

The Family

LOST AND SAVED.

ANOTHER STORY IN THE SIMPLE ANNALS OF PRAYER.

Is it of any use to pray? Is the principal question of the times, and as facts are better than theories and examples more than arguments, I must give you one instance out of hundreds that might be cited from personal observation. It occurred in connection with one of three books which I have edited, containing illustrations of the power of prayer, of which hundreds of thousands of copies have been circulated in various languages over the earth.

The case is not mentioned in any of the books, and is now for the first time alluded to in public. Early in the spring of 1862, I received the following note from a man who had been a contributor to the New York Observer, a writer of poetry and prose, and his translation of Latin verse had been prominently published over his real name. He wrote:

Dear Sir: You have doubtless heard of the disgrace that I have brought upon myself by the sin and folly into which I have fallen, and I am ashamed to come to you. But seeing in your advertisement an advertisement of a book by the name of your mother, I am in former days, and I was led to ask if there were not for me to be saved by prayer. Will you pray for me a ruined man. Yours truly servant, J. B. L.

I recognized his name at once as that of an old acquaintance, of whom I had lost sight for several years. But I had heard nothing of the sin and shame of which he spoke in his letter, and was shocked to hear of it, especially from his own confession.

As the letter was dated from his place of business down town, I thought it would be more agreeable to him not to have me call on him there, and I wrote him a few lines upon the instant as follows:

My Dear Friend: I never heard until this moment that you were in trouble of any kind. But come and see me; the worse you are, the more welcome you will be when you come to me. I want to see you, and to see you in the arms of God to see you. Come as soon as you can; the sooner the better. Of course I will pray for you, and will be always.

Your friend and brother. The next day at noon he entered my room, a bloated, bear-eyed, trembling drunkard; wreck, ruin, shame, all over his wretched face. I took him by the hand with a cordial welcome and he said, "Yes, yes." "I replied, "It speaks for itself; there's no need to ask what's the matter; but tell me all about it, how long has it been so, and why can't you get out of it?"

He sat down and with tears running down his face, and shaking as an aspen leaf, he told me his story. I can give it from memory very nearly in his own words. "This thing has been going on from bad to worse for several years. The passion has grown upon me until it is impossible to break it up. I took your letter home last night as the first thing that I had laid hold on, and my children put their arms around my neck and said, 'How will you pray and get over it, and we will pray for you.' I read your letter, and my wife got up in the night and prayed, and this morning I prayed for help and promised them not to leave a drop till I had seen you; and I drank three times on the way down and am utterly unable to resist the appetite that eats my heart like a canker. I have thought God might help me, if you will pray for me; and I don't know; I guess it's all up for me, and if I were dead it would be better for all of us."

I talked as hopefully to him as possible, promised to pray for him as the best and the most that I could do for him; but I confess that the sight of the man so changed, his visage so marred, the blood-shot eyes, the sickening countenance, the shaking limbs of a man of forty-five, said "no hope" so plainly, that I was on the verge of despair. I exacted no promise from him; pledges from such a man were not as strong as straw; but I did say some things about hope, and about prayer, that are too sacred to be repeated, though they were poured upon his dulled ear as if God were bidding me to speak to a man dead to come back to life and joy and heaven. He left me with expressions of gratitude and almost of hope, and I felt as he went out, "I will come to you at once to-morrow."

Twenty-four hours went by and I went into his office in Pine street, and I declare he positively looked better. He said, "I have not tasted a drop since I saw you; not a drop. I told my wife of the talk we had, and after supper we spent the evening singing and talking, and they prayed with me. It looks better, don't it?"

What I said to him is of no account, for words are nothing in the way of help to a man; but I will tell you what I did say, and how it was. "I told him that the spirit of the man so changed, his visage so marred, the blood-shot eyes, the sickening countenance, the shaking limbs of a man of forty-five, said 'no hope' so plainly, that I was on the verge of despair. I exacted no promise from him; pledges from such a man were not as strong as straw; but I did say some things about hope, and about prayer, that are too sacred to be repeated, though they were poured upon his dulled ear as if God were bidding me to speak to a man dead to come back to life and joy and heaven. He left me with expressions of gratitude and almost of hope, and I felt as he went out, 'I will come to you at once to-morrow.'"

