

A Bag of Oatmeal

Famine and death stalked hand in hand across the moors of Scotland. Potato crop failures year after year left bare the meagre, rocky fields of the hard-working Scots. Thousands abandoned their homes and died pauper deaths.

Years later, a group of Christians were gathered at the estate of a prominent lady who frequently invited guests to join in Scripture reading, prayer and discussion. As they were speaking of the kindness of God in times of trial, the hostess asked if anyone could tell of an experience in his own life to prove God's faithfulness. A saintly old man stood up and told this story.

"Years ago, during the time of stark famine we, too, faced starvation in our humble home. The last bit of food had been taken from the shelf and we knew not where to get more. My poor faithful wife came to me one day in tears. 'What shall we do?' she asked. 'All our food is gone.'

"We bowed in prayer before our Father in heaven, asking Him to give us oatmeal to keep us from starving.

"Even while we were praying, we heard a sound outside. Rising from my knees, I opened the door, but no one was there. I was about to close it again when I noticed a sack on the step.

"Rushing to the road, I looked in every direction, but saw no one and could hear only the retreating gallop of a horse. When I returned to the house we opened the bag and found—oatmeal! The oatmeal we had prayed for. God had answered our pleadings."

No sooner had this weathered man of God taken his chair than the generous lady of the house rose to her feet. Fighting back tears of gratitude, she began to tell the other half of the story:

"I remember clearly that great famine. Our family always had plenty, but one night I was sorely distressed. I could not sleep, thinking that perhaps some of the neighbours were hungry. So deeply did it disturb me that I called a servant and told him to take a sack of meal to some one at that late hour of the night.

"He protested that he did not know where to go. 'Take a horse,' I told him, 'put the sack on his back and let him go by himself. Wherever he stops put down the sack at the door and come home.' As soon as he left I put the whole matter before the Lord and asked Him to guide the horse to some needy family, just as He led the kine when the Philistines sent away the ark, and as He led the ravens to the prophet Elijah.

"After some time, the servant returned, telling me that he had left the sack, as I directed, at a small cottage some distance away. Now I know God was answering the trusting prayers of my friends who were starving. How thankful I am that He answered my prayers and guided the horse to their home."—Selected.

Extraordinary conditions require extraordinary prayer."

"The world will not change; we must be victorious over the world."

The King's Highway

GOD'S WAY WITH US

An intense desire not to have our own way" was the definition which the late Hugh Price Hughes gave to Christian holiness. This does well for the negative side. The positive side would be an intense desire that God should have His way in you. The experimental side would be God's way realized in us. And the practical side would be doing the will of God from our hearts. This fourfold definition illustrated in any life would mean unbounded usefulness and joy.

God wishes us to love Him and serve Him with all our hearts, so that His kingdom may come to the earth, and that sin and misery may pass away.

That Christian who does most and is most in the accomplishment of this supreme purpose of God is the greatest, happiest and best Christian that walks the earth. God's will is his spring of power, his fountain of inspiration and blessedness. He goes out to conquer evil, to defy the world, the flesh and the devil, to witness faithfully for Christ, to perform His own tasks efficiently, and ever to keep the glory of God in view. Every day is his best day. Every work is his sweetest work. Every person is the object of his solicitude. He is ready to do good anywhere. He finds heaven where God is. Fruit unto holiness is his daily bread. Duties performed are his angel attendants. This world is not his place of resting. He is seeking a city to come, and he is trying to take a lot of people along with him to enter it.

Blessed are the few people who have given God right of way in their hearts. They enjoy this life better than worldlings and sinners, and they have clear title to a life beyond to which the unregenerated are entire strangers.—Heart and Life.

A STRAIGHT FURROW

He was a good farmer; the furrows in the field he was ploughing stretched like railway tracks to the fence a quarter of a mile away.

"How do you make such straight furrows?" I asked.

"You see that slender pole with a white rag tied to the top of it?" he said in reply. "Well, I set that pole at the point where I want my furrows to end. If I keep my eyes on it all the way across, I can make the furrow almost as straight as a crow can fly; if you get a crook in the first one, the rest have to follow it, for the guiding wheel of the plough runs in the old furrow."

I reflected that as much depends on the first furrow in the life as on the first furrow in the field. As I looked back over my life and saw in it the many stretches of crooked ploughing and remembered that they all began with a crooked furrow, I despaired of making it like the field of the ploughman. Then I remembered the slender pole with its fluttering white flag and again heard the ploughman saying, "I keep my eyes on it all the way across." Now I understand. The crooked furrow had come when my eyes were not on Christ. I resolved that, God helping me, I would plough my furrows straight from then on, and that I would do it looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of my faith.—Sunday School Times.

NEWS AND NOTICES

MORNING DEVOTIONS BROADCAST
FROM CFNB, FREDERICTON, N. B.
8.30 - 9.00 A. M.

Rev. G. R. Symonds, 10th of each month.
Rev. H. S. Mullen, 19th of each month.
Rev. B. C. Cochrane, 27th of each month.
Rev. J. A. Owens, 30th of each month.

H. R. INGERSOLL'S SLATE

July 30 - Aug. 8—Riverside Youth Camp.
Sept. 1 - 12—Old Town, Maine.
Sept. 14 - 26—Westchester, N. S.
Sept. 28 - Oct. 10—Woodstock, N. B.
Oct. 17 - 31—Truro, N. S.
Nov. 13 - 14—Crawford, Maine.
Nov. 17 - 28—Calais, Maine.
Nov. 30—Dec. 12—Moncton, N. B.

DeVERNE MULLEN'S SLATE

July 31—Aug. 15 — Moors Inter. Camp,
Moors, N. Y.
Sept. 1—12 — Reformed Baptist Church, Old
Town, Me.
Sept. 15—26 — Nazarene Church, Skoweg-
han, Me.

NEW HOME MISSION TREASURER

Rev. W. L. Fernley has been elected
Home Mission Treasurer to succeed
Rev. G. R. Symonds.
Please send all Home Mission money
to Rev. W. L. Fernley, Box 195, Perth,
N. B.

REV. W. MOUTOUX'S ADDRESS

The address of Brother Moutoux is R. R. 2
Petersburg, Ontario, and not Peterborough,
as stated in a recent Highway.

PRAYER REQUESTED FOR MRS. LAWSON SAUNDERS

Mrs. Lawson Saunders underwent a serious
operation at Sisters Hospital, Waterville,
Maine, July 14. Please remember to pray for
her.

HOME MISSION MONEY RECEIVED

Young People's Association	\$200.00
Beulah, 1954	259.79
Harvey Parker	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Karl Gorman.....	6.00

All Home Mission Money is now to be sent
to Rev. W. L. Fernley. Church treasurers
please note. Thank you for your co-operation
and generosity during the past 12 years.

Sincerely,

G. R. Symonds, Treasurer

"SOFAS OF WELLNESS"

At a prayer meeting, sometime ago, one
brother prayed that the Lord would bless
those who were home on beds of sickness and
sofas of wellness. The last words were unex-
pected, but very needful.