

Hope's Quiet Hour.

The Captain's Orders.

God did send me before you to preserve life.—Gen. 45 : 5.

The story of Joseph and his brethren is full of human pathos and dramatic incidents. We see the lad walking fifty miles or more to seek his brothers. Then—wearied and hungry—he finds a most unbrotherly welcome. His life is threatened, then he is flung into a pit while his hardhearted brothers sit down to eat and drink. Then he is sold as a slave and fights his way upward in his master's house, until everything is left in his hands. Faithful to his master, his God and himself, and refusing to stain his pure soul, he finds that suffering for righteousness' sake is a real cross of shame and pain.

Through years of undeserved imprisonment his faith in God shines out in undimmed beauty. Then a sudden summons from the great king of Egypt brings him out into the light again, and the slave-prisoner finds himself prime minister of the leading country of that time. Calmly and faithfully he accepts the duties of his new position, as he had accepted the duties which met him as a slave and a prisoner. As God was trusted when He seemed to have forsaken His loyal servant, so He is remembered and obeyed in the dazzling splendor of great prosperity. The remembrance of God's presence gave the young man courage in adversity; and now he does not lose his head, although in all Egypt no one but the king is greater than Joseph.

Then another day of testing comes. The brothers, who treated him so unmercifully in his boyhood, stand trembling before him. It is a great chance to "get even" with them. But he will not descend to their level, or copy the wickedness he hated. There is another way to get even with them—and that is to lift them up beside him. He has severely tested them already, and is sure they are really repentant. So, like Jesus our loving Brother, he returns good for evil with openhanded generosity. They deserve blows and are amazed to receive affectionate embraces instead. They are more afraid than before, when they discover that the ruler of Egypt is the brother they betrayed and sold so many years ago. They naturally expect their long-delayed but richly deserved punishment. How astonished they are when Joseph owns them as his kinsmen, saying: "I am Joseph your brother". Not only has their wronged brother forgiven freely, but he pleads with them to forgive themselves: "Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life. . . . God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God."

Joseph knew that no wickedness of men could interfere with God's plans. He overlooked the agent and took his Captain's orders each day from the Captain Himself. So our Lord accepted the cup of suffering as from His Father though enemies of His Father pressed to His lips. He said, in confident trust, "The cup which My Father hath given Me, shall I not drink it?" So, also, the apostles declared that when Gentiles and Jews made common cause against God's holy child Jesus, they could only do what God's "hand and counsel determined before to be done." —Acts 4 : 28.

We can look undismayed on the upset condition of this troubled world of ours, if we hold fast to the certainty that God will make all things—even the wickedness of men—work together for the good of His loved children. Again and again, during the story of Joseph's trials, this encouraging remark is made: "The Lord was with Joseph." When he seemed most helpless he was still safe under God's care. Sent to Egypt as a slave, sent to prison for another's sin, his course was marked out for him until the opportunity of great service was opened. God made him ruler of Egypt, as he knew right well, so that he might do great service to the world and save the famine-stricken nations by a great deliverance. He was still taking his orders from the Captain Himself.

A few years ago the world seemed at the mercy of cruel militarists. To-day—as a consequence of the awful horrors of war—the dream of a lasting world peace seems likely to become a solid reality. It has happened once more, as the Psalmist saw it when God arose to judgment and to help all the meek upon earth: "The fierceness of man shall turn to Thy praise."

As Joseph returned good for evil, conquering his enemies by transforming them into friends, so God is able to make all things—even the Great War—help forward His kingdom of righteousness and peace. It is the war which has made a league of nations—a worldwide brotherhood—no longer a castle in the air. The war is proving itself a peace-maker. It has taught us to value peace and to tie the hands of war-makers. It has opened men's eyes to the madness of war, and so the sacrifice of many noble lives will help to work out God's purposes of love for the world.

"God is working His purpose out, as year succeeds to year:
God is working His purpose out, and the time is drawing near—
Nearer and nearer draws the time—the time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea."

