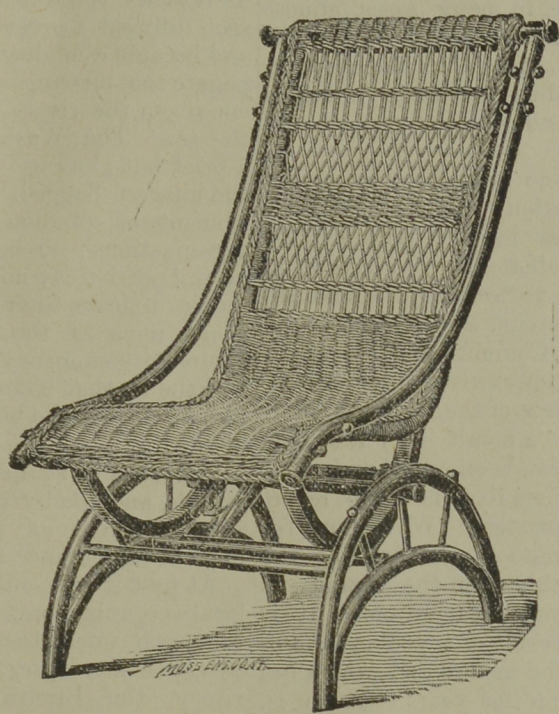


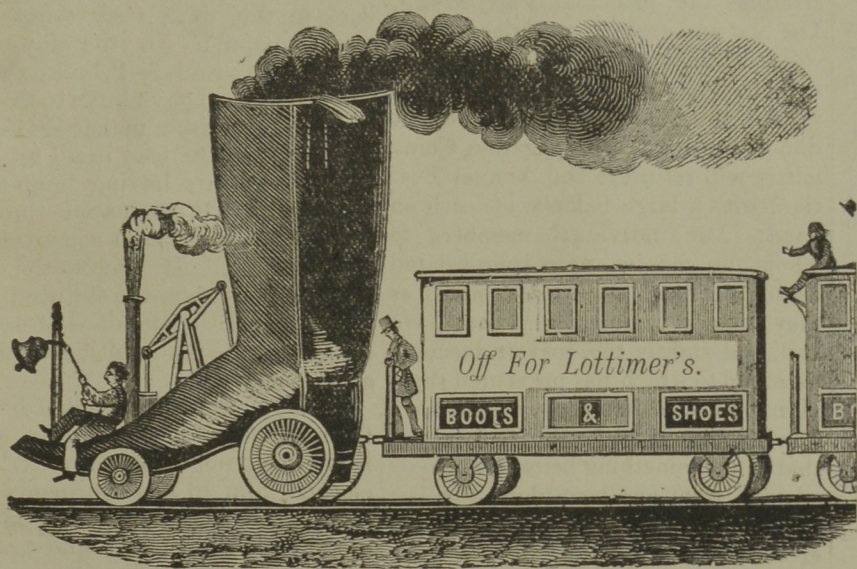
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cause the Lord was his shield. Though he was walking amid dangers and deaths for forty years, yet he was secure, for the Lord had promised him an inheritance in Canaan.

O my hearers, if you want to know the blessedness of safety in Jesus, if you want to walk through the wilderness unhurt, and if you want a resting-place in the Canaan above, then follow the Lord fully. It will not do to give out by the way. It will not do to stop following anywhere this side of your glory. Moses was all right at the rebellion of the people at Kadesh. But then he failed thirty-nine years after at the waters of Meribah, and so he could not go over with Caleb and Joshua. And following for a time will not do. Following for ten, twenty, fifty years, will not do. We must follow on and on and on till Jesus has led us into the House of many mansions.

Oh it is the following fully that tires and wearies us! But God's grace that led us to set out to follow will lead us through. If we hold to Him He will not let us fail. He will keep us till we reach where sin and sorrow, and trial and temptation can never come.

