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"Do you, Jacob, whatever the goin'-on may be down 't the exp'sition, do you make quick an' haughty work o' the part they've giv' you to act in it, an' then lay off an' let them 'salt their own meal an' chase their own b'ars,' as the sayin' is."

Mrs. Skipper seemed a little shocked. "It's a great compliment to Jacob, I'm sure," she said, "f'r them ter ask him ter lead off the meet'n'. But it ain't hardly the place ter be haughty. The r'al true way is to go by the doctrines, an' jest stand an' open yer mouth and let the Lord fill it."

"I seen that tried once," said Caroline, and the retrospective seriousness of her features caused even Mrs. Skipper to listen with a mouth averted for tragedy. "Oh my, ya-as, I seen that tried once, an' the proudest man 't ever put his foot down in leathers was made so cheap by it that I don't know as he'd ever 'a' got over it to this day, ef he'd lived so long."

"Old Bots'll Hurtle, he'd come into the church under some special quicken-in' that didn't seem ter stay by him very long, for he got as cantankerous as ever, an' they tryin' ter hold him down to religion; an' the minister comes an' says, 'Bots'll, you ain't led off yit on neither prayer nor testimony,' says he, 'an' I expect you ter lead off next Sunday evenin' meet'n', says he; and that meant somethin' in them days, when Sunday evenin' meet'n's was as well attended as a carnival or a auction is now. So, Bots'll, he begun a-studyin' up on somethin' tur'ble high-flown, f'r he was a very proud man; but Mis' Bots'll—who'd allus been in grace—she shut him off. 'The won't no sech talk as that from a new convert go down with parson,' said she; 'you got ter come down about ten pegs an' a lap-over,' said she. 'What d' ye mean?' says Bost'll."

"Why," says she, "the only thing f'r you to do, an' the only thing as parson'll let you do, is for you to stan' up, co-trite an' humble, as ye ought ter be, an' jest open yer mouth an' let it be filled," says she.

"Shucks," says he, "I ain't one o' that kind. You could do it, an' easy," says he to Mis' Bots'll, "but I run to somethin' besides gab," says he. "I'd do better ter stiddy up my piece before-han'. But she kep' at him, an' the minister kep' at him, that the' wan't no sech pompous, hifalutin' works as them goin' ter do f'r anybody so recent bro't under c'nviction; so he snagged out o' the whole subject, glad ter let it drop off his mind thinkin', as I suppose we all do, that to-morrer might never come, or the minister furgit ter haul him up, or somethin'; but, no!"

"I c'n hear the minister speakin' them words now—'Brother Bots'll Hurtle, we will listen to your testemony,' Wal', thar' he was, an' nothin' for it but ter foller their recipy now, an' see what 'ud come of it, live 'r die, fa'r weather 'r foul; so up he gits, sure enough, an' no sooner had he riz on his feet but what he sets his mouth open."

There followed a singular and untimely pause, during which Caroline's thoughts seemed to drift gently away to another channel.

Mrs. Skipper at last spoke, with a soft impatience.

"Was it filled, Car'line?"

"Nary so much as a fly offered," replied that fountain of unfailing reminiscence, "though it was the wane o' July, an' the meet'n'-house buzzed with 'em. No, nothin' went in," she re-asserted, with grave literalness, "not even so much as a fly. I set in the front row o' the choir whar' all was plain ter see."

"How long'd he wait?" said little Mrs. Skipper, even a proper sancti-

EE A MOTHER'S EE HAPPY THOUGHT.

A lady writing from Ireland says:—"I went to see my sister's baby, who was very ill indeed. She had been up for nights with him without undressing; he was crying all the time as with some internal pain. The doctor told her he could do nothing except put him in a warm bath, which gave him a little ease for the time being."

"I thought of STEEDMAN'S SOOTHING POWDERS which I used for my own children; and next day I sent some to my sister, when she gave the child half a powder according to directions. For the first time for a fortnight she and the baby, and, in fact, all the household, had a good night's sleep, and the little fellow has continued to improve ever since."

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