It is an encouragement to us all to remember that God is in control of our lives. There are no trifles with God. He counts the very hairs of our head. He is with every sparrow that falls. He cares for every wild flower by the wayside. He who made the stars, and swings them in their mighty orbits through space, has not lost sight of one tiny life which is absolutely dependent on Him for breath and daily food.

There was a marshal of France long ago, the Viscount de Turenne, who was one night going the round of his camp. He overheard some of the younger soldiers complaining about the hardships they were called to endure. An old veteran said to them: "You don't know our father. When you are older you will never talk like that. Be sure he has some grand end in view that we can't make out or he would never allow us to suffer so."

Turenne often said that that moment of evesdropping was the proudest and happiest moment of his life. The soldiers who did not know him might doubt his leadership; but veterans who had fought under him and marched with him for years were confident that all was well.

The Captain's orders! How that thought transforms pain into glory, drudgery into service, darkness into light! Joseph could not understand God's plan while he endured grief, suffering wrongfully, but he did not lose his faith. Later he could see for himself how God had led him and trained him until he had become a perfected instrument, fit for the Master's use.

Let us trust our Captain and obey His orders with the glad certainty that He never can make a mistake.

A friend of mine, called to go out as a missionary into an unknown country, said calmly and confidently: "Calls to-day are a reality. The voice of God is clear and strong, though still and quiet. The call comes to us to be, to do, to dare, to die, to work and to suffer, and the men who are always listening to God's voice—and, of course, always hearing it—are the men who accomplish things in the world."

That was a good many years ago, and it has been very plain that God was with that brave missionary in his work. He still listens for God's voice—and, of course, still hears it. As a consequence he has accomplished great things for God in the world—or, rather, God has done great things through his surrendered life.

We are not in control of our own lives, for we have placed them willingly in the hands of Christ. Our highest title is: "the servant of Jesus Christ." His orders for the day fill us with confidence and joy, for we receive them from our Comrade-Captain, our Brother-King Himself.

"Why should I wait for evening star,
Why should I wait to cross the bar,
And death's dissolving hand to trace
The outline of my Pilot's face?"

"Must my frail barque be driven and tossed
By winds and waves,—be wrecked and lost

Upon life's strange and storm-swept sea
Because my Pilot's far from me?"

"No, not alone my way I trace,
Each wave gives back my Pilot's face;
To every sin and fear and ill,
To every storm He says, 'Be still.'"

"I need no longer vex my soul
With longings for that distant goal:
My Pilot sitteth at the prow,
And heaven's within, and here, and now."

DORA FARNCOMB.

Gifts for the Shut-in

A Peterboro' reader—Mr. O. S.—sent \$2 for the needy last week, which was passed on at once. The papers and books for the "shut-in," which have arrived from many of our readers, have also been passed on. With heartiest thanks.

DORA FARNCOMB,
6 West Ave., Toronto.

The Fashions.

How to Order Patterns.

Order by number, giving age or measurement as required, and allowing at least ten days to receive pattern. Also state in which issue pattern appeared. Address Fashion Department, "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine," London, Ont. Be sure to sign your name when ordering patterns. Many forget to do this.

When ordering, please use this form:—
Send the following pattern to:

Name.....
Post Office.....
County.....
Province.....
Number of Pattern.....
Age (if child or misses' pattern).....
Measurement—Waist.....Bust.....
Date of issue in which pattern appeared.....

2822-2818. A Smart Sports Costume. Blouse 2822 cut in 7 sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure, and requires 3 yards of 36-inch material. Skirt 2818 cut in 7 sizes: 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. Size 24 requires 3½ yards of 36-inch material. Skirt measures about 1½ yards at the lower edge. TWO separate patterns, 10 cents FOR EACH pattern.

2508. Girls' Dress. Cut in 4 sizes: 4, 6, 8 and 10 years. Size 8 requires 2½ yards of 36-inch material for the dress, and 1¾ yards for the guimpe. Price, 10 cents.

2812. Ladies' House Dress. Cut in 7 sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires 5½ yards of 36-inch material. The skirt measures 2 yards at the foot. Price, 10 cents.