It was regarded as a great thing long ago to have an inheritance in Canaan. Caleb felt himself a happy man when he got the tile-deeds of Hebron in his hands. Even though his inheritance was full of the sons of Anak, he was proud of it.

And we all like to have an inheritance. We like to have some place we can call our own; and even though it may be full of Anakims, full of much to make us toil and drudge, struggle and fight, still, like Caleb, we like it. I do not know but what we like it all the more because of the Anakims in it. I am very sure the big Anakims was one feature of Hebron's attractions for the heroic Caleb; and, the difficulties in the way of our inheritance being what we would like it to be, help to make it all the dearer to us.

But grand as it was to have an inheritance in Canaan, it is still grander to have one up yonder in the Heavenly Canaan. Now, Christ has an inheritance there for every one of His people. Your house here may be a miserable shanty in the woods, a wretched lean-to; but there it will be a mansion. As you trip up the marble steps, and walk along the great halls, and go from room to room, so spacious and grand, and so splendidly furnished for your everlasting comfort, you will shout and sing: "Hallelujah, what a Saviour!" Your inheritance here may be a wretched moorland where hardly anything will grow. It may be a dusty office where your brain is racked with cares and anxieties all the round year. It may be a smoky smithy where with bare brawny arms you have to hammer out a hard subsistence. It may be the pulpit, where, Sabbath after Sabbath, the awful responsibilities of souls crush down the buoyant spirit, and drive sleep away. But the inheritance we shall have up yonder will be an inheritance that will minister to our blessedness forever. Oh to have the inheritance of the saints in Heaven.

Now, who wants to have this blessed inheritance? Oh it is blessed beyond what I can tell you, and you know, a joy forever, a glory eternal! I know you all want it. But the way to it is following the Lord fully—and that is the dreariest common-placeness. It is simply doing your duty day by day, watching, praying, working, doing right, being honest, trying to be unselfish, earnest, humble, faithful; in a word, a Christian. There is no other way to Heaven but by taking Jesus, and doing as He did, following where He leads us, and He leads us where we are, in the hard and humble ways of our duty-doing.

Now, who will begin to follow? That is the first thing. The next thing is to keep on following. If we want to have Caleb's reward, we must take Caleb's duty. If we want his crown, we must take his cross. So many of us have an idea that we must try and do something so great if we would follow the Lord, and as we do not see how we can do anything great we do not follow. But that is a mistake. Begin and follow Christ where you are, and in the things you are doing day by day; and if in these little things, these every day commonplaces, you follow fully, you will have your reward, and be crowned with a crown, as well as those who are in a position to do the great works of the world and Christ's kingdom.

Come, then, and follow now. Begin to-night. Take hold of your duty for Christ, and He will help you, and you will find you can follow. You have been doing wrong; begin to-night and do right. On your knees ask strength and grace to help you to do it, and somehow you will find that you can do it. You have been following the world and its follies and vanities; come and follow the Lord after this. Let Him lead you in everything, and how His leading will lift you up, and give you high aspirations, and holy desires.

AMEN.

If the power to do work is not talent, it is the best possible substitute for it.

WHERE SHE HAD HIM.—Wife—The Bible says much in favor of women, John. I thought that the Israelites kept their women in the background, but, if they did, the Bible, which is their history, doesn't.

Husband—Humph! The Israelites did well by keeping their women in the background; that's where women should be.

W.—But still the Bible says that—

H.—Oh, I know there are a few women mentioned in the Bible. There was Jezebel; she was a woman.

W.—Yes, and there was Ahab; he was a man. And there was—

H.—It is no use talking, Mary. The Bible is a history of men. Women are mentioned only incidentally, as they had influence on the actions of men. The book says very little about women compared to what it does about men.

W. (musingly)—You may be right after all, John, now when I come to think of it. There is one thing, at any rate, it says about men that it does not say about women.

H. (smilingly)—I thought you would come to your senses, Mary. What is it the book says about men that it does not say about women?

