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Story

No. 11

DISAPPOINTMENTS

SERMON PREACHED BY REV. A. J. MOWATT.

In St. Paul's Church, Fredericton, Sunday

evening March 17th. 1889. "Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation

in the wilderness."—Ps. xcv. 7,8. About May 20, 1490 B. C., the camp in the Plain of Er-Rahah is broken up. What a moving day when some two millions of people move! The cloud has lifted, and so soon tents and tabernacie are struck. The order is given, the two trumpets sound: 'Forward the whole line!" and in five great divisions, the deserted, and Israel is off for Canaan. For a year, a year all but eleven days,

Don't forget to buy your Boots | Hobab acts as guide till they are out | have come to where they must say fare LOTTIMER'S SHOE STORE | well- For a year the two peoples have been near neighbors, and a close and warm christian friendship has grown up the people he represents, he invites them to join them in this sacred enterprise. "We are journeying," he says to Hobab, "unto the place of which the with us, and we will do thee good; for

> christian invitation. Hobab is scarcely that was wanted, and far more than was prepared to accept it, and so declines it needed. Up from the sea-coast they in these words: "I will not go, but I my kindred.

The Books of Homes.... Hall s Book Store proposal. He sees that his good brother-'Leave us not, I pray thee, forasmuch as The Books of Euripides. . Hall's Book Store | thou knowest how we are to encamp in The Books of Demosthenes. Hall's Book S go with us, yea, it shall be, that what good soever the Lord shall do unto us

I like to hear Moses talk that way. The Books of Thucydides Hall's Book Store His words breathe the very spirit of the him in the blessed good-to-be. We are not told that Hobab was won, but we the Kenite was closely allied to the people of Israel, and for centuries their histories run parallel. In later days, the days of the Judges, we read of how one Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, no doubt a distant descendant of Hobab, is very large to meet the requirements of of Mount Tabor between the armies of Israel and Hazor, slew Captain Sisera. tent-pin, and so received honorable mention for the part she had taken.

The invitation of Moses to the Kenites is rich in lessons for us, and I cannot pass it by without touching briefly And you had better c me now.

I. KIBROTH HATAAVAH

From Sinai Israel marches in a northeasterly direction, halting but little, till ground-work of that story. We know Arabs call the place today Erweis el some thirty miles from Sinai.

At Kibroth-hatsavah they pitch their tents and set up the tabernacle for perhaps a day or two's rest. But alas! young and middle-aged men. Send now. The Gold and Jewelled Medal awarded to the author plague which decimated the camp.

They found fault with the manna with indeed spoken only with Moses? hath which they were fed, and they wanted He not spoken also with us?" something better to eat. They remem- Moses knew how Mirlam was going bered the fish they used to have in on, and what hard things she was saying. Egypt, the cucumbers, and the melons, But in other days she had been a good and the leeks, and the onions, and the sister to him, and he bore meekly and garlick, and now it was nothing but unmurmuringly her insults, hoping that manna, manna, and they were sick of it. her usual good sense would come back to They craved for a change of food, and her. The way Moses bore himself in the especially fresh meat.

grew impatient. He expected better wise man mad, but neither by word nor things from the people after all they had gesture did he behave in a way that was 8.45, A. M.—Express for Fredericton Junction learned of God at Sinai; perhaps he had unbecoming. He let tongues wag, and expected more of them than he had any himself dwelt in the calm of conscious right to expect. That is often the way right. And we have this high compliwith those who are set over the Lord's ment paid him: "Now the man Moses people. At all events he got out of all was very meek, above all the men which 12.50 P. M. - For Fredericton Junction, St patience, and said some hard and foolish were upon the face of the earth." things. He complained that the burden The Lord Himself undertock the of caring for so great a multitude was vindication of His faithful servant, and utterly beyond his strength. But the resented their unnatural conduct towards Lord pitied instead of punished him, and him and their unjust aspersion of his camp of Judah in the van, the march took steps to relieve him. He provided character. With a suddenness that was begins. It is hours before the rear a corps of efficient helpers, seventy in startling. He summoned the three of rank moves, but at last the plain is all, men endorsed with prophetic gifts, them before the Tabernacle of the conwhose duty it was to bear with him the gregation, and flashing His glory into burden and work of the way.

