

**THE CHRISTIAN MINISTER'S
AFFECTIONATE ADVICE
TO A NEW MARRIED
COUPLE**

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The Christian Minister's Affectionate Advice to a New Married Couple by James Bean

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JAMES BEAN

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CHRISTIAN MINISTER'S
AFFECTIONATE ADVICE

TO

A NEW MARRIED COUPLE.

BY THE
REV. JAMES BEAN, M. A.

THE FIFTH EDITION.

Domestic happiness! —————
Thou art the nurse of virtue.

COWPER:

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TO THE

FIFTH EDITION.



IT is now some years since the following Address, written at the suggestion of a friend, was first committed to the press. A new Edition being proposed, the Author considered it to be his duty to give the piece a careful revision ; that it might appear again with as few defects, as it was in his power to present it to the public. This obligation he has endeavoured to fulfil. The present Edition, however, will be found to differ from the

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former ones in little more than this, that the Author has exchanged a few terms of severer import, for those milder forms of expression, which an increased acquaintance with himself, and the world around him, has taught him to consider as most likely to have effect; while they certainly best agree with the character here assumed, that of the Christian Minister.

Having apprized the Reader of these alterations, he has only to express his sincere wish, that this humble performance may accomplish the purpose it was intended to answer.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

- The important Nature of the Marriage Union
—The married Pair exhorted not to grow
remiss in the Attentions formerly paid to
each other—A Hint on the Treatment of
Relations* 1

CHAP. II.

- On the Necessity of attending to the Cultiva-
tion of good Temper* 27

CHAP. III.

- The Influence of real Piety on the Happiness
of married Life—The Conduct which the
Holy Scriptures require in married Per-
sons to each other* 39

CONTENTS.

CHAP. IV.

*The Effects of Christian Piety in the married
Pair with Respect to their Household—On
the Advantages of Order in a Family—The
Family of Eusebius—The Unhappiness of
an irreligious Couple* 65

CHAP. V.

*Short Account of Evander and Theodosia—
How Christianity supports the Members of
a religious Family under afflictive Events,
exhibited in the Death of Theodosia—Con-
clusion* 79

AFFECTIONATE ADVICE.



CHAP. I.

The important Nature of the Marriage Union—The Married Pair exhorted not to grow remiss in the Attentions formerly paid to each other—A Hint on the Treatment of Relations.

AS the minister of a benevolent religion, it is not enough for me, to have joined your hands together at the altar. It becomes me to follow you from thence with my earnest prayers, that you may long enjoy together every comfort implied in the solemn

2 AFFECTIONATE ADVICE TO

benediction lately pronounced over you. Let me repeat that form of words which so well expresses the tender and affectionate concern I ought to feel for you: "GOD the Father, GOD the Son, GOD the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favour look upon you; and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that ye may so live together in this life, that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting! Amen!"

To this truly Christian prayer, let me now add a few useful considerations, with respect to the relation into which you have entered.

It is an important relation; the most so, of any you are capable of forming in this life. It is not your own happiness only, but that of others also, that may be affected