HE SHALL YET SAVE THEE

A Man For Whom Events Have Gone Wrong.

A despatch from Brooklyn, N. Y., says: Rev. Newell Dwight Hillis, pastor of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, preached from the following text:—

"Though the earth be removed and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea, yet will I not fear.

"Hope thou in God for He shall yet save thee."

Our city holds a few people who seem chosen to good fortune. Health, money, a troop of friends, offices, position, all are theirs. One misfortune alone happens to them — which Christmas comes they know of nothing that they do not already possess. Others there are chosen to adversity and trouble. Their health is insecure, they are poor, obscure, neglected and all the storms of life beat in upon them. In an unfriendly mood Fate seems to have emptied upon them a quiver full of arrows and each barb is tipped with fire or poison. One of these men, over whom troubles have swept in heated storms, has just written me. At the hour when he expected success and raise everything has been swept away. "At the beginning of old age I find myself where I stood in my youth—at the foot of the ladder. Then $500 a year was enough, but not now, after these years of influence. I cannot adjust myself to the change from the position of employer to that of clerk, from a mansion to a flat, from the club and many friends to being a nobody. Is not suicide justifiable in certain cases? I never asked to be born. If I had been asked I think I would have refused the gift of life. Why may I not lay down a burden that I never took up for myself?"

This is the letter of an honest man. These words ring true. Here is a man who is baffled and beaten—for the hour. For him things have come as bad as heart could wish.

The problem my correspondent presents is most difficult, is many-sided, is immeasurable in its scope. Never having been in like position, it is not only probable but certain that I do not comprehend the vastness of the issues involved. Were I similarly situated perhaps the storms and shocking troubles that bend this man to the earth would have beaten my spirit.

INTO THE VERY GROUND.

Nevertheless, I can but encourage the hope that I should be supported by my confidence in the ultimate triumph of right and the beneficence of God, who is surrounded with clouds and darkness often, but who stands within the shadow, keeping watch above His own. Because I have not suffered as much as my friend who writes me I have great hesitancy in trying to fulfill his request. But since he has urged his need I answer that for the present he has taken my eyes away from the battle fields in the East, the strikes in Russia, the events of Washington and New York and focalized my thought on a man of 60, gray, furrowed with care, standing with his back to the wall, and I am asking myself the question: Will this man how his generation how to meet and defy events while he flings out his challenge to poverty, ill health, sorrow, loneliness, heartbreak. Here I stand, with soul unconquerable. Do your worst! But remember that though all things fall I will not fear."

What if God and events have chosen you for an example? What if this is the greatest opportunity came in your chance to be victorious over cross, stones, hunger, dungeon, the headsman's ax? What if the martyrdom was Abraham Lincoln's greatest good fortune? When the Japanese commander wanted a hundred men to make the death charge the whole regiment volunteered. It is an honor and entering competition for challenging death. The name of Paul is to-day come to conjure with. What if fronting Nero's dungeon, he had entered the problem whether life was not justifiable? What if he had asked the question that I ask me: "May I not lay down the burdens that I never for myself took up?" What if he had gone to the presence of his Master bearing the stain of cowardice? No, a thousand times, no! You did not choose life for yourself, but God chose it for you. And for you, perhaps, as with your Master, you will forget the moment of transfiguration where success dwelt in the joy of it over your cavalry."

After a long time has passed, perhaps you will be grateful for the experience involved in going from manhood and from position to the ranks. If men are here to gather when you have failed. If men are to build character then your life may spring out of the loving-kindness of the Creator. It may be that the world is a schoolhouse and a workshop and

EVENTS ARE FEATHERS.

So, to-morrow you will be grateful for what to-day you exclaim against. In Minnesota the millers and farmers are in distress. They have no hard wheat that makes the perfect flour, and this year must buy it from Canada. What is the trouble? This—the skies have been too propitious, the clouds too generous, and so the wheat is too rank and soft. And what is the hope of Minnesota after many summers of abundant rains? The only hope is in a long drought, a furnace-like summer, to expel all the moisture from the soil, so that the sunbeams can revitalize the cells of the earth out of which spring these golden sheaves. For it is a strange fact that when the sun has lifted the waving grain that grain casts a heavy shadow over the soil and robs it of the sun it needs. And perhaps your prosperity had produced material things that stood between your soul and your God. If so, no matter what treasure your hands held, your life was poor.

