

AS IT SEEMS TO ME

BY A PRISONER OF HOPE

There comes to the children of men somewhere between the beginning and the end, unless these be set very near together, a time of awakening. It is when you sit down with your soul and acknowledge your self hopelessly disappointed in the world. This is not a fit of the blues nor an attack of hysteria. It is a feeling of naked facts.

self-justified pessimists. They are so immovably sure in their convictions. But you and I who, I trust, are not quite hopelessly settled in gloom, might be able to think the matter over a come, at least, to a rational conclusion.

"Oh, that I were as in months past. As in the days when God preserved me. When his candle shined upon my head. And when by his light I walked through darkness.

That was Job's awakening. He went at his mourning with a splendid energy and did it superbly. And through it he gave to the world a matchless poem. But you must grieve in modern fashion. This oriental extravagance is denied you. There is nothing but the bare, naked fact staring at your soul. The world is not what you thought it to be. Your friends are not what you thought they were. Human nature is a blank white, and living is not worth while.

"My brethren have dealt as deceitfully as I brook— And as the streams of brooks they pass away."

The desolate loneliness of it! To meet the eyes that have been in them no understanding, great and great need, to miss from familiar voices the ring of sympathy that you expected, to realize that your sorrow is only a passing cloud in the serene blue sky of your friend's life.

"Laugh and the world laughs with you. Weep and you weep alone."

How is your digestion? Mrs. Mary Dowling, of No. 28 Eighth avenue, San Francisco, recommends a remedy for stomach trouble. She says: "Gratitude for the wonderful effect of Electric Bitters in a case of acute indigestion, prompts this testimonial. I am fully convinced that for stomach and liver troubles, Electric Bitters is the best remedy on the planet today. This great and effective medicine invigorates the system, purifies the blood, and is responsible for all forms of human ailments."

The Lord's! This world of hard facts, these people, these friends! And you had been ready to cast them off! Weak, selfish, unfriendly, vain and careless they certainly are. They are human. They are full of faults and inconsistencies, but along with you they belong to the Lord. They are really worth while. This is the thought that occupies you for a long time.

Has your darling friend turned away from you? It may be so. And was there some one who needed you, some one you forgot to call upon, some one you neglected when your path was flower-strewn and the world set with them? I think so. The hardest truth to get at is the truth about yourself. We blunder all around it and never know it. It is not easy to quiet self-love and see right through the selfishness and look squarely at the ugly facts of our course. We all speak quite frankly of our imperfections and bewail our tendency to wrong-doing. But if I should single out a grave fault and say quite candidly, "My friend, that habit of yours, that trait of your nature, that ugly fact of your course, we all speak quite frankly of our imperfections and bewail our tendency to wrong-doing."

It is difficult to get the idea that we are just exactly like the other people. Variety is merely a matter of degree. We are all alike. Some are a little more faithful, some a trifle more faithless. Some of us break the small commandments, fondly hoping that they were inserted to make out the number, while others make a great deal of the whole of both tablets. But it is all the same in principle. We are just alike. The small differences are matters of environment. The man that is tempted to sin is no more than the tempter found him. It is the test that tells. Most of us are never tested. The primary instincts do not vary. When you get this idea there is a steading of head and heart.

The people who have so early disappointed you are constantly disappointing one another and you are disappointing them. It is a way we have, a little unpleasant human habit. But each of these provoking persons has a heart. A warm human heart. Some of the hearts don't show much, to be sure. Heartlessness is sometimes a disease, sometimes—most times, an affliction. It is a thing that you need not believe in. The heart is there, hurt or hidden, perhaps, always there; and if you are watching, it is wonderful how they do bob up, now and then. Of course we are vain and foolish, poor things. We don't really know any better. If some of us can't keep up, the others are sorry, but they can't be hindered in their going. You remember how easy it was for you to drop the friend whose weight began to trouble you. It is just as easy for your friends to drop you when you hang heavily. That is the sort of a world this is. It is human nature, cruel!

Why, no! It is a pity that we are not all able to throw aside doctrines and creeds, cant and prejudice and just study the philosophy of Jesus. I wish we might do this without reading into the simple lives the learning of our fathers. He said that the Bible was not to be studied from the standpoint of history, science, philosophy or theology, but from the standpoint of life. Dr. Detwiler's address was one of the most masterful expositions of the Bible.

