

she folded her hands, and from her inmost soul thanked him for this new proof of his love and care. While she stood thus, giving free utterance to her happy, grateful feelings, the gate opened, and the bailiff entered with his men to take her cow; but now a bright smile was on her face, as she showed the glittering pieces and told him there was no need to part with Schatzlein, for she could pay the rent in full.

The bailiff carefully examined the pieces, and returning them to her with a smile: "I congratulate you, my poor woman; you can now certainly keep your cow, and when you have paid the rent, you will still have a little fund remaining, to lay by for another rainy day. These are real genuine ducats, which were coined towards the end of the Thirty Years' War. I think, my friends," continued he, turning to the men who accompanied him, "we may now go home and leave this poor woman to enjoy her ducats." But when the men were gone and Martha was alone with her boy, a doubt came over her, whether this money were really her own. In her perplexity she remembered her minister, a kind, true-hearted man, and determined to set off at once, to ask his advice and tell him all about it. The good man received her kindly, assured her that she might safely keep them, as they were honestly hers, promising at the same time that if she liked to leave the coins with him he would exchange them for her. "Some of them," he said, "appear to me to be very rare, and therefore more valuable than the rest; and any one curious in such things will be likely to give you far more than the mere worth of the gold."

A few days after this, the minister brought her one hundred florins. "There, my good woman," said he, "is a nice little sum of money which will not only suffice for your present necessities, but make a little store for future need. It is your heavenly Father who has so wonderfully delivered you from your trouble by means apparently so simple; learn, therefore, to love and trust him more than you have ever done before; never again, even in your darkest hours, doubt his power to scatter the clouds, and bring the sunshine back. Be assured he has some wise purpose to fulfil in every want or pain he suffers you to feel. He never forsakes or forgets his children. The

heart that trusts in him can never be wholly desolate."

Now, dear readers, this little tale is ended; may I hope that to some of you it has been a word in season, bidding you hope on, and trust even when you cannot see.

Perhaps, even now, like this poor woman, you feel forsaken of all; difficulty and distress hem you in on every side, and you see no way of escape—oh then turn to the Saviour, he is all powerful, and he is all loving; he can and he will deliver. In all your afflictions he is afflicted, the angel of his presence will save you; but it needs that you ask him, that you come in the full belief that he has the power to deliver. Only draw nigh to God, and he has promised to draw nigh to you.

But some of you, perhaps, do not yet know the Saviour as a friend. Oh, then, I would tell you of a treasure, a hidden treasure, which each one of you may make his own; a treasure far better than silver or gold, one which can make the poor of this world rich for ever—heirs of a glorious kingdom. That treasure is the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge; it is to be found in God's holy word. Seek for yourselves—seek earnestly, and the pearl of price is yours. The earnest of the fair inheritance awaiting you in your Father's house above, where you shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; for the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed you, and God shall wipe away all tears from your eyes.

"JESUS ONLY."

"And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only."—MATTHEW, xvii. 9.

WHAT a mine is here! In these two words what wonders upon wonders rise. How great, how grand the announcement, "Jesus only!"—And whither shall we look, and not see it inscribed, when by "Jesus only" were the worlds made.

On rock, and hill, and vale, on river, sea, and ocean, on firmament, with all its population of suns, and moons, and stars, this sentence is inscribed, "Jesus only."

And what stamps such value on the Bible, what exalts it above all other books, what glorifies it above all God's great name as displayed in the books of nature and of