The proposal is a modest one, a kind difficulty to strike down and capture all was necessary. came in millions, so that day by day the

> still. We often murmur because our again, tables are so bare, no rich-seasoned It was deemed prudent to send men est sort of fare.

II. HAZEROTH

We cannot locate Hazeroth, but it upon the application to be made of it. was the next leading halting-place, and So many here bear much the same re- it will be ever memorable for a new re- them from carrying out such a mad step. prise. It is just now with us the bur- had fallen victims to the Plague at Canaan. They were wanting in faith. den of the work and the way, but there Kibroth-havaavah probably was Moses' is good to be had all the way along, and | wife Zipporah, and perhaps one of the | the enemy was an exceedingly bitter by and by we will come to the great stone-heaps yonder in the wilderness disappointment to Moses. It was a eternal good of the Heavenly Canaan. marks the humble grave where lies her crushing blow to all his hopes. He had Will you not be persuaded to come then? dust. At all events she is dead, and at been counting the hours and miles to Hobab came after some persuasion, and Hazeroth Moses feels it to be his duty Kadesh, and every delay there was by you cannot do yourselves nor us a better | to take to himself a new wife. This is the way, must have worried and dis service than to come and cast in your always a delicate matter for one who tressed him. He was perhaps looking lot with us. And just now we are mak- occupies the position of Moses, and is al- forward to, and building upon, rest for ing up a band of new recruits. Delay most sure to create trouble. But he himself amid the sweet fields of Canaan. not, for the great opportunities of life seems to have consulted nobody, and And when at last Kadesh had been and privilege never wait. Hobab had whether wisely or unwisely he goes reached, and Canaan was only a little to come then or never, and he came then. outside of his own people, and marries way off, he may have given expression a Cushite woman.

Ethiopian princess, and this may be the most at test!" Gold and Jewelled Medal awarded to the author by the National Medical Association. Address F O Box 1895, Boston, Mass., or Dr. W. H. BARKER, graduate of Harvard Medical College 25 years practice in Boston, who may be consulting confidentially. Speciality, Diseases of Man. Office. No. 4 Bulfirch Street.

The story of it is about like this. The people came to be dissatisfied about the food provided for them. It began with the mixed multitude, the people of Sense, and went so far as to head a Continued on third page.

all sorts, who, from various motives, had rebellion against her brother. And set out with Israel from Egypt, or joined Aaron was weak enough to join her them by the way. But the dissatis- in it. Indignant at the slight that she faction spread wide among the people, fancied had been put on her, with a and it looked serious and alarming. bitter sneer she asked, "Hath the Lord

face of this provocation is especially Moses was driven to his wits' end and commended. It was enough to drive a

their faces, He sternly rebuked Miriam And then the Lord said He would and Aaron, and told them what a poor Moses' Midianite friends have come give the murmuring multitude flesh to second-rate place theirs was to that of 6.50, A M.-Mixed for Woodstock, and to see him off, and his brother-in-law eat till they had more than enough. It their great brother. And then almost was not good for them. The simple immediately afterwards Miriam was from among the mountains. But they manna was the best food in the wilder- struck with leprosy. Poor Miriam! it ness. But they could not see it, and was a scathing rebuke to her self-assumpwould not see it. They insisted upon tion and daring impertinence. I suphaving fresh meat. Moses could not pose she had called Moses' new wife understand how it was possible to supply black, ugly, and all sorts of hard names, between them, a friendship they feel it such a huge host with all the fresh and now she herself was ugly enough, hard to sunder. Moses then makes a meat they could eat. He asked if their hideous with disease. Aaron then went proposal. In the name of the Lord, and herds of cattle and flocks of sheep and to Moses, and acknowledged how foolishgoats were to be slanghtered, or if all ly he and his sister had acted, and the the fish of the Elanitic gulf were to be wrong they had done him, and begged spread on their tables. But so soon the him to intercede with the Lord in her Lord showed how He could do it, and so behalf. Moses did so, and the Lord had Lord said, I will give it you; come thou easily. Again, as once before, the quails mercy on her. But to humble her, He came up, only in far larger flocks, and insisted upon her isolation for a week. the Lord hath spoken good concerning day by day for weeks, and, as their Thus was Israel delayed at Hezeroth on habit is, they flew so low, that it was no Miriam's account seven days longer than