Both a philosophy and a moral may be found in the following, which we heard full from the lips of the very learned Rev. Dr. Schaaf of this city. It was at a meeting of ministers of the Reformed Church, gathered in the lecture-room of the church which until recently stood at the corner of William and Fulton streets. There was a running discussion on the delicate point how far we might judge a man's piety. The learned divine took very sensible ground, viz., that a large margin of charity should be given, as some men, because of difference of constitutional temperament, might do things that in them would be less sinful than in others more favorably constituted. He said that a certain minister of the Reformed Church was presiding at a meeting of the consistory of his church when one of the officers considered it his duty to differ from his minister on a point of church polity. The pastor at this lost his head, and advancing to the elder delivered himself in violent language, whereas another elder ventured a remonstrance: "Domine, you should restrain your temper!" "Restrain my temper!" reiterated the old man. "I'd have you to know, Sir, that I restrain more temper in five minutes than you do in five years." - *Harvard's Dramma, in Harper's Magazine for April.*

DO YOU KNOW IT. Do you know that the vows of God are upon you? Do you know that life is rapidly passing? Do you know that the worth of life is in the good we do? Do you know that you are living in a wonderful time? Do you know that some one is following your example? Do you know that piety may unconsciously decline? Do you know that you need the prayer-meeting? Do you know that the prayer-meeting needs you? Do you know that you can neglect the Lord's supper? Do you know that Christ enjoys secret prayer? Do you know that all your property belongs to God? Do you know that you forfeit your hope by indulgence? Do you know that your Sunday vacant seat tells for you? Do you know that if backslidden, Jesus will forgive you? - *Baptist Weekly.*

Oldway

ON THE DEATH OF MRS. ELIZABETH HUTCHINGS.

With sacred grief, we sorrow o'er, The dead whom we may see no more, On this life's eternal shore.

Was she the young, the fair, the gay, Whose sun was quenched by morning's ray Had brought 'till promise of the day!

Not so! life's more and noontide sun, Had passed to evening: one by one, The latest sands of life had run.

Even to old age—in far fourscore Her pilgrim's feet had travelled o'er; Sandalled with peace, they were not sore.

Earth's shadows seemed to reach her not, Each added year fresh joy had brought, And higher hope and holier thought.

Guidance, and good, and kind and true, Of faithful friends amidst the few, 'Tis hard to such to say adieu.

Of God a humble trusting saint, With more of song than sad complaint, With vigorous faith his glow grew faint.

Her death was calm, her eyes grew dim, She heard the young-eyed cherubim, Chanting Heaven's universal hymn.

With bounded power we may not see Like her, the depths of mystery Her being but begun to be.

O! marvellous thought! she too may speak With him whose glory blanch'd his cheek, Of Peter upon Taber's peak.

All nature's laws, creation's love, That earthly sage's ponder o'er, Lie clear as light her view before.

And now how dark, and dull and dim, Seem all earth's brightest dreams of Him Who sits above the cherubim.

The traveller, weary and worn, covered with dust and sultry many privations, seen in the distance the curling smoke ascending from his old homestead, and, choked with feelings almost too big for utterance, exclaims, while tears of joy roll down his cheek, "I'm almost home!"

The playful child, having wandered from its fond parents, trembles for fear of approaching dangers, while darkening gathers round its footsteps; shakes its curling locks and claps its glad hands, exclaiming, as it becomes conscious of safety, "I'm almost home!"

The mariner, after a long and toilsome voyage, describes in the far distance the outline coast of his native land, and sings aloud with joy, while his heart is full to breaking, "I'm almost home!"

A poor widow, hard won struggling with adversity. The husband of her youth had been torn from her embrace by the ruthless hand of death. Her children, one by one, had been consigned to the dark and gloomy grave, and she was left to plod in sorrow her weary journey alone. Eager to join her loved ones who were beckoning her from the skies, she exclaims, "I'm almost home!"

