

James was toiling on in front of me ; and how he managed to keep up, or how he had the courage to venture out at all, on such a stormy day, I could not imagine. I overtook the little fellow, as we drew near the school-house, and said to him :— “ Well, Jemmy, this is a stormy day to be going to Sunday-school ; I wonder that you were not afraid to come out to-day—a little chap like you ; are you not almost frozen ? ”

“ Oh no, Mr. E. ” said the manly little fellow, looking up to me. “ If this was Monday, I should be out riding down hill on my sled, I shouldn’t mind the cold then, and so I oughtn’t to mind it now. If it didn’t blow so, I shouldn’t mind it at all ; but it is pretty hard when you have to face the east wind. Coming up from our house, I had to walk a good way against the wind, and it nearly took the skin off my face. Do you think Mr. R. will be there to-day, Mr. E. ? ”

“ Yes, Jemmy, I think he will. ”

“ I hope he will, ” said my little friend, “ I love to see the minister even when he does not speak to me— if he only smiles at me. When the wind blew so hard, I had a great mind to turn back ; but then I thought I wouldn’t, because Mr. R. would be pleased to see that I had come through the storm to Sabbath school. ”

“ Yes, Jemmy, ” said I, “ such mettle as this, tries the mettle of Sabbath school scholars ; and remember, my dear boy, that it is not only your minister, who is pleased with you when you do right, but that God from his throne on high, looks down, even upon a little child like you, and is pleased with you when he sees that you love to come to school to learn his word. ” We were now close by the church ; but as we hurried up the little brick path, leading to the lecture room where the school was held, the east wind came sweeping round the church fiercer than ever ; it really almost took my breath away.

“ Oh, said Jemmy, as he made a spring forward, and pushed open the door, catching his breath and almost gasping, “ Oh, Mr. E., how glad I am, that we don’t always have to face the east wind. ”

These words of Jemmy, suggested a train of thought to my mind. How easily we become discouraged, and are ready to give up, when, during our journey through life, trouble and sorrow comes upon us, and we are obliged to “ face the east wind. ” The thought that we shall soon be sheltered from life’s storm, the remembrance of the glorious rest which remaineth for the people of God, has scarcely power to animate us, so faithless are we, so easily overcome by the sorrows of earth. We go on our way, with our “ heads bowed down like bulrushes. ” This is not as it should be, this is not the spirit of cheerful, thankful submission to the will of our Heavenly Father, which should characterise the Christian. Instead of dwelling upon, and mourning over our trials here, remember that we shall see our Father there. Let us go on our way thankful, yea rejoicing, that during so small a part of our journey through life, we have to “ face the east wind. ”

The Two Ways.

You have often read, in Matthew vii, 13, 14, of the “ broad way ” and the “ narrow way : ” I wish you to understand what our blessed Lord meant to teach us hereby ; I will endeavour to explain it to you as plainly as possible. The *broad way* represents the path of sin ; it appears at first like an open way, *easy, free, and pleasant* ; so sin, through its *deceitfulness*, presents itself to the mind of man. This broad way is also full of company ; for since man fell from God, by far the greater part of the children of Adam walk in the ways of sin. Now, to warn us, our Saviour declared, that this way “ leads to destruction, ” that is, the *final misery*