III. KADESH-BARNEA.

No one today can locate Kadeshwill depart to mine own land, and to camp fairly fluttered with them, and barnea, but it must have been someeverybody left off gathering manna, and where south of the Negeb, so-called, or But Moses is encouraged to press his set to work catching quails, and it was south country of Palestine. Israel was quails three times a day. The result of now on the borders of Canaan. Before The Books of Virgir....Hall's Book Store Books of Cicero....Hall's Book Stsre he continues to ply him with arguments. plague that moved down the people by journey of about eleven days from Sinai the ten-thousand. It was a judgment, to the Negeb, but it took Israel about but one they brought upon themselves three months to do it. Want of faith hindered them every step they took, and Ah! there are Kibroth hataavahs now want of faith is to hinder them here

luxuries; and sometimes we break out, to spy out the land previous to the inand have fatted fowl, and all that is vasion, and accordingly twelve repregospel. He wants others to share with rich in the shape of meats and drinks, sentative men-one from each tribe-We luxuriate, gormandize. The result were commissioned to do this, and return is, the plague of dyspepsia, the curse of and report. After an absence of forty know he was. From that time forward eating too much, the torture of indulg- days, during which time the whole camp ence, a horde of diseases sometimes, and, lay idle at Kadesh-barnea, the spies reat last, an early grave—the grave of turned from their tour of inspection lust. Let us be content with plain bringing some fine specimens of the exsimple food. Manna is better than traordinary fruitfulness of the country. quail, oatmeal porridge than oyster Their report upon the whole, however, stews, bread and butter than plum pud- was most discouraging. Ten of the ceive, is complete. The French Classics also in a great struggle fought out at the foot | ding and brandy-sauce. A plain sub- twelve spies gave a report that caused a stantia! meal is better for work, better panic in the camp. They described the for health, better for right-living as well inhabitants as prodigious in size, as All information from a distance answered as he lay fast asleep in her tent, with a as long-living. It is in mercy to us if strongly armed and warlike. Accord-God gives us day by day only the plain- ingly for the third time since leaving Sinai, the people were in a state of rebellion. They were on the point of stoning Moses, and electing a new leader to take them back to Egypt. The Lord interfered, however, and prevented lation to us that the Kenites bore to bellion against Moses, this time on the But this was clear, the people were not LADIES' DRESS GOODS, Israel. We want you to come, then, part of his own brother and sister, yet the people to be led against so and join with us in this sacred enter- Aaron and Miriam. Among those who formidable a foe as the warlike tribes of

This new rebellion in the very face of to his joy and hope in some such words Early in his history, we spoke of a tra- as these: " No more wanderings in the dition to the effect that he married an wilderness for me! A most home! al-

And then came the weary waiting for they come to a place afterwards known nothing of this Cushite woman beyond the spies to return. But those dreary as Kibroth-hataavah, the graves of lust. what we have here. We do not know forty days were lived through, and per-Professor Palmer, a Sinaitic explorer, is where and how he happened to meet in haps few knew what they cost him. sure he has discovered the particular with her, what there was about her to W. e i, however, the people positively spot, and the heaps of stones, he tells us, attract him towards her, and what beare still standing where lies the dust of came of her afterwards. Some men are resolved upon choosing a leader to lead those who died in the plague. The wise in everything but their love-affairs, them back to Egypt, it was almost more and here they seem to go it blindly, and than even the meekness of Moses could Eberrig, and they relate how a great make for themselves most unhappy marcaravan perished there long ago. It is riages. I am disposed to think that himself, and men of like faith with bim, neither in his first nor second marriage such men as Joshua and Caleb and was Moses at all well mated. At all others, did all that men could to turn events, his second marriage gave mortal the people from their mad purpose, and offence to his friends. Miriam could to stem the tide of rebellion as it surged their stay is almost indefinitely prolong- not brook the idea of any other woman through the host? But their efforts were ed by the breaking out of a terrible occupying a higher place in relation to the Land when the word came from



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