitable portions from the Bible, I knelt down by his bedside, and thus prayed to God in the language of our Liturgy<sup>1</sup>: "If it shall be thy pleasure to prolong his days here on earth, may he 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." On rising from my knees, I promised to call again, and took my leave. At my next visit the mother told me, that soon after I had left the room, the child said, "Mother, I am going to heaven; take me up in your arms." The mother having done as she was desired, her child put his hands together, and began repeating the Lord's Prayer, "Our Father which art in heaven;" &c.; and, with the words on his lips, "Thy

<sup>1</sup> "Prayer for a Sick Child," from the Service for "The Visitation of the Sick."

kingdom come," he gently expired, and, as I trust, went on his way to those heavenly habitations, that *happy land*, into which we had prayed that he might enter.

" Oh, happy, happy land! in thee  
 Shines the unveil'd Divinity,  
 Shedding through each adoring breast  
 A holy love, a peaceful rest ;  
 And those blest souls whom death did sever  
 Have met to mingle joys for ever.  
 Oh ! soon may heaven uncloset me ;  
 Oh ! may I soon that glory see !  
 And my faint, weary spirit stand  
 Within that happy, happy land."

On reading this account, you will probably say, " Let my last end be like his." But, my young friend, have you ever seriously asked yourself this question, " Am I fit to die?" in other words, " Am I prepared to meet my God?" Considering that after death is the judgment, this is the most solemn and important question you can put.

As the principles and practice enjoined in Holy Scripture are more or less clearly dis-

played in the instances about to be related, and as young people are very much influenced by good examples, I present to you these narratives, which are full of instruction on the very question I have put. Read and examine for yourselves the histories of these young persons, and receive your answer from them; for they being dead yet speak. It was their desire to live daily in the fear and love of God, and as under his all-seeing eye. They watched and prayed against their besetting sins. They were decided to give their hearts to God, and to serve Him in sincerity and truth; diligent in reading his word, and desirous to tread his courts. While they felt the proneness of their hearts to sin, and foresaw the consequences of offending so great and good a God, their hearts were softened by a sense of his loving-kindness in sending his Son Jesus Christ into the world to save sinners. The same way to pardon, peace, and eternal happiness lies open to you.

Do not say, I am too young to be reli-