

through the valleys of the White and Blue Niles, including Nubia, Kordofan, Sennar and Abyssinia. Herodotus divided its inhabitants into two main groups, the straight haired on the east, and the woolly haired on the west. Although the people were black they had gained very early a high degree of civilization. The country had been gradually subjected by Egypt, and it was ruled by the Egyptian king's son and paid tribute in negroes, oxen, gold, rare beads and household utensils. The people finally rebelled and not only gained their independence but succeeded in conquering Lower Egypt, to

which they gave the 25th dynasty of kings. During the Roman period Ethiopia was ruled by queens, among whom Candace was an official name, and whose capital was Meroe, between Berber and Khartoum. In Christian history the term Ethiopia is confined to Abyssinia, which was Christianized about the middle of the fourth century. Its ancient church with a version of the Bible in the original language of the people still remains. The primitive civilization vanished from all the other lands and even Abyssinia sank into barbarism.

THE LESSON APPLIED

Envy always attacks on the flank. The real reason of this family quarrel was the superior authority and rank of Moses; the ostensible reason was his wife. So Shakespeare represents the murderers of Cæsar as claiming lofty patriotic motives for the bloody deed. And Shylock excuses his ill-will towards Antonio on the ground, "he . . . brings down the rate of usance here with us in Venice." No one ever says of another, "I dislike him because he is rich and popular and powerful." What he says is, "I dislike him because he got rich by fraud, won favor by craft and uses his power unjustly." No one ever says, "I dislike her because she is pretty and graceful and pleasing." What she says is, "I dislike her because she thinks she is pretty and puts on airs."

There is not much difference between jealousy and envy, but jealousy is oftener found in our homes. Better to listen to the snarling of the wolf of poverty outside our door than to sit down to every meal with this wolf of jealousy at our table. Many a family circle, where harmony and peace should reign, is turned into an abode of spite and hatred by the presence of this fierce and lawless beast. Dr. John Newton tells of such a home in his parish and the way in which it became transformed. It was the home of a childless old couple who had been known for years to have been constantly quarreling. All at once the strife ceased. The village gossip called to inquire what had produced the change. She was told that they kept two scripture bears in

the house, and it was due to them. One was "bear ye one another's burdens," and the other was "forbearing one another in love." The names were Bear and (For) Bear. That is the way to get rid of family jealousies. Let the bears chase out the wolf.

Meekness is no protection against envy. It often acts as an aggravation. Like a cowardly bully, envy is at the same time irritated and encouraged by non-resistance. At the time when Aristides, surnamed "the just," was banished from Athens by popular vote, as the people were inscribing the names on the voting tablets, an illiterate voter came to Aristides, whom he took for some ordinary person, and giving him his tablet, asked him to write "Aristides" on it. The good man, surprised at the adventure, asked him whether Aristides had ever injured him. "No," he said, "nor do I even know him, but I am tired of hearing him called 'the just.'" Aristides made no answer, but sorrowfully wrote his own name on the tablet and returned it to the man. And Jesus Himself, with nobler reason surnamed the Just, was violently seized and accused of capital crimes before Pilate, knowing all the while that it was "for envy they had delivered Him" up.

But Aaron, brought face to face with his sister's leprosy, came to his senses. So do the great tragic occurrences of life hush the trivial and unworthy envies and disputes with which we mortals foolishly plague each other. Death makes people kind. A lassie in Scotland once asked her mother where the