You say you are now where you began in youth, with $500 a year. Emerson did his best work on $500 a year when money would not go as far as it does to-day. So did John Bunyan and Milton and Dante. Not one of the apostles had a tenth as much. The men that have made liberty, wrought reforms, the old masters, the great poets, the martyrs would have counted themselves happy to have had half as much as $500. Poverty is a relative term. Wealth is in the soul. Your letter bears abundant proofs that you have full power to assert your manhood and say: "I know how to be full and how to be hungry; how to be abased and how to abound; how to lead and how to follow. Everywhere and in all things I can conquer through Him who strengtheneth me."

Remember that the end is not far off. In going abroad I have noticed that in nearing the shore, storms increase. On the voyage books, games, conversation have their uses, but when the captain announces "Land ahead!" the voyager puts away his books and amusements. Perchance these duties, offices and games for the brief life voyage, are now to be folded up because you have outgrown them. What if the earth be removed? God still lives. Hope thou in Him. He shall yet save thee. For in God, not in things, is the strength of thy life.

THE S. S. LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, MARCH 12.

Lesson XI. The Slavery of Sin. Golden Text, John 8.34.

THE LESSON WORD STUDIES.

Note—The word studies for this lesson are based on the text of the Revised Version.

Items Chronological.—In point of time the events of this lesson follow closely those of our last lesson. In verses 45-52 of chapter 7 is recorded the anger of the members of the Sanhedrin on hearing the report of the officers whom they had sent out to take Jesus, but who had returned empty-handed with no other excuse to offer than that never man so spake. Jesus meanwhile continued to teach the multitudes unmolested, and after a brief interval, though in all probability on the same day, he delivered the discourse on "Light of the World" recorded in John 8. 12-30. The passage relating to the woman taken in adultery (7.53 to 8.11) does not belong here chronologically. Many manuscripts of John's gospel place this passage at the end of the gospel as a superadded incident, while the oldest extant manuscripts omit it entirely. This is indicated in the Revised Version by placing the passage in brackets and by separating it by extra spacing from what precedes and follows.

Verse 31. Those Jews that had believed on him—Those specially mentioned in the preceding verse as believing on him upon hearing his discourse. The degree of faith which many of them possessed was, however, not large, as the subsequent event showed.

If ye abide—The test to be applied in the case of every one that believeth.

In my word—Literally, in the word which is mine, that is, peculiarly mine, in my special message to you.

Truly my disciples—Truly learners or pupils of mine. A true pupil of a great Master is faithful to (abides in) the instruction received from his Master.

32. Shall know the truth—Jesus identifies his word with truth as in the Old Testament the law of God is identified with truth (Psa. 119, 142). Shortly before his departure from this world, Jesus prays for those who have proved themselves to be "truly his disciples," and pleads for them with the Father: "Sanctify them in the truth; thy word is truth;" and this word of the Father is the same which he had spent his life in declaring.

The truth shall make you free—Free indeed (verse 36), or free in the deepest, truest sense. Jesus is speaking of intellectual and moral freedom from error, which, after all, is the greatest of all enslaving powers. The bondage of error is worse than physical bondage, the slavery of sin worse than political dependence.

33. Abraham's seed—To Abraham Jehovah had promised that he should be "the father of multitudes of nations," while of Sarah, Abraham's wife, he had said, "Kings and peoples shall be of her." These and other similar promises are interpreted by Abraham's descendants to mean that they (the Jews) as a people should have dominion over many nations.

Never in bondage—A claim which was contrary to fact. Egypt, Babylonia, and Syria had in succession had dominion over Palestine, while its subjugation to Rome was at this time absolute. Yet the proud spirit of the Hebrews constantly rebelled against this bondage, submitting to it only as something unreal and transitory in the progress of the nation toward ultimate triumph and world dominion. How, then, could this Rabbi be so unpatriotic as to imply that they were not a free people? Thus they miss utterly the true import of the words of Jesus. For their spiritual pride is even greater than their national conceit, and the explanation Jesus gives of his intended meaning, since it implies the possibility of sin on their part, more bitterly resented by them even than were his words in the sense in which they first understood them.

34. Verily, verily—Greek, Amen, amen, a solemn form of emphasis.

Everyone that committeth sin—Words which, together with those of verse 36 imply that they whom Jesus is addressing are among those who have committed sin. The Greek uses the definite article with the word for sin, which indicates that Jesus means not merely a simple act, but rather the life of sin. With a similar significance the article is used in the expression doeth the truth (John 3. 21), and in doeth (the) righteousness (1 John 2. 29; comp. also 1 John 3. 4-8).

The bond servant—That is, a slave. In a few manuscripts this verse ends here, the words of sin being omitted.

