

a monstrous fraud. 'Oh, yes; he had heard the tale of sight restored, and the sick healed, too. Yes, yes; he knew that hundreds vouched for the truth of those wild tales. But, mark! He should be seized and cast in prison for healing on the Sabbath! The Sabbath, mind!—breaking the law—failing to keep holy the Sabbath day. Let him and his rabble come but within his city's gates, and straight into prison the lawbreaker would go.' And as he bestrode his weary, unrefreshed beast and went his way, men frowned, and jeering little boys made contemptuous signs at his broad back, while talk, all broken and confused, burst forth again—one rousing astonishment by repeating the names of those most recently baptized; another expressing his timid doubts because, see you, the Man had not appeared in pomp and princely state, as should the One whose coming the prophets had foretold; while, with her sturdy boy riding in state astride her hip, a handsome woman told again, and yet again, with every foolish detail of hour