

could sympathise and feel "In that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able also to succour them that are tempted." He knoweth my way, for He has trodden it Himself. "He was in all points tempted (or tried) like as we are." He knoweth it, it is familiar to Him, so nothing that happens to me can take Him by surprise.

Then I thought of the verse, "My God shall supply all your need, according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." He has, as it were, a store of every thing I want laid up for me, so that as He knows my way, and knows what I want, He will supply all my need out of those riches in glory, which will never come to an end, however much He may give me out of them.

Then as He knows my way, and knows what I want, He can never be taken unawares; I can never want anything that He has not already to give me. It was something like when an aunt who was married and settled in Australia, wrote word for us to send my little sister out to her, and that she would provide for her. We lived far away down in the country then, and knew nothing of what she would want for the voyage; and as we were wondering what we could do, another letter came, saying our aunt had written full directions to a friend in London, who would find everything for her, and that Bessie had nothing to do but to go to her on such a day, and she would see her on board the vessel, and take care that she had everything right.

I believe we would much rather have fussed about everything ourselves, at the risk of making plenty of mistakes, but we had no choice, and had to do as we were bid. When Bessie went to London, she was very curious to know what was in the big trunks, numbered 1, 2, 3, and marked with her name. But the friend said she would not tell her, and that when the time came she would find she had everything she wanted, for that she herself had been to Australia, so she knew all about it.

And so it turned out, for, as Bessie wrote us word, it wasn't only that she had everything she wanted, big and little, but over and above that, in every box there was sure to be something for a surprise, to cheer her up and give her courage. And wasn't that better than if we had tried to manage, and perhaps

left out many a little thing she might have wanted, and that only one who had been to Australia could know about?

And so with the Lord, "He knoweth the way that I take;" and day by day and hour by hour He will give me what I want, as I want it. If everything in heaven and earth belongs to Him, and if He loved me so much that He died to save me, I need not fear He will grudge me what I want. Most of all, what I wanted now was comfort and wisdom. And isn't He the very "God of all comfort?" So that all the comfort my dear husband had given me came from God; and now that John had gone to his heavenly home, God would send me the comfort straight from Himself. And then, as to the wisdom, it says, "He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous." For

a moment the last word staggered me. How could I call myself righteous? I could not do it at all; but then I could say, "The Lord is my righteousness." So that full of sin as I was in myself, I was counted righteous in my Saviour.

I could not think any more then—I could not even pray, unless, indeed, the feeling of need was prayer; and I think it was, for I got up from my knees helped and comforted for all that lay before me, and thanking God for that precious verse. And it's just past the telling, how He has helped me ever since—helped me in my own want, and helped me with the children. When the loneliness is strong upon me, I hear Him saying, "I the Lord thy God will hold

thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee." He brightens up my poor heart with the sunshine of His own love. He has made the children to be so easily managed, too, and as obedient to me as they ever were to their father, just because I am asking all the day long for a bit of the "sound wisdom" He has laid up for me. And, of course, the thought of this encourages me when I'm fearful for the future, so that I am sure (and no wonder, seeing that "He knows the way that I take") that when my last hour on earth comes, I shall be able to say, "Goodness and mercy have followed me all the days of my life;" and they are following me now, right into the very house of my God, where I shall dwell for ever and ever.

Amen and Amen.

