

ONE WOMAN'S GRAND WORK IN AMELIORATING MISERY

Practical Benevolence of Dorcas Contrasted With Charitable Work of To-Day--No Idle Planning, But Actual Help.

A Washington report: Dr. Talmage who is still traveling in northern Europe, has forwarded the following report of a sermon in which he utters helpful words to all who are engaged in alleviating human distresses and shows how such work will be crowned at the last. Text, Acts ix, 39: "And all the widows stood by him weeping and showing him the coats and garments which Dorcas made while she was with them."

Joppa is a most absorbing city of the orient. Into her harbor once floated the rafts of Lebanon cedar from which the temples of Jerusalem were built. Solomon's oxen drawing the logs through the town. Here Napoleon had 500 prisoners massacred. One of the most magnificent charities of the centuries was started in this seaport by Dorcas, a woman with her needle and her hand. Her name ineffaceably imprints the beneficence of the world. I see her sitting in yonder home. In the doorway and around about the building and in the room where she sits are the pale faces of the poor. She listens to their plaint, she pities their woe, she makes garments for them, she adjusts the manufactured articles to suit the bent form of this invalid woman and to the cripple that comes crawling on his hands and knees. She gives a coat to this one, she gives sackcloth to that one. With the gifts she mingles prayers and tears and Christian encouragement. Then she goes out to be greeted in the street corners by those whom she has blessed, and all through the street the cry is heard, "Dorcas is coming!" The sick and the lame gratefully enter her house as she puts her hand on the burning brow, and the lost and the abandoned start up with hope as they hear her gentle voice, as though an angel had addressed them, and as she goes out the eyes half put out with sin think they see a halo of light about her brow and a trail of glory in her pathway. That night a half-past midnight climbs the hill and reaches home and sees his little boy well clad and says, "Where did these clothes come from?" And they tell him, "Dorcas has been here." In another place a woman is trimming a lamp. Dorcas bought the oil. In another place a family that had not been at table for many weeks are gathered now, for Dorcas has brought bread.

But there is a sudden pause in that woman's ministry. They say: "Where is Dorcas? Why, we haven't seen her for many a day. Where is Dorcas?" And one of these poor people goes and knocks at the door and finds the mystery solved. All through the haunts of wretchedness the news comes, "Dorcas is sick." No bulletin flashing from the palace gate telling the stages of a king's disease is more anxiously waited for than the news from this benefactress. Alas, for Joppa there is wailing, wailing! That voice which has uttered so many cheerful words is hushed; that hand which has made so many garments for the poor is cold and stiff, the star which had poured light into the midnight of wretchedness is dimmed by the blinding mists that go up from the river of death. In every forsaken place in that town, wherever there is a sick child and a bed, wherever there is a hungry and no bread, wherever there is a gulf and no commiseration, wherever there is a broken heart and no comfort, there are despairing looks and streaming eyes and frantic gesticulations as they cry, "Dorcas is dead!"

They send for the apostle Peter, who happens to be in the suburbs of the place, stopping with a tanner of the name of Simon. Peter urges his way through the crowd around the door and stands in the presence of the dead. What demonstration of grief all about him! Here stand some of the poor people, who show the garments which this poor woman had made for them. Their grief cannot be appeased. The apostle Peter wants to perform a miracle. He will not do it until the excited crowd, so he orders that the whole room be cleared. The door is shut against the populace. The apostle stands now with the dead. Oh, it is a serious moment, you know, when you are alone with a lifeless body! The apostle gets down on his knees and prays, and then he comes to the lifeless form of this one already for the sepulcher, and in the strength of Him who is the resurrection he cries, "Tabitha, arise!" There is a stir in the fountains of life; the heart flutters; the nerves thrill; the cheek flushes; the eye opens; she sits up!

We see in this subject Dorcas the disciples, Dorcas the benefactress, Dorcas the lamented, Dorcas the resurrected. If I had not seen that word disciple in my text, I would have known this woman was a Christian. Such music as that never came from a heart which is not chorded and strung by divine grace. I show you the needful work of this woman I want to show you her regenerated heart, the source of a pure life and of all Christian charities. I wish that the wives and mothers and daughters and sisters of all the earth would imitate Dorcas in her discipleship. Before you cross the threshold of the hospital, before you enter upon the temptations and trials of to-morrow, I charge you in the name of God and by the turmoil and tumult of the judgment day. O women, that you attend to the first and greatest duty of your life--the seeking for God and being at peace with Him.

Further, we see Dorcas the benefactress. History has told the story of the epistle poet has sung of the sword; the pastoral poet, with his verses full of the resonance of clover tops and arbutus with silk of the

ing benefactress. Reclaimed vagrancy comes and kisses the cold brow of her who charmed it away from sin, and all through the streets of Joppa there is mourning--mourning because Dorcas is dead. When Josephine of France was carried out to her grave, there were a great many men and women of pomp and pride and position that went out after her, but I am most affected by the story of history that on that day there were ten thousand of the poor of France who followed her coffin, weeping and wailing until the air rang again, because when they had seen shepherds they lost their last earthly friend. Oh, who would not rather have such obseques than all the tears that were ever poured into the lacrymatory of the city and through the lonely halls that have been exhumed from ancient cities? There may be no mass sarcophagus; there may be no elaborate mausoleum, but in the damp cellars of the city and through the lonely halls of the mountain side there will be mourning, mourning, because the cause Dorcas is dead. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; they rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

