

**THE HAPPY CHRISTIAN;  
OR, PIETY THE ONLY  
FOUNDATION OF TRUE  
AND SUBSTANTIAL JOY**

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The Happy Christian; Or, Piety the Only Foundation of True and Substantial Joy by J. B. Waterbury

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**J. B. WATERBURY**

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THE  
**HAPPY CHRISTIAN;**

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AND SUBSTANTIAL JOY.

BY

**J. B. WATERBURY,**

AUTHOR OF 'ADVICE TO A YOUNG CHRISTIAN.'

"REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS"



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## PREFACE.

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THE unexpected favour with which the religious public received the "ADVICE TO A YOUNG CHRISTIAN"—the author's first production—induces the hope that, after the lapse of several years, some additional observations on practical religion, from the same pen, may not be unacceptable.

This little book, though designed for all classes of readers, was written, it must be confessed, with an eye rather to the young,—whether professors or non-professors. The former, it is hoped, may be stimulated by it to greater activity in the divine life; and the latter, by the accompanying conviction of the

Holy Spirit, be persuaded that piety is the only foundation of true and substantial joy.

If this sequel to the "Advice," following in the wake of its humble predecessor, shall but serve—like the life-boat in the storm—to rescue from impending danger any who were induced by the former to steer for the port of peace, it will afford its author the most heartfelt satisfaction.

J. B. W.

*Hudson, May, 1838.*



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THE  
HAPPY CHRISTIAN.



CHAPTER I.

PIETY VINDICATED FROM THE CHARGE OF GLOOM.

“RELIGION makes men gloomy,” says the thoughtless votary of the world. This allegation, if true, would be a very reasonable ground of prejudice against true piety; but it is made, as we shall see, without proper discrimination respecting its nature and influence.

He who brings this charge, judges merely from the serious expression of countenance which many professors of religion wear, and from the voluntary relinquishment of the gaieties of life, which is observed to take place when they unite with the church of God. No estimation is made of the grand equivalent which piety gives for the renunciation of such vanities. Men look *only* at