35. The bond servant of sin cannot be a child of God. In his sinful moral state his position with respect to God becomes servile. His obedience, if he renders such at all, is only forced obedience. In such a moral state the sinful man cannot possibly abide in the house of God from whome he has separated himself spiritually. In the parable of the two sons (Luke 15. 29) the prodigal denies his sonship by the words, "These many years do I serve thee." His had not been the obedience of a son, and hence the consciousness of real sonship was not his either.

The son abideth forever—He who through the community of spirit is a son in spirit, and hence in truth, will never become separated from the household of which he has become an organic part.

36. If therefore the Son shall make you free—Implying in the context that the Son and heir has the power both to set free the servant and to adopt him into the family as a brother and joint heir.

Free indeed—That is, in reality, or essentially.

37-40. These verses must be taken together to get the thought of the words of Jesus. The expression, I know that ye are Abraham's seed (verse 37) must be taken together with the expression, If ye were Abraham's seed, of verse 39. Jesus admits the correctness of the civil records proving their physical relationship to Abraham, but insists that their actions prove with equal conclusiveness their spiritual and moral alienation from Abraham, to whom had been given the title "the father of the faithful."

Not free course in you—Or, maketh no advance in you. For a short time his word had indeed found place in them, but it did not abide in them nor they in it.

38. Ye heard—The best manuscripts reading heard instead of have seen."

Your father—"Your father the devil" (slanderer, manslayer); the father of liars (verse 44).

40. Ye seek to kill me—Jesus could read their inmost thoughts.

A man—Used only here by our Lord of himself; possibly in anticipation of the designation "manslayer" he was about to apply to his greatest opponent of whom they were allies and children.

This did not Abraham—Abraham is in Oriental traditions often spoken of as "full of loving-kindness." He was at least a willing recipient of God's messages, whether welcome or unwelcome.

ARSENIC IN BEER BARREL.

Enough to Poison Over Two Thousand People.

Extraordinary evidence was given at an inquest at Bury St. Edmunds, England, on Robert Dickman, a farm laborer, who died after drinking a glass of home-brewed beer at the North Stow Farm, on the Culford estate.

The country analyst stated that an analysis of a sample of the beer which Dickman had partaken had revealed the presence of 98 grains of arsenic per pint, sufficient to kill 25 or 30 persons.

The barrel from which the beer was taken was shown to have originally contained a double-strength weed destroyer, consisting of a strong solution of arsenic. When sent out by the manufacturer it bore large brass labels at either end, warning users of the dangerous contents of the barrel.

The career of the barrel was traced through various hands until it finally sold by auction to a West Stow butcher, who afterwards sold it to Dickman's brother-in-law, tenant of North Stow farm, who used it for brewing beer.

Arsenic was found by the analyst still clinging to the sides of the barrel, and he estimated that there was sufficient to kill over 2,400 persons.

The jury brought in a verdict of "Death from Misadventure."

BUILD HUMAN NESTS.

Travellers who have returned from the heart of Africa and the Australasian continent tell wonderful stories of nest-building people who inhabit the wilds of those countries. In the bushmen of Australia we find, perhaps, the lowest order of men that is known. They are so primitive that they do not know enough to build even the simplest form of for shelter. The nearest they can approach to it is to gather a lot of twigs and grass, and, taking them into a thicket or jungle, build a nest for a home.

THE LAST STRAW.

Giles—"I don't know what comin' to! Poor Bill's gone, Aunt Emma's broke 'er leg, yer poor old mother's very ill, an' now, hang it all, there's a fowl dead!"

CANADA LIFE
Assurance Company
Financial Statement
58th Annual Report

ASSETS

Government, Municipal, and other Bonds, Stocks, and Debentures	$17,249,744.96
Mortgages on Real Estate	4,506,711.29
Loans on Bonds, Stocks, Etc.	368,093.66
Loans on Policies	3,504,421.18
Real Estate owned (including Company's Buildings in Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal, Winnipeg, St. John, N.B., and London, Eng.)	1,762,633.99
Premiums in Transit and deferred (net) and interest accrued	989,898.30
Other Assets	402,966.00
Cash on hand and in Banks	200,099.62
	$29,074,599.00

LIABILITIES

Reserve Fund Company's Standard (Hm 3% and 3½%)	$26,408,650.00
Death Claims in Course of Settlement, and Instalment Fund	237,445.23
Dividends to Policy-holders in Course of Payment	16,126.80
Reserve for Policies which may be revived	33,070.00
Other Liabilities	2,260.96
Total Surplus on Policy-holders' Account, Company's Standard	2,376,425.99
	$29,074,599.00

