

haven't been satisfied with it ; I know that ; and I haven't been real downright satisfied myself, though I tried to think it first-class. But I have changed roads now ; I am on the main line at last, and am bound for home. I'm not a passenger, either, but a stockholder."

"The Lord be praised!" said the minister, the joy in his heart ringing in his voice as the full meaning of this quaint language dawned upon him, and he grasped Stephen's hand. "I have waited and prayed for this so long, Stephen. Do you mind telling me the story — what started you on the right road at last?"

"Well," said Stephen, clearing his throat, "I have been thinking about it a good deal more than any of you know ; but I really suppose it was Jake Lucas at the last who got me on the main track. It seemed so remarkable for him to board the lightning express, as you may say, and me, with the long start I had ahead of him, to be left behind. Then he was determined I should travel with him ; it seemed as though nothing less would satisfy him. Then — perhaps you remember that list of words which started me in the first place?"

"I certainly do," said the minister promptly.

"Well, I keep studying them. I made up my mind, you know, to master them, and they brought me square up against the Bible one day, and made me go at that if I meant to be honest."

There was a moment's pause, then Stephen