

**WISE COUNSELS. A
BOOK FOR
YOUNG MEN**

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Wise Counsels. A Book for Young Men by Thomas Binney

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THOMAS BINNEY

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BY

THOMAS BINNEY.



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PRELIMINARY NOTE.

THE following Lectures were taken down and reported at the time of their delivery, now several years ago. They were the only lectures of the course, so far as the Editor knows, that happened to be thus taken. They appeared at the time without the sanction or revision of the preacher. They are now republished by one who thinks that, with all the disadvantages of their original appearance, they are adapted to be exceedingly useful to young men. He applied to the author for permission to issue them, who gave that permission, but accompanied it with the advice that, as they would no doubt need much verbal correction, which he had no time to attempt himself, he (the Editor) should do his best to remove the worst of the rudenesses of both speaker and reporter. He has done this to the

best of his judgment and ability, and may be allowed to regret that it could not be attempted by a more competent hand.

May the hints and suggestions, of which these Lectures for the most part consist, deposit some of their seeds of thought in the hearts of many young men, guiding them to the conclusion that wisdom is better than rubies, and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it. "Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding."

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WISE COUNSELS.

I

THE TRUE COMPANION.

“When thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.”—PROV. vi. 22.

“WHEN thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.” What is it that will do this? The context in the preceding verse has “the *commandment* of thy father and the law of thy mother.” The commandment and law of religious and well-instructed parents come to be equivalent to the law of God—they stand for that upon which they are based, and from which they are drawn; and, therefore, I should like you to consider that the word *it* standeth for this book—the Bible; and that it is here said with respect to the Word of God, “when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.” Now, mark the context,—“bind it upon thine heart, tie it about thy neck,”—that is to say, if the book is to do this, it must be a thing to be loved, or a thing that is loved; it must be taken to the heart and clung to with affection. It must be a thing of which you are not ashamed—which you are not to be laughed out of, which you are not to be indifferent about, which you are not to treat with scorn, or, hearing it treated with scorn, to be ashamed and silent. But bind it about thy neck, as an ornament, a thing which thou art not ashamed to show—lay it upon thy heart as a thing