

NEARING HOME

NEARING HOME

COMFORTS AND COUNSELS FOR THE AGED

BY

WILLIAM E. SCHENCK, D.D.

STOKE-ON-TRENT

2003



Tentmaker Publications
121 Hartshill Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 7LU
UK

www.tentmaker.org.uk

Published in 1868 in Philadelphia by
Presbyterian Board of Publication

Retypeset and published 2003

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The publishers wish to express their gratitude to Mrs Wanda McKinnon for making this original copy of this book available thus making possible this reprint.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Preface	9
Would you be young again?	CAROLINE, BARONESS OF NAIRN. 11
The review of life	ANONYMOUS. 13
The old folks	ANONYMOUS. 28
Nightfall	MARGARET JUNKIN. 29
Father, I know	MISS A. L. WARING. 30
Our one life	HORATIUS BONAR, D.D. 32
Retrospect	MARTIN F. TUPPER. 34
Reflections on old age	ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D.D. 36
Christian graces for the aged	ANONYMOUS. 42
Bridges	A. D. F. RANDOLPH. 44
A little while	GREVILLE. 46
The fruitless tree	JOHN M. LOWRIE, D.D. 47
Afternoon	MARGARET JUNKIN. 49
Old age anticipated	REV. REUBEN SMITH. 51
Loving-kindness	REV. SAMUEL MEDLEY. 59
A few more days	HORATIUS BONAR, D.D. 60
Abide with me	REV. HENRY FRANCIS LYTE. 62
God is my light	HENGSTENBERG. 63
The pilgrim's retrospect	REV. ROBERT F. SAMPLE. 65
Sympathy and selfishness	ANONYMOUS. 67
Thy saviour's prayer	ANONYMOUS. 72
The aged Christian	ANONYMOUS. 74
The voice from Galilee	HORATIUS BONAR, D.D. 76
The Fatherland	FROM THE GERMAN OF CLAUS HARMS. 77
The palm	JAMES HAMILTON, D.D. 78
God, my exceeding joy	JAMES W. ALEXANDER, D.D. 81
A name in the sand	HANNAH F. GOULD. 83
Still will we trust	WILLIAM H. BURLEIGH. 84

		PAGE
A prospect of heaven	ISAAC WATTS, D.D.	85
Counsels to the aged	ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D.D.	86
Nearer to Thee	MISS SARAH F. ADAMS.	93
My rest is in heaven	ANONYMOUS.	95
The crown of my hope	WILLIAM COWPER.	96
Home in view	REV. JOHN NEWTON.	97
Evening time	JAMES MONTGOMERY.	98
Husband to wife	JOHN M. LOWRIE, D.D.	99
To an aged unbeliever	WILLIAM S. PLUMER, D.D.	104
Nothing but leaves	ANONYMOUS.	110
God, our help	ISAAC WATTS, D.D.	111
I know that I must die	FROM THE GERMAN OF B. SCHMOLKE.	112
As Christ chooses	RICHARD BAXTER.	114
The blessed hope	REV. AUGUSTUS M. TOPLADY.	115
Piety exempt from the decays of age	JOHN GOSMAN, D.D.	118
Heaven	ANONYMOUS.	121
Light at eventide	ANONYMOUS.	123
Trust	MARTIN F. TUPPER.	125
All is well	ANONYMOUS.	126
To the uttermost	REV. GARDINER SPRING PLUMLEY.	127
A little while	HORATIUS BONAR, D.D.	132
Peculiar duties of the aged	ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D.D.	134
I shall soon be dying	ANONYMOUS.	140
The loss of memory	ANONYMOUS.	141
Prayer of an aged believer	SIR ROBERT GRANT.	146
Heavenly realities.	FROM THE GERMAN OF J. LANGE.	148
Sorrows and consolations of old age	REV. JOHN KENNEDY.	150
Christian's view of eternity	FROM THE GERMAN OF C. C. STURM.	157
Dim eve draws on	ANONYMOUS.	159

