

bought you with His precious blood, and He knows what is best for you. It seems hard for you to lie here and listen to the shouts of the healthy boys outside at play; but soon Jesus will take you home, and then He will tell you the reason, and you will be glad."

Then laying his hand on the boy, he said:

"O Jesus, Master, this dear child is reaching out his thin hand to find thine. Touch him dear Saviour, with thy loving, warm clasp. Lift him as he passes the cold river that his feet be not chilled by the water of death; take him home in thine own good time. Comfort and cherish him till that good time comes, shew him thyself as he lays here, and let him see thee more and more as his loving Saviour."

After a moment's pause, Mr. Spurgeon added, "Now, dear boy, is there anything you would like? If you would like a canary in a cage to hear him sing in the morning, you shall have one. Good-bye my dear boy you will see the Saviour perhaps before I shall." In relating this Mr. Gough added: I had seen Mr. Spurgeon holding by his power 5000 persons in a breathless interest I knew him as a great man universally esteemed and beloved but as he sat by the bedside of this dying child whom his beneficence had rescued, he was to me a greater and grander man than when swaying the multitude of his will.

Spurgeons education, said Mr. Gough, consisted of four years attendance in a common school, and a few months in an agricultural college. He preached his first sermon at sixteen years of age, under peculiar circumstances, and without five minutes consideration. To me personally he is fascinating. In personal appearance he is not attractive but he is full of wit and humor, with rollicking laughter and fun, and yet with all no unbecoming levity. I cannot imitate Mr. Spurgeon—he is imitable. He has no pulpit tricks. Standing sometimes perfectly still he will utter wonderful sentences. Take him for all in all, we shall not see his like again.

As a gladiator trained the body, so must we train the mind to self-sacrifice "to endure all things," to meet and overcome difficulty and danger. We must take the rough and thorny road, as well as the smooth and pleasant; and a portion at least of our daily duty must be hard and disagreeable, for the mind cannot be strong and healthy in perpetual sunshine only, and the most dangerous of all states is that of constantly recurring pleasures, ease and prosperity. Most persons will find difficulties and hardships enough without seeking them; let them not repine, but take them as a part of that educational discipline necessary to arrive at its highest good.

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