

was peace and prosperity in Altenburgh, such as had not been seen even in the best of the old days, before the stranger had usurped the place which belonged to the house of Atlas.

The years passed, and there came to Atalyn and Katherine the joys and the sorrows which are the common lot of humanity; but there came to them, too, the blessings of the needy and the sorrowful, and in their lives there was only that which brought to them, in all fullness, the benediction which it was promised by their great ancestor would be their reward for well-doing.

As the years passed, too, the old halls of Altenburgh and Eumaling echoed to the joyous laughter of children's voices, for to Sir George and Lady Denesmore the presence of their grandchildren was as the renewing of their youth; and when they came to Eumaling—it was but a step across the valley to Aldenmere House—to find again the music of the little voices, and Lord and Lady Kenleigh, whom the children called "Uncle Joe" and "Aunt Adele."