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BOOKS

FOR SALE AT THE Wesleyan Book Room

200 ARGYLE STREET, HALIFAX, N. S.

COMMENTARIES.

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Bates' Cyclopaedia of Illustrations. 1.50
AIDS TO DAILY MEDITATION. 1.50
Daily Prayers and Daily Readings for Christians. 1.50
The Family Prayer Book. By Rev. E. Garrett and Rev. Samuel Martin. 1.50
Prayer for the Christian Family. By Rev. D. D. Phelps. 1.50
Prayer for the Christian Family. By Rev. D. D. Phelps. 1.50
Prayer for the Christian Family. By Rev. D. D. Phelps. 1.50

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Locke's System of Theology. 1.50
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Locke's System of Theology. 1.50
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The Rev. J. H. W. M. D. 1.00
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METHODIST FAMILY LIBRARY.

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Classical Labour. 25c
A Memoir of Mr. William Carver. 25c
The Life of Mrs. Mary Fletcher. 25c
The Life of Mrs. Mary Fletcher. 25c
The Life of Mrs. Mary Fletcher. 25c

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Life of Man

Bitters!

FROM THE Roots and Plants of Nova Scotia

These BITTERS are taken in connection with our

Invigorating Syrup,

WHICH REGULATES THE BOWELS AND PURIFIES THE BLOOD.

The following certificate describes a few of the astonishing cures which have been made by the use of these remedies—

LUNenburg, N. S., September, 1871. Mr. CALEB GATES: Sir—I have very much pleasure in writing to you, so that I may receive the same benefit from your Life of Man Bitters and Invigorating Syrup. I was much troubled last winter with a severe cold, which continued to get worse, until I feared it would settle upon my lungs. My cough was increasing. I could get no relief from any cough or from any medicine man, until I accidentally fell in with your valuable Syrup. I used it continually in my family and would not be without it on any account.

Several other persons with whom I am acquainted have also been cured by your valuable medicines. I shall be happy to give any further information concerning your medicines at any time. I have also been cured of palpitation of the heart by the use of Bitters and Invigorating Syrup. One of my daughters was in a fearful state as regards a cough or cold, and she received immediate relief and a perfect cure, and can honestly recommend it to all young and old.

Yours truly, JAMES YOUNG. JAMES D. SELLO, J. P.

REWARD BOOKS

WESLEYAN HYMN BOOKS. From 30 cents to 85 cents each.

HOLY BIBLE AND WESLEY'S HYMNS. Bound together. From \$1.25 to \$4.50 each.

Bibles. Of different sizes and styles—for School, Pocket, Family and Pulpit. From 18 cents to \$17.50 each.

Music Books. Composition to the Wesleyan Hymn Book. 1.00 The Wesley Tune Book. 1.00 The Canadian Church Harmonist. 1.00 The Methodist Scholar's Tune Book. 45 The Revivalist. 1.00 The Sacred Harp. 1.00 The Silver Spray. 1.00 Glad Tidings. 1.00 Notes of Joy. 1.00

Farm for Sale. The attention of persons wishing to secure a first-class farm, is invited to the one at Hopewell Hill, Albert Co., New Brunswick, formerly the George Rogers property, but which has been more recently occupied by Mr. Richardson, and which is now offered for sale.

A Five Acre Lot on the CALKINS MARSH is also for sale. Information respecting which may be obtained from George Calhoun, Esq., at Hopewell Cape, or from THOMAS PICKARD, Sackville, N.B., March 1, 1873.

2309 Certificates of Cure. From honest Farmers, Mechanic and Merchants, some of them the most eminent leading professional and business men and women of education and refinement in our country, may be seen at our office. Under date of March 29, Hon. Horace Greeley, of the New York Tribune, writes: "J. Ball of our City is a conscientious and responsible man, who is incapable of intentional deception or imposition."

Prof. W. Merrick, of Lexington, Ky., writes April 24th, 1869, "Without my Spectacles I can see this note, after using the Patent Ivory Eye Cups, thirteen days, and this morning perceived the entire contents of a Daily Newspaper, and all with my unassisted Eyes."

