

possession. Hold here steadfastly, regardless of all seemings, and the result is sure. Do not look for an emotional experience as the seal of the fact, but leaving all this with God, go steadily forward in the way of simple faith, and the fruits of the Spirit will very soon manifest themselves in a blessed abundance. Of course this implies a continual attitude of surrender and trust. Either disobedience or doubt will be like shutting a window against the sunlight—darkness will reign once more. *Trust instead of try.*—*Christian Standard.*

GOOD STANDING GROUND.

BY THOMAS PAULDING.

We came across a splendid little bit of personal testimony in the 26th Psalm and the last verse. It was this, "My foot standeth in an even place." David was evidently in a good frame of mind when thus he gave his experience. It went right home to our heart, and made us to feel we would like to stand in the same place.

We have been in a smithy before now, and remember how delighted we were to take hold of the bellows' handle, and work away till the dead-looking fire was roused into a roaring, glowing mass, out of the midst of which shot forth a glow of heat, making the dingy place bright and attractive. This sentence is a bright spark, hot from the glowing fire of a heart filled with the Divine love. We see it shining, and rejoice in its power to cheer us.

We looked into the matter a little. We found that David did not mean that his foot was standing on even ground as to his temporal affairs. With him these affairs were often anything but even. Evidently David did not wait till temporal matters were in a quiet, well-ordered, and prosperous condition, as some are doing to-day, before he sought and found the blessedness he describes in this testimony.

Nor was it that his family made him happy and comfortable. It is plain enough that his wives and many children did very little to increase his felicity and cause him to say that he was on even ground. It is certainly desirable that our dear ones should be one in the faith and fellowship of the Lord Jesus Christ, but it will never do to hold back from the full enjoyment of the fulness of the riches of Christ because they will not seek the blessing with us.

The blessed experience of which David speaks is derived from another source altogether. It came from a consciousness that his heart belonged to God, that his desires and affections and aspirations were all Godward, that God knew it, and was well pleased with him. Therefore he stood on even ground. This even place implies therefore :