RECEIPTS

Premium and Annuity Income (net)	$3,043,178.15
Interest, etc.	1,204,851.50
Profits on sale of Securities	52,361.63
	$4,300,391.28

PAYMENTS

Death Claims (net)	$1,221,815.60
Matured Endowments (net)	218,857.00
Dividends paid Policy-holders (including Bonus Addition paid with Death Claims and with Matured Endowment(s)	207,781.12
Surrender Values paid Policy-holders	76,500.05
Paid Annuitants	23,597.01
Total paid to Policy-holders	$1,748,551.68
Commission, Salaries, etc.	681,202.71
Taxes, Dividends, etc.	320,126.80
Excess of Receipts over Payments	1,550,420.09
	$4,300,391.28

Net Surplus over all Liabilities (Company's Standard) ... $1,376,000
Net Surplus over all Liabilities (Government Standard) .. $4,326,000

GAINS IN 1904

	1904	1903	Increase
Number of applications received	7,221	6,863	358
Amount of Assurances applied for	$ 14,571,153	$13,881,960	$ 689,193
Policies issued	13,043,503	12,635,032	408,471
Policies paid for	11,211,721	10,122,139	1,089,582
Total business in force	101,805,944	95,531,110	6,274,834

The new business paid for in 1904 was greater in amount than that of any previous year in the Company's history.

A full report of the annual meeting will appear in the Company's paper, "Life Echoes."

The Home

SELECTED RECIPES.

French Beefsteak.—Cut the steak two-thirds of an inch thick from a fillet of beef; dip into melted fresh butter, lay them on a heated gridiron and broil over hot coals. When done sprinkle pepper and salt. Have ready some parsley, chopped fine and mixed with softened butter. Roll up in the form of a cake. Bake quickly.

Lady Fingers.—Beat two eggs light; add one teacupful sugar, a little salt, and flavoring to taste. Use one teacupful flour sifted with one teaspoonful cream baking powder, making the dough of a consistency that can be rolled. Cut into strips the size of the finger, and bake.

Macaroons.—One pound of sweet almonds blanched and beaten to a paste; mix with them one and a quarter pounds of powdered sugar, the grated rind of two lemons, and the whites of six eggs. Drop on buttered paper and bake a light brown in a moderate oven.

Crullers.—One quart flour, half cupful lard, half cupful butter, one cupful sugar, one and one-half teaspoonfuls cream baking powder, three-quarters pint milk, two eggs, little nutmeg. Sift flour, sugar, and powder together; rub in the lard and butter; add the beaten eggs and milk. Mix into a smooth dough, soft enough to handle conveniently. Roll out on a well-floured board; cut into strips, twist in different shapes and fry in plenty of hot lard. Serve with sifted sugar.

Doughnuts.—Half cupful butter, one cupful sugar, one and one-half pints flour; one and one-half teaspoonfuls cream baking powder, one egg, one one-half cupfuls milk, little nutmeg. Rub the butter, sugar and egg together smooth. Sift the flour and powder together, add it to the butter, the milk also. Mix into a soft dough; well flour the board, roll out the dough to half inch in thickness, cut out with large biscuit cutter, and fry to a light brown in plenty of hot lard. Serve with sifted sugar.

White taffy.—Two cups of granulated sugar, three tablespoons vinegar; boil until it will crack. Butter Scotch.—Three cups granulated sugar, one-half cup molasses, one-half teaspoon cream tartar, four ounces of butter; boil together until it will crack, pour into pan, and mark in squares.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Grained wood should be washed with cold tea.

Hard Piecrusts are the result of using too much water.

A greasy sink is best cleaned with a flannel on which has been poured a little paraffin oil.

Kid boots can be kept soft and free from cracks by rubbing with pure glycerine or castor oil.

Leather chairs can be brightened by being rubbed with a cloth that has been dipped in the white of an egg.

Onions should always be boiled in water that has been salted. Otherwise they lose much of their flavor.

Broken skin should have the white of an egg applied. It gives instant relief, and keeps the air from the flesh.

To obtain tea very aromatic, infuse in a small degree astringent, it for half an hour in a small quantity of cold water, then add boiling water. The cold water saturates the whole texture of the leaves.

Corks for bottling choke wines should be dry and sound, and have been first soaked in a little of the wine they are intended to close.

