

years." Israel quietly enjoys the fruits of Othniel's victory,—God's end is achieved; this man who belonged only indirectly to the lineage of the noble Caleb, was fitted beforehand for this service, and when put to the proof, showed himself to be suitable material in the hands of the divine workman.

Let us ask God to raise up Othniels in the present day; yea, rather let us be Othniels ourselves by true consecration of heart to the Lord, by an increasing desire to appropriate and realize these heavenly things, and we shall be instruments well-fitted for the Master and *prepared* unto every good work.

(*To be continued, D.V.*)

THE NAIL.

There is one Nail fastened in a sure place, and there the flagons hang, and the cups too. "Oh," says one of the little cups, "I am so little and so black, suppose I should drop." The flagon says, "I am so heavy, so weighty, suppose I should drop." One cup says, "Oh, if I felt like that golden cup, I should never fear falling." And the gold cup answers, "It is not my being a gold cup keeps me, but it is *all by the Nail!* If the Nail comes down, we all go! gold cup or pewter cup; but so long as the Nail remains the cups all hang safely." (See Isaiah xxii. 23, 24.)