

FIGHTING AGAINST CARTS.



HIS story is told by an ancient writer of how Alexander the Great, on an expedition into Thrace, forced his way through what is now called the Shipka Pass: "Crossing the river Nestus, they say he reached Mount Hæmus on the tenth day. And there met him here, along the defiles as he ascended the mountain, masses of well-armed traders, occupying the summits of the Hæmus, where the troops had to pass.

"They had collected together their wagons and placed them in their front, not only using them as a rampart from which they might defend themselves, if hard pressed, but also intending to let them loose, where the mountain was steep, upon the Macedonians in their ascent.

"But Alexander, being resolved to take all risks, and knowing there was no other possible route, commanded the heavy armed soldiers, whenever the wagons came rolling down the slopes, to open ranks so far as the width of the road permitted, and let the wagons run by; but if they were hemmed on either side, to huddle down in a mass and lock their shields compactly together, so that the wagons should leap over them and pass on without doing hurt.

And it turned out just as Alexander had planned and commanded. The wagons rolled on over the shields without doing much injury. Indeed, not a single man was killed under them.

The battle resulted in a complete victory on the part of Alexander.

"Where there is a will there is a way."

Alexander had determined to cross the mountain and no multitude of carts could keep him back.

This is the sort of determination which will help every boy to make a man of himself. Whether his name is George, or James, or Henry, or Alfred, or whatever it may be, he is sure to find difficulties in his way.

Some of these may be in himself. Perhaps when he gets up in the morning he is apt to feel contrary and not want to do the things that his father or mother may desire.

Then this contrary disposition is an enemy that he must fight desperately hard, if he is ever to make an admirable man.

Or it may be that he has a quick temper; that

he is easily provoked: that he takes offence with cause or without it.

Then this enemy of evil temper must be earnestly fought until it is subdued. The boy must be always on the watch for it, because it frequently appears when one is not expecting it. So, too, there may be other enemies to success which he will find in his own mind and heart. These are to be overcome by prayer and constant effort.

The boy is wise who devotes himself enthusiastically to the service of the Lord Jesus Christ, and resolves that, come what may, he will serve the Master faithfully. This is the resolution which will help him to attain the highest manhood and will bring the best sort of success.—*Christian Intelligencer.*

LOVING HIS NEIGHBOR AS HIMSELF.

DURING the days when little Willis was recovering from a long and serious illness his papa brought him many pretty books and toys, and by the time he was entirely well he had a large and varied collection.

The book he loved best of all was the Bible story of Joseph and his brethren, illustrated, while his favorite toys were a large elephant with several small men on his back, a bright red horse-carriage with a row of brass bells which jingled merrily as it rolled along; and a well-laden donkey, with a very solemn face, who wagged his head from side to side as he moved leisurely along.

One day Willis heard of a little boy who was very ill, the only son of one of his papa's intimate friends, and his mamma told Willis that he might send him some of his toys. The little boy ran off, and in a few moments returned with his beautiful elephant, the favorite horse-carriage and the sober old donkey.

His mamma, who was surprised and not a little disappointed at the selection, simply asked why he had chosen those particular toys. In the most ingenuous manner he replied: "Why, those are the ones I like best."

His fond mother felt rebuked, for she had supposed that from his large collection he would have given those which had been longest in his possession, or the ones he cared for least.

The beautiful toys so freely given afforded the sick boy much pleasure, and when he had almost arrived at manhood the large elephant was still in his possession. We think the small giver experienced even more pleasure, for is it not "more blessed to give than to receive?"