An "emergency" cupboard is an admirable thing to have in the kitchen. It should be stored with tinned or bottled goods—vegetables, soup, tongue, etc.—so that a moment's hot or cool meal may be speedily prepared.

Almost any sticky substance can be removed from soft dress material by rubbing with slightly diluted alcohol. Paint that has dried on garments may be removed by treating the spot several times with equal parts of ammonia and turpentine. When the paint is out wash the spot in soapy water and press.

IN MERRY OLD ENGLAND

NEWS BY MAIL ABOUT JOHN BULL AND HIS PEOPLE.

Occurrences in the Land That Reigns Supreme in the Commercial World.

Cambridge University Library is the only one in Europe with a continuous existence of nearly 500 years.

It is computed that the maintenance of foxes in England for hunting purposes costs nearly three millions sterling.

Ten thousand pounds is to be spent on brightening up the stations and tunnels of the Metropolitan Railway.

A "Million Farthing Fund" has been started at Islington to encourage children to give to foreign church missions.

Two hundred tons of sand and 500 tons of water per hour are being raised by a centrifugal pump in widening Blackpool promenade.

Orders for 18 locomotives have been placed by the Japanese Government with the North British Locomotive Company, and they will be constructed at the Hyde Park Works, Glasgow.

Birmingham and Midland members of the Selborne Society are taking steps to save Warley Woods from the destruction which threatens them, and secure them for the public.

During the King's voyage in the Mediterranean the royal yacht will be escorted by the second cruiser squadron, under the command of Rear-Admiral Prince Louis of Battenberg.

The appointment of Sir Herbert White as Lieutenant-Governor of Burma has given great satisfaction. Sir Herbert has been in Burma since 1887, and thoroughly understands the country's needs.

In memory of Mr. Mocatta, the Jewish philanthropist, a Jewish museum and library will be erected. At present there is no museum devoted entirely to objects of Jewish interest in this country.

"When he was in South Africa he had an idea that he was a horse, and galloped about," said an officer of the Scots Greys at the inquest on Private W. Morton Rogers, who shot himself in the barrack room at Norwich.

A Local Government Board's inspector, who investigated an epidemic of typhoid fever in Beverley, Yorkshire, mentions in his report that the town is built upon a foundation of the branches and trunks of young hazel trees.

An otter has been shot at Barcombe Mills, Sussex, where it had killed a number of fish in a pond, in a private garden. A fine 25 lb. otter has been shot on the Wavney at Beccles. Otters are reported in large numbers in the Thames Valley.

In the new free library which the Lambeth Borough Council is erecting with funds provided by Mr. Carnegie, the shelves radiate from the counter, so that borrowers may have free access to the books to examine and select before taking them to the desk for entry.

In excavating for the purpose of laying a telephone main along London wall the workmen at the Moorgate end of the street came right on the top of the old Roman wall at a depth of four or five feet. So hard were the masses of masonry that ordinary pickaxes were of no avail.

CLUES OF THE MOUTH.

Fame awaits the man who can devise a new means of identifying criminals other than by the use of photography or finger-prints. At the present time Scotland Yard relies upon finger-print impressions as a means of identification; but those who eke out a dishonest livelihood are too sharp to incriminate themselves by recklessness or carelessness this being evidenced by the fact that at a recent big burglary in London, when the criminals made a big haul of jewellery, the finger-prints left behind by the thieves were so blurred as to be utterly valueless as a means of identification. It is thought probable that the burglars wore gloves. The difficulties of getting an old gaol-bird to quietly submit to being photographed in the various positions necessary for identification led to the introduction of the finger-print system. As an alternative, a dentist has suggested that a mould of the mouth taken on a wax composition would be an easy and ample means of identification of a person suspected of having previously served a long term of imprisonment.

GROWING MONOTONOUS.

"I think your daughter intends to elope."

The old man looked at the neighbor who was always interesting in matters that did not concern him and shook his head.

"I can hardly believe it," he said.

"I have every reason to believe it."

"But that won't do," interrupted the old man. "You forget that this is a serious matter that ought not to be allowed to rest on hearsay evidence. When one man comes to another, and tells him that his daughter is about to forsake the parental roof under cover of the night, he should be absolutely sure of what he says. Have you sufficient evidence to show that what you say is true?"

"Well, no, I can't say that I have," replied the officious neighbor, beginning to feel that perhaps he had gone too far.

"Just as I feared," returned the old man. "This is the third time I've had my hopes needlessly raised by reports of this sort, and it is growing monotonous."

"What's worse than owing money you can't pay?" "Being owed money you can't collect."