

Each the text should stand in letters of gold. Its author had no doubt cause to say that possibly he was too joyful, but that himself was born, and lived, and died under the same universal and beneficent law of winter. He began to have the good of it prepared for him before he was born. For His mother's banishment to the hill country of Judea, with all the wintry gusts that blew down on her from her far-off home, only made him sing till, like Rutledge, she was rescued by her neighbours for her too great joy from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. And thus we know, to our comfort and strength to-night, how that, born in mid winter, her own son was made perfect through the wintry winters of banishment from His father's house; and how His graces came among the steep staves and on the bread of Israel, till He became what He now is. And this great law of the divine vineyard did not exhaust itself when it had fulfilled itself in Him, it only took new hold of God the good husband man, and went out wider and deeper into the earth after its splendid success in Jesus Christ. No other saint of God is so full of this law as Paul is, unless it were David. But no New Testament man, at my rate to our eye, comes so near Christ in this, as in everything else, as Paul does. We read to-night out of one of his best letters, the 1st of 1st Corinthians, in which he speaks of tribulation, travail, patience, and patience experience, and experience hope. And even James, who does not usually dig so deep as Paul such rich clusters as Paul does, even he opens his circular letter to the twelve tribes scattered abroad with these consolatory words: "My Brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations. The truth is, all the best books of the world, Canonical, Apocryphal, Pagan, Jewish, Pagan, almost all that have been written in winter, or in early spring, and all the best scholia and comments upon them, have been written by men on whose heads the snow had fallen. You have heard of John Calvin, and you have been ashamed sometimes to be called a Calvinist in the cultivated and polite circles in which you move. Did you ever read any of his own books or of his comments on any of his Books of Scripture? The chances are all not. I have spoken of the Psalms as having mostly been written in winter or soon after winter. And, as we are among old letters and autobiographical confidences to-night, let us open Calvin's Preface to the Psalms and read a passage out of him. "The conflicts," he confides in his godly and ingenious reader, "with which the Lord hath exercised me, have, in no small degree, assisted me in comprehending these diverse compositions. . . that I have suffered the same or similar things from the domestic enemies of the Church has greatly aided me in understanding David. In relating the instances of his faith, patience, courage, zeal and integrity, it has, as I ought, drawn from me unnumbered groans and sighs that I am so far from approaching them, but, at the same time, I have beheld in him, as in a mirror, an example for instruction. Were I to narrate the various conflicts by which the Lord hath exercised me, and by what he hath proved me, it would be too long a history. When I was groundlessly accused by those who should have assisted and solaced me, it was no small consolation to conform myself to the example of so great and so excellent a person as David. This experience has been of much service in understanding the Psalms, so that in my meditations upon them I did not wander into an unknown region." When you hear any one speaking contemptuously or censoriously of John Calvin, tell them that you have never read any of his books.

I would like to tell you also how John Owen came to understand the 150th Psalm, but I must leave that and pass on. But we do not need to go to Aberdeen, nor to remain there, nor to Jerusalem, nor to the hill country of Judea, to seek the good fruits of winter. Every body knows that our winters are long and bitter in this city, they are long in departing and they are back long before their time. But do we owe nothing as a people to our hard and inclement climate? My honoured friend, General Booth, honoured, like his Master, with the abuse and persecution of the Pharisees and Sadducees of his day, told me that he had been offered a far sunnier land than anything in Scotland or even England, in which to plant one of his reformation colonies, but that he had declined the offer. The climate was too soft, the summers were too long, and the winters were too short for his grace-growing purposes. He did not say it, but I think it quite possible, that if he were offered a deer forest in our own Argyll or Athol, he might accept the offer, and both turn it into a garden and his submerged thousands into hard-working, Sabbath-keeping Highlanders, such that we would not refuse to call them our brethren even though they exhibited a little, to use a heathen allusion, of their corymbic worship occasionally among us as David did before the Ark. Good soldiers of Jesus Christ are made by the endurance of hardness, and they grow better and better soldiers as they endure that divine discipline.

Not only does true grace grow best in winter, but winter is the best season for planting it. "I was to be married and she died," was a young Edinburgh man's explanation to me the other day for proposing to sit down at the Lord's Table. The winter cold that carried off his future wife saw planted in his ploughed-up heart the seeds of Divine grace; and, no doubt, all down the coming winters, with such short interludes of summers as may be before him in this cold climate, the grace that was planted in winter will grow. It is not a speculation in experimental religion, it is a personal experience that hundreds here can testify to, that their Bibles, the Sabbath, the Supper, the prayer-meeting, all become so many means of grace to them after some great affliction, greatly sanctified. The death of a bride, the death of a wife, the death of a child; some blow from bride or wife or child worse than death; a lost home, a lost home forever; these and things like these, are needful, as it would seem to be, suffered by most men before they will open their hearts to the grace of God. Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now how I throb.

