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Wesley for one shake of his hand, one word of encouragement or welcome, to which they could only respond by a sobbing, 'The Lord bless you,' or by tears without any words at all; and others lingering to pour out the grief of consciences awakened to see their sins, but not yet seeing the remedy; and to observe Mr. Wesley's kindly, patient, discriminating words for each! As father said, when in the gathering dusk we were riding away among the slowly dispersing multitudes (who seemed scarcely able to tear themselves away),—

"Men who do not know him may talk lightly of those multitudes, as a bragging boy at home may talk lightly of a battle. But, right or wrong, it is no light matter. There is power in these words, as there is in a battery, or a thunder-storm; and Kitty," he continued softly to me, as I sat on my pillion behind him, "I believe, in my soul, it is power from Heaven. So help me God, I will never say a word against those men again."

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The next evening when we sat around the fire, mother said gently in answer to our description of the scene,—

"I am only afraid that all this excitement will pass away, and leave the poor people colder and harder than it found them."

Father replied,—

"Mother, you are as good a woman as there is in the world, and a very gentle touch would set you in the way to Heaven; but I tell you some people want a wrench, enough to part soul from body, to drag them out of the way to hell. Why, but for such preaching as this nine-tenths of those people would never have prayed except for a 'godsend' in the shape of a wreck, and would scarcely have thought of a church except as a place to be married in or buried near."

"Well, my dear," replied mother, "we shall see. 'By their fruits ye shall know them.'"

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"My dear," exclaimed father, becoming rather irritated, "I have seen. I do call it good fruit for ten thousand people to be weeping for their sins, as people commonly weep for their sorrows, and to feel if it were only for that one hour that sin is the worst sorrow, and the pardon of God and His love the greatest joy."