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Hadara and His Master.



Hadara was born in Abyssinia. The people in that land are not heathen: large numbers are Christians in name, though they are very ignorant, and follow many pagan customs.

When Hadara was young he was taught to pray to saints, and to fast often. He was told that if he went as a pilgrim to Jerusalem he would become holy and happy, and all his sins would be forgiven.

From this time all his thoughts were how he should get there. He had no money, so he hired himself as a servant to a person named Gergis, who said he was going to that city. But Gergis was a bad man, and after he had got the lad away from his home sold him as a slave. Hadara, however, managed to run away from the island where he was in slavery, and got back to his own land.

He now engaged himself as a servant to a missionary. Among the first truths his new master taught him were that every prayer made to saints was a proof of unbelief towards God, and, therefore sinful; and that all true prayer is offered only in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. He began to think very seriously about the right way to pray.

After this he met with some missionary papers which gave an account of the conversion of several heathens. Reading these little papers made him anxious to have a New Testament. He now for the first time saw his state as a sinner, and cried to God for mercy. He found that neither a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, nor the merits of saints, could secure for him the favor of God; it was only the blood of Christ could cleanse him from his sin.

Some time after this he met his old master, Gergis, who had sold him. But Hadara was now a Christian; and, instead of showing anger, or seeking revenge, when he found Gergis was in poverty, he helped to keep him, out of his wages, for several months. He showed that he had learned to do good to those who hated him and despitefully used him; for he had read the Saviour's words.

His kind friend, the missionary, was taken ill, and had to leave his station to return to Europe. Hadara loved his own country, yet he was willing to leave it, that he might attend his master's family.

On the journey over the deserts he drove the camels, cooked the food, kept watch at night, carried his master's sick child by day, and

was ready to do anything for the comfort of those he loved; and he did all in such a cheerful way that his services were very pleasant to them. Hadara grew in piety, and it was proposed that he should be educated in Europe, and then return to his own land to preach the Gospel to his countrymen. But God was pleased to order it otherwise. He caught a cold, and became ill.

At length it was seen that he could not live long: he knew it, and now he thought more than before of the death of Christ as an offering for sin. He said there were two passages which gave him great comfort: 'He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin;

as it is now. I shall see the Lord Himself, and know all truths clearly, clearly.' His last words were, 'I am going to Heaven.'—The 'Child's Companion.'

The Ice-bound Ship.

A writer in the 'Christian Weekly' relates a story of a Christian sailor named John Blank, employed as first mate under Captain C—, who had command of one of the two ships which some ambitious persons in Buffalo set afloat on Lake Erie, during the fierce heat of the speculation which raged like a forest fire over the West for a few years prior to 1836.

Determined to lead the navigation of the



THE CAMEL FREE AND LADEN.

that we might be made the righteousness of God in His own body on the tree.'

Hadara wished to return to Abyssinia, to tell his friends what the Lord had done for his soul, yet he was willing to die. 'I shall be going in a short time,' he said.

'When asked where he was going, he replied, 'First to the grave; and then I shall rise again with a clear understanding—not so dark

season, the ship left Buffalo immediately after the harbor was cleared of ice, supposing, what was a quite usual occurrence, that the wind would carry the ice up the lake, break it up, and so disperse it that they would have no further trouble with it; but to their great surprise, as they neared the upper end of the lake, they found themselves moving between two immense fields of ice; that on the right