At the same time, good and necessary as all such wintry experiences are, their good results on us do not last forever. In

too many cases they do not last long. It is rather a start in grace we take at such seasons than a steady and deep growth in it. The growth in grace that comes to us in connection with some sore affliction is apt to be violent and spasmodic, it comes and it goes with the affliction, it is not slow, constant, steady, sure, as all true and natural growth is. If one might say so, a winter in the soul, a continued inward winter, is needed to keep up a steady, deep and fruitful growth in grace. Now, is there anything in the spiritual bankruptcy of God that can be called the winter of the soul? I think there is. The winter of our outward life, trials, crosses, sickness, death, are all the wages of sin, and it is among these things that grace first strikes its roots. Well, what is the continual presence of sin in the soul but the true winter of the soul amid which the grace that is planted in an outbreak of winter even after strikes deeper root and grows? Once let a man be awakened of God to his own great sinfulness, and that not in its fruits in outward sorrow, but to its malignant roots that are twisted round and round and through and through his heart, and that man has that winter ever after within him that will secure to him a life-long growth in the most inward grace. Once let a poor wretch awake to the unbroken winter of his own sinfulness, a sinfulness that is with him when he lies down and when he rises up, when he is abroad among men and when he is at home with himself alone, an incessant, increasing, agonizing, overwhelming sense of sin, and how that most miserable of men will grow in grace, and how he will drink in all the means of grace. How he will hear the word of grace preached, mixing it no longer with fault-finding, as he used to do, but with repentance and faith under any and every ministry, how he will examine himself every day, or rather, how every day will examine, accuse, expose and condemn him; and how meekly he will accept the exposures and the condemnations. That man will be greedy on all the means of grace. He will not need you to preach to him about the sanctifying of the Sabbath, or about waiting on this and that means of grace. He will grow with or without the means of grace, but he will be of all men the most diligent in his devotion to them. He will almost get beyond the word and within the sacrament, so close up will his corruption drive him to Christ and to God. Till, having provided for that man so much grace, and so much growth in grace, God will soon have to give him glory if only to satisfy him and pacify him, and lift him out of the writer of his discontent. And then, "Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw herself; for the Lord shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended."

British and Foreign.
REV. DR. JAMES STALKER, Glasgow, in a letter regarding belief in miracles, does not think much of those ministers who are sceptical in private and orthodox in public. The things which they designate first and foremost in the ministers whom they will trust are absolute moral consistency and intense belief in at least the fundamentals of the faith they profess.
A HIGHLAND pastor in the far north lately denouncing liturgies and organs, exclaimed—"What would Jonah have done when praying in the whale's belly? He would have said 'Lord, I cannot pray to Thee; I have not my collect. Lord I cannot praise Thee. I have not my organ. What would he have done with his organ in the whale's belly? The whale would say—'Jonah, I had enough do to get yourself in let alone your organ!'"—*Christian Leader*

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Samuel W. Abbott, Millchamps Building, cured in six weeks, Rheumatism in knees and feet—Knee Pads and Isolate.
A. E. Caldwell, Engraver, 71 King street, City, Rheumatism in the knee cured.
J. McLaughlin, Grain Merchant, cured of Rheumatism in the shoulder after all other failed.
Jan. Weeks, Parkdale, Saxonia and Lame the knee of 15 years cured.
W. J. Co. 1st, Guney's Store Works, City, not able to work for three weeks, cured in four weeks.
Mrs. Dwyer, 27 Agnes street, City, cured of Sciatica in six weeks.
C. C. Hockwood, 16 Balmor street, City, cured of Lame back in a few days.
Mrs. Geo. P. Hanger, City, Liver and Kidneys, now free from all pain, strong and happy.
Miss Flora McDonald, 21 Wilton avenue, City, reports a lump drawn from her wrist in the hospital, cured in two days.
Joseph Fennell, 27 Queen street east, City, could not write a letter, went to work on the sixth day—Newralgia.
Mrs. Wm. Bennett, 11 King street west, City, after years of sleeplessness now never loses a wink—Butterfly Belt.
Mrs. M. M. Whithead, 178 Jarvis street, City, a sufferer for years, could not be induced to part with her bed.
Mrs. E. Stovington, 140 Ligon St., City Blind with Rheumatic Isolate, cured in three weeks by Actina, Butterfly Belt and Isolate.