The conference convenes again at 7 o'clock in the morning. It will close Sunday night. Among the other speakers are: L. L. Lane, of Canada; Fisher, of New York; Wilson, of Tennessee; G. C. Huntington, of Charlotte; Johnson, Berthold and Barnett, student secretaries of North Carolina.

body does. But try unlearning them. Forget the mistakes that have made what we call religion distasteful to you. I wish we could all read the story in the Original. I wish the timid and bewildered idealists had told us more. But we must take it all as we find it. There have been other great teachers in all ages, but never one like the meek and lowly man who knew the meaning of the word love. It is here that you find rest for your soul. Setting your heart as His was set, learning to live as He lived, taking his philosophy for your own! It fits this world of ours perfectly. It is the remedy for the weakness of our human nature. It is what we need, if you have tried it you know. If you have not tried it a new and beautiful happiness awaits you. It makes no difference what names are given to this experience. It is real. When you are given a puzzling problem and find the solution you realize the truth of it. You know. You are living now in a new world. It is the kingdom of the heavenly Father. You see dimly, day by day, how human nature may be cured of its ills. You are coming into harmony with truth. Before you were your own master. Your own will was the beginning and the end of your law. You know better now. You have unlearned so much that you are quite ignorant and simple and the beauty of the Sermon on the Mount is new and very wonderful. Little unlearning is necessary to be kinder. An oversight that used to hurt you is harmless now; it helps you to be more considerate. The lack of sympathy of our neighbors is only a reminder that you must be gentle and more sympathetic. An injury cast forth no resentment, you are only more careful to be just and full of charity. You are not so much concerned about how others treat you, if only you may do to them as you would like to have them do to you. Simple? Yes, simple as sunshine and as vital. It is everlasting life. This life, this application of the simple conditions of truth. It fits every age. If your life is shaped by it you are not alone nor afraid. Life is sweet and good and you set a strange new value upon yourself because the Master has done with you. This is not imagination, it is not emotion; it is not imagination. I am not at all concerned about the name you give it. Call it what you will. It is a power as real as electricity and as impossible to explain. It is the marvelous influence of God who lived nearly two thousand years ago. It is not like the influence of any other prophet or teacher. It is the truth. It seems to me that he thinks he is very simple and honest about this. It is not a matter of fear; it is simply a choice of the best. There is nothing mysterious about it, nothing difficult. It is as natural as breathing, as simple as loving, but it is not as simple as loving. It is a power that is not a matter of fear; it is simply a choice of the best. There is nothing mysterious about it, nothing difficult. It is as natural as breathing, as simple as loving, but it is not as simple as loving. It is a power that is not a matter of fear; it is simply a choice of the best. There is nothing mysterious about it, nothing difficult. It is as natural as breathing, as simple as loving, but it is not as simple as loving.

And you are one of them. One of these very same people. In nature and purpose you are precisely like them, just as one of the postmark leaves out the other postmark leaves in the world. To be sure no two leaves are ever alike in the little irregularities that make identity. But in the main they are the same. They are all alike. That is the thought that startles you if you are alone in your dark place as I am supposing you to be. Alike? Have I then neglected and hurt and wounded and sinned against you? I should have comforted and helped and sustained? It is here that we need to be perfectly honest. For we have not known ourselves. We have always admired our virtues and despised our faults. We have imagined ourselves possessed of these qualities. Every woman believes in herself. Every man has faith in something that he thinks he is. Perhaps we are not just what we think we are. Perhaps the ideal that you think is yourself is not perfectly clear to other eyes.

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BENEFITS OF WARS. They are of Great Service to the Entire Population. Danville, Va. Already Radford and Roanoke have had eminently successful and well-attended fairs; Lynchburg is to hold one this week; and within fifty miles of such small places as Galax, in Greensboro county, and Emporia, in Greensboro county, also hold successful fairs every year. The fair soon to be held at Salisbury, N. C., promises to be one of the greatest in the South. The promoters of these exhibitions not only meet all expenses, but find the enterprise directly profitable, just as the mercantile and manufacturing interests derive indirect benefits therefrom. Thousands of people would be induced to visit the city and, in addition to what they would spend while here, it would mean in most cases that they would continue to visit Danville and other cities in the South. But all these things are merely incidental. The advantages of such competitions among the agricultural classes and manufacturers are even greater, when the educative effects are considered. Improved machinery, modern methods of agriculture, dairying, poultry raising, cattle and sheep raising, horse breeding and horticulture will be given an exposition which will be of great value.

