

evenings, and the wheels of the wagons often sank up to the very axle in the loose sand. In some places the heat was so great that the grass actually crumbled to dust in our fingers. More than once our supply of water ran out altogether, and men and beasts staggered onward over the hot, dusty, never-ending plain, with parched tongues and bloodshot eyes, silent and despairing."

At the thought of these difficulties, which he himself was one day to meet and overcome as few men have ever done before or after him, the boy's thin face hardened into the look of indomitable firmness which was its habitual expression in after life. But it softened into a smile the next moment, as he read as follows:

"In several of the places where we camped our chief food was a species of large frog, called by the natives "mattle-metto," which was kind enough to assist us in our hunts for it by setting up such a tremendous croaking that we could easily find it, even in the dark."

Here the boy turned over a leaf, and came suddenly upon a startling picture of a man lying prostrate on the ground, with a lion's forepaw planted on his chest, and its teeth fastened in his shoulder, while several negroes, with terrified faces, were seen making off as fast as possible in the background.

"How would you like to travel through a country like that, my lad?" asked the explorer. "It would be rough work, wouldn't it?"

"I would like weel to gang there, for a' that," answered the boy, "for there's muckle to be done there yet."

"There is indeed, and it's just fellows of your sort that we need to do it," said the traveller, clapping him on the shoulder. "If you ever do go to Africa, I think it will take more than a lion in your way to stop you."

The whole world now knows how strangely those lightly-spoken words were fulfilled twenty-eight years later, when that boy did actually come alive out of the jaws of the hungry African lion which had broken his arm with its teeth, to finish those wonderful explorations that filled the civilized world with the fame of Dr. David Livingstone.

GO PATIENTLY TO WORK

Good fortune and ill frequently come in disguise. It is difficult for young folks to realize that hard work and close economy and the little irritations that try their patience, are often the very best things that could come to them. And it is still more difficult to recognize misfortune in the success that comes too readily.

The boy who learns easily is envied by his plodding school-mate who spends hours on the lesson the other reads over once. But quickness is a danger if it aspires to taking the place of hard work. Good students are not made from those who rely on their ability to grasp the meaning of a lesson by glancing it through.

The gift of making friends easily has its dangers. If a pretty face or a pleasant manner or a bright smile makes a girl very attractive to the young people of her own age, there is a chance of her forgetting that she needs to cultivate sweetness and and loyalty. The plain, silent, retir-

ing girl she rather looks down upon, has an advantage over her in one respect at least. Since she cannot win friends by reason of a pink-and-white complexion or a pair of dimples, she often turns her attention to making the most of her head and heart.

Too sudden success in business life proves sometimes a misfortune. The young man who fancies he can get to the top of the ladder in some other way than by climbing seldom mounts far.

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