Geo. H. Lucas, Veterinary Dentist, 165 King street west, had dyspepsia for six years, entirely cured in eight weeks by Actina and Isolate.
Richard Hood, 20 Stewart street City, cured Actina three months for a permanent cure—Catarrh.
Alex. Rogers, Tobaccoist, City, declared Actina worth \$100, Headache.
E. Riggs, 120 Adelaide street west, City, Catarrh cured Actina and Bell.
John Thompson, Toronto Junction cured of Jaundice in the eye in two weeks by Actina.
Mrs. E. M. Forsythe, 17 Huron street, City, reports a lump drawn from her hand, twelve years standing.
Senator A. B. Botfield advises everybody to use Actina for Failing Eyesight.
Miss Laura Goss, 100 King street west, City, granulated eyelids, cured in four weeks—Actina and Bell.
Mrs. J. Stevens, 23 Tecumseth street, City, Rheumatism in the Eyelids, spread three weeks in the hospital, eyes opened in two days.
Mrs. M. Laughlin, 24 Centre street, City, a cripple from Rheumatism, now able to attend to her household duties.
Giles Williams, Ontario Coal Co., 347A Actina is invaluable for Bronchitis and Asthma.
J. M. McCarty, 121 N. P. & M. Ky. "to the hospital, eyes opened in two days."
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THOMAS JOHNSON, New Salem, suffered with Rheumatism and Asthma, Lungs strengthened and Asthma cured.

Mrs. Beard, Barrie, Ont., cured of Catarrh of three years standing—Actina and Isolate.
Rev. R. W. Mills, Brimston Corners, Ont., entirely well, had Catarrh very bad—used Actina and Isolate.
H. S. Fleetwood, a wreck mentally and physically, Cause, nightly emissions, Perfectly cured. Thomas Guthrie, Agyle, Man, says our Butterfly Belt and suspensory did him more good than all the medicine he paid for in twelve years.
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J. A. T. Fry, cured of emissions in three weeks.
"Our Belt and Suspensory cured me of Impotency, writes J. A. I would not be without your Belt and Suspensory for 100,000,000. For General Debility, your Belt and Suspensory at cheap as any price, says S. N. C. Belt and Suspensory gave 11 St. of Fleetwood, a new lease of life. N. E. G. had no faith, but was entirely cured of Impotency.
W. L. Brown, 73 Richmond street west, City, Catarrh, cured several doctors; all advised he take, "Cured in six weeks with Butterfly Belt and Suspensory.
John Bromberg, Varicocelus, cured in five weeks—Actina, Butterfly Belt and Isolate.
Rouben Silverthorn, Forterville, was almost a wreck. Entirely cured by the Belt and Suspensory.

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Histogenetic Medicine Association, Toronto, **Ontario, Dec. 27th, 1890.**

Gentlemen,—I received your first package of medicine two weeks ago, and having faithfully used it ever since, I now wish to state my testimony to its excellence as a remedy for chronic diseases. With an excruciating pain in the year 1860, thirty years ago, my health suddenly collapsed in the shape of rheumatism, diabetes, nervousness, having many groundless fears, great palpitation of heart, depression of spirits, and so unable to study that I had to give up my profession of teaching. God only knows what misery I suffered in those years. I soon found out that I was paying for some of my youthful follies. As was natural, I began using all the patent medicines of the day, but all to little purpose. I also consulted "specialists" of every school, and though some helped me up for a time, yet I was never cured. Under one course, I scribbled and washed so much that my skin was nearly worn through, and it did me no weaker. So I went on in a partially broken down condition for years; my intellect blighted, and my husband married, which of late years has been a great loss to me. I had about given up all hope, when one day last July, I was reading the Histogenetic System of Medicine, and my eye caught the word "Complete restoration in medicine." Ah, thought I perhaps a gradual cure, so I read, and saw two very honest like letters, whom I have been praying for help, has something for me here. So I read, and saw two very honest like letters from two ladies in Toronto, who had been cured of long standing complaints. I obtained the book and not only read, but studied it, and thought about it as well as I could at the time. I had faith, I believe Dr. Jordan's theory to be the true one. And now, having tried the remedy for only two weeks, I thank God that I was ever directed to it; for I certainly believe it was providential. I am, so far, fully satisfied with it. It is a simple, easy to be taken, safe and effective remedy. I felt almost as well as any man could wish to feel. Low spirits all gone, get up in the morning singing—could sing all day—beginning to feel that vigor, and light heartedness which makes life so pleasant. My head is opened. Oh what comfort I have in reading now. I do not expect, like true, to be made into a young man (being now 55) but I firmly believe I will be cured of all my ills after using the remedy for a length of time corresponding to my age and long standing complaints. The medicines I have taken in the past were dreadfully strong, and many a very fine I made in using them, and always had to increase the dose. I often felt myself injured by them otherwise, and so wonder, as I took to work. For use to make the medicine. It is perfectly harmless, operating so gently and yet with such wonderful effect, as really to make me wonder, how such a simple looking, almost tasteless substance could have such power. But it is a builder up of the poor broken down body, and helps to give to many a heart. So I advise all who are afflicted with sickness which baffles all the "old schools" not to allow any unreasonable prejudices to hinder them from giving their remedies a fair trial, and I am sure you will not regret it.

This is a true and a merely to help the Histogenetic Association. For I am speaking that I solemnly believe to be true concerning myself so far as I have gone, and for the benefit of those who are afflicted I believe God has raised up and proposed Dr. J. Eugene Jordan.

Yours truly,
JOHN BURLINGTON.

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