

in those hands and classes your Aunt Henderson speaks of without danger. But I do like the hymns, and I am sure we ought all to feel grateful to the Methodists for helping the people no one else ever thought there was any hope of helping, or of teaching anything good."

It was rather a sad greeting the night we came near home. It was growing dusk, and everything was very still, when a low chant broke on us from the opposite hill. Solemnly the measured music rose and fell, like the rise and fall of waves on a calm day, until, as we drew nearer, the hill-side sent the sound back to us so clearly we could distinguish it to be the deep voices of men singing as they moved along the moorland. From the slow, steady movement we knew too well what the sad procession must be. We did not say anything to each other. But when we were sitting at supper in the hall, mother asked Betty which of the neighbours was dead.

"It was old Widow Treffry," said Betty, "and Toby has joined the Methodists lately, and the members of his class carried her to the church yard to-day, singing one of Parson Wesley's hymns as they went."

"It was very solemn and sweet," said mother. "It made me think of the stories my father used to tell me, when I was a child, of the ancient Church and the funeral of the martyrs."

Yesterday afternoon, when mother and I returned from a little walk to the entrance of our cave, where she had rested a little while on a rock, to drink in the air from the sea, which was as soft as milk, and made the heart glad, like wine when one is weary, we found the parlour occupied by our new vicar, Cousin Evelyn's great-uncle. Betty was talking to him at the door; and when he had greeted us, the vicar observed in rather a nervous way to mother,

"Madam, I have been informed that there is a *conventicle* held on Sunday evenings in this house."

Mother coloured, and rose; but it evidently cost the vicar too much to make the assertion not to pursue it: he could not rely on his own courage for a second charge, and accordingly pressed