

for the Lord Jesus laid the foundation and carried the work forward to its completion."

"I do not understand you," I answered.

"I will explain. While building this house, my wife, an invalid, had no shelter besides that which a tent afforded. I was anxious that the work should be pushed forward as speedily as possible, and also that it should be well done; and as I must leave much in the hands of others, and those, too, who had the power to do me harm, I laid the burden on Jesus, and asked him to bear it for me.

"One day the foreman came to me and said that he would soon need a very large and long beam, and that unless obtained, the work must be suspended. It would be difficult, I knew, to procure the required piece of timber, but I asked God to provide for me. From many sources I tried to obtain the much needed beam, but all my efforts proved fruitless, and the work was suspended.

"One day one of the workmen walked down to the river's bank. While gazing about he saw far up the stream an object moving towards him. He stood idly conjecturing what it could be, when, as it approached nearly, he saw that it was a raft. Wondering what freight it bore, he watched it a little longer. Nearer to the spot on which he stood it came, and now he was thoroughly interested, for securely resting there he saw a long stout beam.

"What is the size of that beam?" he asked as soon as his voice could reach the raftsmen. His answer startled the questioner, for it was precisely the size of the beam upon which so much depended.

"What are you going to do with it?" was next asked.

"Sell it, if I can find a purchaser," was shouted back.

"Name your price," was the answer returned; "I will take it."

"The timber was purchased, and proved exactly what was needed, and the work went rapidly forward.

"God," continued the Doctor, "sent me that beam as surely as if it had dropped from His own hand, and when in straits, and I have cast all my care upon Him, He has always come to my aid."—*Christian at Work.*

### Medicine versus Alcohol.

TEMPERANCE medical men can point to the fact that the value of alcohol as a diet was universally credited, till disproved by the finest tests of science, and the unerring touchstone of experience. They can show that there has been a great fluctuation of professional opinion on this very point of the use of alcohol in medicine, and that the more modern fashion of its free administration is already discountenanced by physicians and professors of distinguished reputation. What is more, and weightier than all, they can allege, as they have done on the platform, and in the past, that in proportion as alcohol has been eliminated from medicinal prescriptions the recovery of patients has not been less, but more rapid; and that in sickness, its introduction into the system has not a beneficial but injurious effect, depressing the physical energies, and retarding that restoration which the patient and physician alike so much desire. It is indubitable that some of the primary results, long considered infallible indices of benefit received by the use of stimulants, are now regarded with suspicion and distrust by intelligent practitioners: and the recent declaration of Dr. Russell Reynolds, Physician to University College Hospital, that after eliciting vital force by such means, it is found that the vital functions are exhausted and that patients die, is strikingly pertinent to this question. The experience of the London Temperance Hospital has been limited, but is fairly available as evidence, and the visiting physicians and surgeons of that institution are not men who would ride any hobby to the death of those who are entrusted to their charge. They are empowered by the rules of the Hospital to administer alcohol if they think it needful; and the fact that they have not seen reason to do this except once (and then as a last resource, and without any advantage) is of considerable significance, and will be assigned its due weight by the candid observer. That too much alcohol is mixed with medicine, and a ridiculous value is placed upon it in ailments of every kind, from the slightest to the severest, will be granted without a moment's question; and