2814. Girls' Dress. Cut in 4 sizes: 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Size 10 requires 4¾ yards of 27-inch material. Price, 10 cents.

2824-2616. A Stylish Costume. Waist 2824 cut in 6 sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. Skirt 2616 cut in 6 sizes: 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. The skirt measures 2 yards at the lower edge, with plaits drawn out. It will require, for the entire costume, 6½ yards of 40-inch material. TWO separate patterns, 10 cents FOR EACH pattern.

2829. Girl's Coat. Cut in 5 sizes: 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Size 6 will require 3 yards of 44-inch material. Price, 10 cents.

2811. Ladies' Negligee. Cut in 4 sizes: Small, 32-34; Medium, 36-38; Large, 40-42; and Extra Large, 44-46 inches bust measure. Size Medium will require 4¾ yards of 44-inch material. Price, 10 cents.

2639. Girls' Dress. Cut in 4 sizes: 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. Size 12 requires 3¾ yards of 36-inch material. Price, 10 cents.



The Ingle Nook

Rules for correspondence in this and other Departments: (1) Kindly write on one side of paper only. (2) Always send name and address with communications. If pen name is also given, the real name will not be published. (3) When enclosing a letter to be forwarded to anyone, place it in stamped envelope ready to be sent on. (4) Allow one month in this Department for answers to questions to appear.]

The Charm of Curtains.

CERTAINLY a room looks bare until the curtains are added. They give the finishing touch of daintiness and homelikeness; and yet they may be a horror. For instance what possible attractiveness could ever have been conjured up in connection with the old-fashioned, much-bepatterned Nottingham lace window hangings, especially when they reached the floor and were so stiffly starched that they stuck out like so many old-time petticoats? Perhaps there are some of these old curtains still in existence, but they have been put through such a transformation that one scarcely could know them. They have been dyed brown, or old-gold, or olive green, to harmonize or form a pleasing contrast with the ground color of the room, and now, almost absolutely starchless do duty as inside curtains, those next the glass being quite plain, without design of any kind.

Window curtains seldom reach the floor nowadays, unless in large elaborate drawing rooms furnished in old French style. For the ordinary living-room, which, with the help of a small reception-room, has almost completely superseded the formal drawing-room, the window draperies reach only to the sill, but

value in leading a man to more clearly. Note the poem also. "The Grammarian's Funeral," he the revival of learning in Europe began to kindle life of Greece and Rome. the grammarian was the task of translating other his death his pupils gave a funeral, singing his carry his body to the

ve come to another great story of the human race, of Greek thought, and Christianity. Cleon is a to have everything that He knows all the best in music and philosophy. has very little faith in the gion. No man will work deal which is not a reality Religious consciousness imperative. These men t, they had high culture timents. The stoic had rol and fortitude; the pleasure. Yet the spirit it can enjoy, and he e that there is another will be continued. Hear-tian religion he hopes it solve the problem of life. le of Karshish," we have Arab physician, which v moral consciousness—ood and evil. He was alestine and heard the azarus, and would like to One who had healed him. must end with God. promises a continuing eon and Karshish were y a god of love. They n, not knowing he was so ere is pathos.

introduction of Browning, may introduction to those made his acquaintance, now him, may it be to

Flowers Worth Knowing.

presented four beautiful in the plant world, all to the Lily family, as d from their graceful

(*Polygonatum biflorum*). and June, in rich woods. 1 to 3 feet high bears aves alternately on the pendant, bell-shaped, flowers hanging beneath, s. The fruit is a small plant will grow splendidly shaded place in the its name from the scars t-stalk by the last year's resemble the stamp of a ut what Solomon had to clear.

Seal, or False Spikenard (*Maianthemum Canadense*).—Sometimes, also, s Zig-zag" from the fact g-zags somewhat. The alk very much resemble mon's Seal, but the small wers grow in a compound end of the stalk. The ay, and are followed by ish spotted green berries

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—Somewhat resembling d in its leaves and man- the *Streptopus roseus*, or listed stalk, but the sh. They are followed beautiful, pendant red other species, *Streptopus* greenish flowers. The strongly clasping, have underneath.