CHERY-DAY MANUALS FOR THE CHRISTIAN HOUSEHOLD; OUR FATHER AND COMFORTER; OR, GOD THE PORTION OF HIS PEOPLE

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Chery-Day Manuals for the Christian Household; Our Father and Comforter; Or, God the Portion of His People by James Smith

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JAMES SMITH

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REV. JAMES SMITH, Cheltenham.

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1881.

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OUR FATHER.

"I will be a Father note you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty,"—2 Cor. vi. 18.

R#ED Christian, thou art not an orphan!

Chou hast a Father. God, in all the slory of his nature and perfections, is Father. He has adopted thee for his own. He has regenerated thee by his Spirit. He has called thee out of the world, and has promised to do a father's part by thee. He says, " I will be a Father unto you." you want advice? Consult your Father. you need supplies? Ask them of your Father. Are you tormented with cares? Cast them on your Father. Are you alarmed at foes? Cry unto your Father. Do your difficulties appear insurmountable? Appeal to your Father. God is not merely a Father in name; he has a Father's nature. He not only calls us his sons and daughters, but wishes us to act towards him as such. We should exercise confidence in his love; we should trust in his word; we should

appeal to his paternal heart; we should look for our supplies from his hand. In every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving we should let our requests be made known unto God. He loves to see us confide in his care, rely on his word, expect his communications, and acquiesce in his will. Believer, whatever trials may befall thee, whatever troubles may come upon thee, whatever enemies may rise up against thee, whatever changes may take place in thy circumstances, one thing can never befall thee—thou canst never be fatherless; therefore thou canst never be friendless. Thou art God's child, however poor thy circumstances or trying thy path. What an unspeakable mercy!

"We are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ."— Rom. viii. 16, 17.

OUR ELDER BROTHER.

"Whoseever shall do the will of my Father which is in beaven, the same is my brother."—MATT. xii, 50.

VERY relation in which Jesus stands to his people is precious. But there are some peculiarly so, especially under certain peculiar circumstances. He is not only our Saviout, but our brother.

He is bone of our bones, and flesh of our flesh. Possessing our nature, being part of the same family, he watches over us with a brother's eye, and loves us with a brother's love. He is the "brother born for adversity." He takes the deepest interest in all our affairs, and watches over us to do us good. We may go to him in all our troubles, and open our hearts to him without the least reserve. We cannot go to one who loves us more, or one who is more able or willing to help us. He laid down his life for us, thereby proving the intensity of his love to us. He is gone into heaven, there to appear in the presence of God for us. My