WITDRAWAL OF ROUND TRIP RATES ANNOUNCED ON ACCOUNT OF PERFORMANCE OF "MERRY WIDOW THEATRICAL CO." CHARLOTTE, N. C., OCTOBER 2D. Round trip rates announced a few days ago for above occasion to apply from all points within fifty miles of Charlotte are hereby withdrawn.

CORN WHISKEY. 1 GALLON JUG \$3.00. 2 GALLON JUG \$5.00. 4 full qt. bottles \$3.25. Express prepaid on 4 qts. in this; \$3.25. CHAS. AREY CO. DIST. FAMOUS WHISKEY.

SPECIAL LOW RATES TO RALEIGH VIA SEABOARD ACCOUNT STATE FAIR OCTOBER 15TH-17TH, 1908. The Seaboard announces round trip rates from all points in North Carolina, including Portsmouth, Norfolk and Suffolk, Va., to Raleigh and return at very low rates round trip, slip 50 cents, including admission coupon to Fair Grounds based on rates effective prior to July 1st, 1907. Tickets sold October 8th to 16th inclusive, with final limit October 15th. Round trip from principal points, including admission coupon to Fair Grounds, as follows:

From Charlotte... \$0.75. From Lincolnton... 7.15. From Shelby... 7.10. From Wadesboro... 4.70. From Weldon... 3.85. From Portsmouth-Norfolk... 5.55. From Sanford... 2.10. From Maxton... 4.05. From Wilmington... 6.05. From Richmond... 6.05. From Oxford... 2.40. From Henderson... 2.90. From Hamlet... 3.90.

Low round trip per capita rates for military companies and brass bands in uniform. Twenty or more on one ticket will be sold on basis of one cent per mile in each direction, not including admission coupons to Fair Grounds, ticket to bear same limit and conditions as for individuals with exception that party has to travel on one ticket.

Special trains will be operated from Weldon, Oxford, Lenoir, Hargett and all intermediate stations, and all points on the Aberdeen & Asheboro Railroad and the Durham & Southern Railway to Raleigh on Wednesday and Thursday, October 15th and 16th.

What the Standard Policy of The Equitable Will do for You. (Continued) 8. It safeguards mortgaged real estate. 9. It may be left as a bequest to some philanthropic object. 10. It provides a life income for wife, daughter, son, or any other dependent. 11. It continues, after death, the income from professional or expert labor. 12. It furnishes the Only method of creating a capital instantly. Write, 'phonograph or call. W. J. RODDEY, Manager, 7 Rock Hill, N. C. WM. WHITE JOHNSON, Sec. Agt., West Bldg., Charlotte, N. C.

SACO AND PETTEE MACHINE SHOPS. COTTON MACHINERY. Pickers, Revolving, Flat Cards, Railway Heads, and Drawing. Slubbing, Intermediate, and Roving Frames, Spinning Frames, Spoolers, and Reels. A. H. WASHBURN, Southern Agent, CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA.

Southern Railway. N. B.—Following schedule figures published only as information, and are not guaranteed. Sept. 15, 1908. 1:30 a. m. No. 20 daily for Washington and points North. Pullman drawing room sleepers to New York. Day coaches to Washington. Dining car service. 3:30 a. m. No. 22 daily for Columbia, Savannah and Jacksonville. Pullman drawing room sleepers to Augusta and Jacksonville. Day coaches to Jacksonville. 5:30 a. m. No. 8, daily, for Richmond and local points. 5:30 a. m. No. 44, daily, for Washington and points North. Day coaches to Washington. Dining car service to Atlanta. 6:30 a. m. No. 35, daily, for Columbia and local points. 6:30 a. m. No. 16, daily except Sunday, for Statesville, Taylorsville and local points. Connects at Statesville for Winston-Salem, and at Statesville for Asheville. 7:15 a. m. No. 39, daily, for Atlanta. Day coaches Charlotte to Atlanta. Stops at principal points en route. 10:30 a. m. No. 54, daily, for Washington and points North. Pullman drawing room sleepers to New York. Day coaches to Washington. Dining car service. 11:10 a. m. No. 23, daily, for Winston-Salem, Roanoke and local points. 12:45 a. m. No. 27, daily, New York and New Orleans. Limited. Drawing room sleeping cars. Observation and club cars. New York to New Orleans. Drawing room sleepers. Dining car service. Solid Pullman train. Dining car service. 1:15 a. m. No. 11, daily, for Atlanta and local points. 3:30 p. m. No. 41, daily, for Greensboro and local points. 4:30 p. m. No. 43, daily except Sunday, for Seneca and local points. 4:30 p. m. No. 27, daily, for Columbia and local points. 4:45 p. m. No. 34, daily except Sunday for Statesville, Taylorsville and local points. Connects at Statesville for Asheville, Knoxville and Chattanooga. 6:30 p. m. No. 12, daily, for Richmond and local points. Handles Pullman sleepers to Washington, and Charlotte to Richmond. 7:30 p. m. No. 38, daily, New York and New Orleans. Limited. Drawing room sleeping cars. Observation and club cars to New York. Dining car service. Solid Pullman train. 8:30 p. m. No. 35, daily, for Atlanta and points South. Pullman drawing room sleepers to New Orleans. New York to New Orleans. Dining car service. Washington to New Orleans. Dining car service. 10:25 p. m. No. 42, fast mail. Pullman sleeper, Raleigh to Atlanta. 10:30 p. m. No. 10, daily, for Washington and points North. Dining car service. Detail information can be obtained at ticket office, No. 11 South Tryon street, C. A. ACKERT, Ticket Agent. S. H. HARDWICK, Gen. Mgr., W. H. TAYLOR, P. T. M., R. L. VERNON, T. P. A., Charlotte, N. C.