W. (placidly) It says: "All men are liars."

Then the husband arose and put on his hat and went out to see what kind of a night it was.

Deacon—I saw you at our evening services, last night, sir. Strangers are always welcome.

Young Man—Thanks. Deacon—I suppose you find church-going is a great comfort?

Young Man—Yes, sir. Did you notice the little girl whose prayer-book I helped to hold up?

Deacon—Yes.

Y. M.—She's a great comfort, too.

No one need hope to rise above his present situation who suffers small things to pass by unimproved, or who neglects, metaphorically speaking, to pick up a farthing because it is not a shilling.

The only freedom I care about is the freedom to do right; the freedom to do wrong I am ready to part with on the cheapest terms to any one who will take it.

A wise man knows an ignorant one because he has been ignorant himself; but the ignorant cannot recognize the wise, because he has never been wise.

To reprove small faults with undue vehemence is as absurd as if a man should take a great hammer because he saw a fly on a friend's forehead.

We instinctively applaud the courage of self-assertion; we should honor with a still higher approval the courage of self-restraint.

Keep your eyes open wherever you may go and wherever you may happen to be. Train yourself to observe quickly and justly.

Don't spoil to-day by thinking of tomorrow, or mar your breakfast by speculating on what you shall have for dinner.

We can only have the highest happiness by having wide thoughts and as much feeling for the rest of the world as ourselves.

Every man throws on his surroundings the sunshine or the shadow that exists in his own soul.

He that can feast upon another's misery, vexation, or disappointment has a most unhealthy soul.

Let a man try faithfully, manfully to be right, he will grow daily more and more right.

Follow after holiness; it will repay your pursuit.

Those who would render their charities useful should diffuse them judiciously. He who would have a good crop must sow with the hand, and not pour out of the sack into one heap.

We are in hot haste to set the world right and to order all affairs; The Lord hath the leisure of conscious power and unerring wisdom, and it will be well for us to learn to wait.

Never part without loving words for your loved one to think of during your absence. It may be that you will not meet again in this life.

A POLITE MAN TO HIS GUESTS.—Good gracious, Miss Harriet, exclaimed a young man, slipping hurriedly from the hall into the parlor of the residence, what sort of a man is your father?

About like the average, I guess, she replied, coolly; why do you ask?

Well, he just yelled down stairs to me to bring him up that peltice for his sore neck or he would knock a piece off my jaw. What do I know about it?

Did he see you? she asked in surprise.

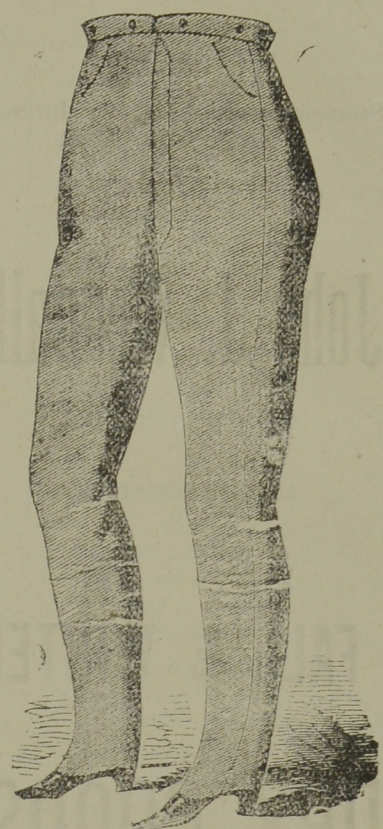
Not that I know of.

That accounts for it, then, she said, in a tone of relief. He heard you moving around and thought it was mother. I thought pa wouldn't be impolite to guests in the house.

Jas R Howie

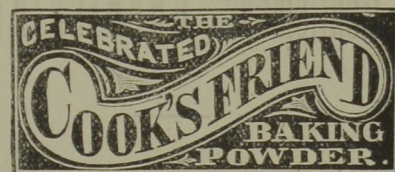
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