CONTENTS

vii

		PAGE
The infirmities of age	ANONYMOUS.	160
Joys to come	FROM THE GERMAN OF H. C. VON SCHWEINITZ.	168
The promised strength	ANONYMOUS.	170
Tarry with me	ANONYMOUS.	180
Outlived her usefulness	MRS. ADELINE T. DAVIDSON.	182
The hope of the disconsolate	SIR ROBERT GRANT.	186
Nearer home	ALICE CARY.	188
Beyond the sunset	REV. ROBERT P. SAMPLE.	190
The unchanging Friend	ANONYMOUS.	192
The sympathy of Jesus	PAUL GERHARDT.	203
The Friend unseen	CHARLOTTE ELLIOT.	205
Youth renewed in age	JAMES W. ALEXANDER, D.D.	207
Sojourning as at an inn	A. D. P. RANDOLPH.	212
To an old disciple	WILLIAM S. PLUMER, D.D.	214
Only waiting	ANONYMOUS.	224
Friend after friend departs	JAMES MONTGOMERY.	226
Words in season	ANONYMOUS.	227
The Christian's hope	FROM THE GERMAN.	242
The verge of life	PHILIP DODDRIDGE, D.D.	245
Yonder	HORATIUS BONAR, D.D.	247
Too old to be useful	ANONYMOUS.	248
Old age	JOHN WALTON.	259
Fully ripe	ANONYMOUS.	260
The hour of departure	REV. JOHN LOGAN.	262
How to die safely	ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D.D.	263
Our beloved have departed	FROM THE GERMAN OF J. LANGE.	269
Confidence in God	PAUL GERHARDT.	270
The banks of the river	ANONYMOUS.	272
Heavenward	FROM THE GERMAN OF B. SCHMOLKE.	285
When wilt thou die?	ANONYMOUS.	287
The aged believer's triumph	REV. WILLIAM ROMAINE.	289
A little way	MISS JOSEPHINE POLLARD.	298

		PAGE
Support in death	FROM THE GERMAN OF N. HERMANN.	300
The heavenly rest	ANONYMOUS.	302
Aged believer at the gate of heaven	THOS. GUTHRIE, D.D.	314
A better country	REV. JOHN NEWTON.	315
Grandma is dead	A. D. F. RANDOLPH.	316
Longing after heaven	DE FLEURY.	318
Crossing the river	REV. ROBERT F. SAMPLE.	320
Heaven	HORATIUS BONAR, D.D.	323
Here and there	ANONYMOUS.	325
That land	FROM THE GERMAN OF UHLAND.	327
Prayer for one nearing another world	A. ALEXANDER, D.D.	328
God of my youth	ISAAC WATTS, D.D.	333
I would not live alway	WILLIAM A. MUHLENBERG, D.D.	334
The Lord's my shepherd	ROUSE.	335
The pilgrim's song	ANONYMOUS.	336
Worn and weary	S. ROBERTS.	338
As thy days	LYDIA H. SIGOURNEY.	339
The heavenly rest	WILLIAM B. TAPPAN.	340
Thy will be done	CHARLOTTE ELLIOT.	341
Our home	ANONYMOUS.	343

PREFACE.

IN this day, when so much labour is expended in producing almost innumerable books for the young, there is danger of our neglecting the aged ones who are about to pass off the stage of life. Yet there is a host of men and women in the decline of life who will be glad to receive a few words of instruction, of sympathy and of kindly cheer. For such this book has been prepared. May God bless it and make it a blessing to all such readers!

It will be seen that the materials for the volume have been gathered from a great variety of sources. Special acknowledgement is due to a volume entitled "Life's Evening Hour," published by the Religious Tract Society of London, from which several of the excellent anonymous pieces have been taken.

W. E. S.

NEARING HOME

Would you be Young Again?*

CAROLINE, BARONESS OF NAIRN.

WOULD you be young again?
So would not I;—
One tear to memory given,
Onward I'll hie;—
Life's dark wave forded o'er,
All but at rest on shore,
Say, would you plunge once more,
With home so nigh?

If you might, would you now
Retrace your way?
Wander through stormy wilds,
Faint and astray?
Night's gloomy watches fled,
Morning all beaming red,
Hope's smiles around us shed,
Heavenward, away!

* Written in the author's seventy-sixth year.

Where are those dear ones,
Our joy and delight,
Dear and more dear, though now
Hidden from sight?
Where they rejoice to be,
There is the home for me;
Fly, time, fly speedily;
Come, light and life!