SEABOARD. These arrivals and departures as well as the time and connection with other companies, are given only as information and are not guaranteed. Direct line to the principal cities North, East, South and Southwest. Schedule effective Sept. 15, 1908, subject to change without notice. Tickets for passage on all trains are sold by this company and accepted by the other companies. This company will not be responsible for failure to run its trains on schedule time. Connections may be made at intermediate points. Care will be exercised to give correct time of connecting lines, but this company is not responsible for errors or omissions. Trains leave Charlotte as follows: No. 48, daily, at 4:30 a. m. for Monroe, Hamlet and Wilmington, connecting at Monroe with 43 for Atlanta, Birmingham and the Southwest; with 35 for Raleigh, Weldon, Portsmouth and Norfolk; with 34 for Raleigh, Richmond, Washington, New York, daily at 10:30 a. m. for Lincoln, Shelby and Rutherford. No. 44, daily, at 5:10 p. m. for Monroe, Hamlet, Wilmington and all local points connecting at Hamlet with 43 for Columbia, Savannah and all Florida points, and No. 34 for Raleigh, Richmond, Washington, New York, daily at 10:30 a. m. for Monroe, connecting with 43 for Atlanta, Birmingham and the Southwest; with 35 for Raleigh, Weldon, Portsmouth and Norfolk. Trains arrive in Charlotte as follows: No. 12, 10:30 a. m. daily, from points North and South. No. 6, daily, 11:30 a. m. from Wilmington and all local points. No. 12, daily, 1:30 p. m. from Rutherford, Hamlet, Lincoln and C. & N. W. Railway points. No. 35, 11:30 p. m. daily, from Wilmington, Hamlet and Monroe; also from points East, North and South, connecting at Hamlet and Monroe. Connections are made at Hamlet with through trains from points South and Southwest, which are composed of vestibule day coaches between Portsmouth and Washington, connecting at Jacksonville, and sleeping cars between Jersey City, Birmingham and Memphis, and Jersey City and Jacksonville, California, en route through trains. For information, time-tables, reservations or Seaboard descriptive literature apply to ticket agent, or to JAMES KER, JR., C. P. A., 82 Selwyn Hotel, Charlotte, N. C.

NORFOLK & WESTERN RAILWAY. Schedule in effect Sept. 24, 1908. 11:30 am Lv. Charlotte, Va. Ry. Ar. 2:30 pm Lv. Winston, N. & W. Ar. 2:30 pm Lv. Martinsville, Va. Ar. 11:30 am 7:30 am AT Roanoke, Va. Lv. 8:30 am Connect at Roanoke via Shenandoah Valley Route for Hagerstown, and all points in Pennsylvania and New York. Pullman sleepers, Roanoke and Philadelphia. Through coach, Charlotte to Roanoke. Additional train leaves Winston 7:30 a. m. daily except Sunday. If you are thinking of taking a trip you want quotations, cheapest rates, reliable and correct information, as to routes, train schedules, the most comfortable and quickest way, write and the quickest way is yours for the asking, with one of our complete maps, folders. W. E. BEVELL, Trav. Pass. Agent, Roanoke, Va.

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