

they happen to know (or, what in their estimation is much the same, *fancy* they know); and as I walked along the streets in the morning stillness some of these things *would* recur with unpleasant persistency. Suddenly, I remembered my friend's parting words, and began to wonder (at first partly through mere curiosity) what Isaiah 41: 10 might be; but I could not recall it. Before long I found myself keeping step to "Isaiah forty-one and ten," "Isaiah forty-one and ten," "Isaiah forty-one and ten." I had left my pocket Bible in another coat, or I would have turned it up there and then by the electric light, and so set my mind at ease; for whatever could Isaiah 41: 10 be?

Almost the first thing I did on reaching home was to open my Bible at the passage, and this is what I read:—or stay, perhaps, if *you* cannot recall it, you had better look it up for yourself, and try to imagine the comfort and inspiration it would prove under the circumstances just narrated. Now, if you have done it, do you wonder that I did *not* lie awake that night?

"It's a big undertaking," said a young man on the street car, referring to our contemplated departure for China.

"Yes," I said, "but not bigger than the *backing*."

Who's afraid? Who *could* be afraid, with "all power" in heaven and earth as truly at one's command as steam—that wondrous power of God—is at the command of the engine driver? What's the use of lying awake at night brooding over the dark side of the missionary enterprise in China, when the *encouragements* for its faithful prosecution are bright as the rainbow about God's Throne? Any dimmer they cannot be: for in the only place in the Bible where China is directly named, (Isaiah 49: 12), it is to promise that the black-haired race shall be among that innumerable multitude standing before the Throne, clad in white robes and waving aloft their palms of victory.

Discouragements! Ay, many of them; and dark clouds they seem. But look at the rainbow arching them—"These from the Land of Sinim"—there it shines! Did you ever see such brilliance? Looking at it, who would be afraid? FEAR NOT THOU; FOR I AM WITH THEE: BE NOT DISMAYED, FOR I AM THY GOD: I WILL STRENGTHEN THEE: YEA, I WILL HELP THEE; YEA, I WILL UPHOLD THEE WITH THE RIGHT HAND OF MY RIGHTEOUSNESS.

"We be not able." Then *why* not? "*He* is able." Shall we