Truly am I grateful to your noble invention, may Heaven bless and preserve you; I have been using Spectacles twenty years; I am seventy-one years old. Yours truly, PAUL W. MERRICK. REV. JOSEPH SMITH, Malden, Mass., cured of Partial Blindness, of 18 years standing, in one month, by the Patent Ivory Eye Cups.

E. R. ELLIS, late Mayor of Dayton, Ohio, writes Nov. 15, 1869; "I have used the Patent Ivory Eye Cups, and I am satisfied that they are good. I am pleased with them; they are the greatest invention of the age."

All persons wishing for full particulars a certificate of cures, prices, &c., will please send your address to us, and we will send our Treatise on the Eye, of 40 pages, free of charge, by return mail. Write to DR. J. BALL & CO., P. O. Box 557, No. 91 Liberty Street, New York.

For the worst cases of MYOPIA, or NEAR SIGHTEDNESS, use our New Patent Myopic Spectacles, and the IVORY EYE CUPS, has proved a certain, safe cure for this disease.

Send for pamphlets and certificates—free. Want no more money by adjusting glass upon your nose and disfigure your eye.

Employment for all. Agents wanted for the new Patent Improved Ivory Eye Cups, just introduced in the market. The success is unparalleled by any other article. All persons out of employment, or those wishing to improve their circumstances, who get gentlemen or ladies, can make a respectable living in this light and easy employment. Hand-sets of agents are making from \$5 to \$20 A DAY.

To live agents \$20 a week will be guaranteed. Information furnished free of charge. Send for Pamphlets, Certificates and Price List. Address DR. J. BALL & CO., Oculists, P. O. Box 557, No. 91 Liberty St., New York.

Provincial Wesleyan Almanac

APRIL, 1873. First Quarter, 4th day, 25th 22m. afternoon Full Moon, 12th day, 5h. 35m. afternoon Last Quarter, 20th day, 11th 13m. morning New Moon, 26th day, 6h. 25m. afternoon

Table with columns: Day, SUN, MOON, H. TIME, W. W. W. Rises Sets. Rises Sets. Rises Sets. H. Time

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GATES' ACADIAN LINIMENT

For Inflammatory pains in any part of the body, Chills, Toothache, &c. Price 25 cents a bottle.

For sale by dealers generally. Parties ordering either of the above remedies, will address CALEB GATES & CO., MIDDLETON, ANnapolis CO.

RESTORE YOUR SIGHT. One million feet kind blind Mouldings, various patterns. Also, constantly on hand—

FLOORING. 1 1/2 M proved and tongued boards, and planks in the flooring, well seasoned. Re-pe at low prices. LININGS AND SHELVINGS. Grooved and tongued Pine and Spruce Lining. Also, shelving and other dressed lumber. Planing, Matching, Mouldings, Turned and other Carcass Sawing, done at our best prices.

OLD EYES MADE NEW! All diseases of the Eye successfully treated by Ball's New Patent Ivory Eye Cups.

Read for yourself and restore your sight. Spectacles and Surgical operations rendered useless. The Inestimable Blessings of Sight is made perceptible by the use of the new

Patent Improved Ivory Eye Cups. Many of our most eminent physicians, oculists and divines have had their sight permanently restored for life, and cured of the following diseases:

- 1. Impaired Vision; 2. Presbyopia, or Far Sightness; or Dimness of Vision, on commonly called Blearing; 3. Asthenopia, or Weak Eyes; 4. Sore eyes—especially treated with the Opic Nerve; 5. Weakness of the Retina or Optic Nerve; 6. Ophthalmia, or Inflammation of the Eye and its appendages; or Imperfect Vision, from the effects of Inflammation; 7. Phosphoria, or Intolerance of Light; 8. Ocular Strabismus; 9. Myopia, or moving specks or floating bodies before the eye; 11. Anasarca, or Swelling of Vision; 12. Cataract; 13. Senile Blindness; the loss of sight.

Any one can use the Ivory Eye Cups without the aid of a doctor or medicine, so as to receive immediate beneficial results and never wear spectacles; or, if using now, to lay them aside forever. We guarantee a cure in every case where the directions are followed, or we will refund the money.

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