I speak to you of Dorcas the resurrected. The apostle came to what she was and said, "Arise, and she sat up!" In what a short compass the great writer put that "She sat up!" What a time there must have been found that town when the apostle brought it out among her old friends! How many a heart of joy must have started! What a clapping of hands there must have been! What singing! What laughter! Sound it all through that land! Shout it down that dark alley! Let all Joppa hear it! Dorcas is resurrected! You and I have seen the same thing many a time; not a dead body resuscitated, but the deceased coming up again after death in the good accomplished. If a man labors up to fifty years of age, serving God, and then dies we are apt to think that his earthly work is done. No. His influence on earth will continue till the world ceases. Service rendered for Christ never stops. A Christian woman labors for the upbuilding of a church through many anxieties, through many self-denials with prayers and tears, and then she dies. It is fifteen years since she went away. Now the spirit of God descends upon that church, hundreds of souls stand up and confess the work of the woman that Christian woman, who went away fifteen years ago, nothing to do with these things? I see the flowering out of her noble heart. I hear the echo of her footsteps in all the songs ever sung in the church. The good that she has buried has come up again. Dorcas is resurrected!

After awhile all these womanly friends of Christ will put down their needles forever. After making garments for other sinners, she will make a garment for them; the last robe we ever wear--the robe for the grave. You will have heard the last cry of pain. You will have witnessed the last orphanage. You will have come in worn out from your last round of duty. The good that she has buried has come up again. Dorcas is resurrected!

Asleep in Jesus! Blessed sleep from which none ever wakes to weep! Then one day there will be a sky rending and a whirl of wheels and the flash of the angels' march, the chains clanking, banners waving, thunders booming, and that Christian woman will rise from the dust, and she will be suddenly surrounded--surrounded by the wanderers of the street whom she would save, surrounded by the wretched souls of the benighted. Daughters of God, so strangely surrounded, what means this? It means that reward has come, that the victory is won, that the crown is ready, that the banquet is spread. Shout it, sleep no more, but sing earth. Sing it through all the flying heavens. Dorcas is resurrected!

In 1855, when some of the soldiers came back from the Crimean war to London, the Queen of England distributed among them beautiful medals called Crimean medals. Galleries were erected for the two houses of parliament and the royal family to sit in. There was a great audience to witness the distribution of the medals. A colonel who had lost both feet in the battle of Inkermann was pulled in on a wheel chair; others came in limping on their crutches. Then the Queen of England arose before them in the name of her government and uttered words of commendation to the officers and men and the British medals, inscribed with the four great battlefields--Alma, Balaklava, Inkermann and Sebastopol. As the Queen passed to the wounded men and the officers the bands of music played the national air, and the people, with streaming eyes, joined in the song:

God save our gracious Queen!
Long live our noble Queen!
God save the Queen!

And then they shouted, "Hurra, hurra!" Oh, it was a proud day for those returned warriors! But the next day, better and gladder day will come when Christ shall gather those who have toiled in his service, and the names of Jesus Christ, He will be there, and in the presence of the glorified of heaven he will say, "Well done, good and faithful servant," and then he will distribute the medals of eternal victory, not inscribed with words of righteousness which we have done, but with the four great battlefields--Bethlehem, Nazareth, Gethsemane, Calvary!

It came to pass in process of time that Uncle Ezekiel died and was buried, and Foadick remarked to Tensop, "I see by the papers that your eccentric uncle left his entire fortune to charity." "Ezekiel," repeated Tensop disgustedly, "He was as crazy as a loon." "Judge."

SUNDAY SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL LESSON NO. VI. AUGUST 5, 1900.

Jesus and the Children.--Matt. 18: 1-14.

Text--What is the golden rule? School--Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and in their minds is the kingdom of God. Mark x. 14.

What is the central truth? Christ's little ones are the objects of his special care. What is the topic? Humility. What is the outline? I. Christ's kingdom. II. Christ's care for His little ones. III. Christ demands separation from earthly sin. IV. Christ's love for the wanderer.

When was the time? August, A. D. 29. Where was the place? Capernaum. Who were the persons? Jesus. The disciples. A little child.

What are the parallel accounts? Mark ix. 33-38; Luke ix. 46-48, xv. 3-7. Commentary.--When Jesus came down from the mount of transfiguration He healed a demoniac boy. He then journeyed towards Capernaum, and on the way again foretold His own death and resurrection.

1. At the same time--After Peter had returned from paying the tribute, who is the greatest--Such is blind human nature; always desiring to be made prominent above the rest by being with Him in the mount. In the kingdom of heaven--They still view the kingdom of Christ as a temporal one, and the real import of their question is, Whom do you expect to honor by giving the first place in your government?

2. Called a little child unto Him--The child was old enough to walk. Jesus proposes to teach them by means of an object lesson. He corrects their false ideas about greatness, and shows them that spiritual excellence, and not splendor or authority, constitutes true greatness in His kingdom. If any man desires to be first, he must be last of all, and servant of all.

3. Except ye be converted--The word here rendered "be converted" means "turn about so as to face in the other direction." It always signifies a radical and complete change in method, spirit, or course. Peter, but obedient as little children--Humble, teachable, obedient and trustful. Ye shall not enter--There is no way into the kingdom of grace only by the door of humility. The proud do not know what to enter. They must humble themselves.

4. Whosoever--All have equal privileges. Shall humble himself--None but the lowly are in the kingdom. The disciples in the kingdom are the greatest. To be humble is not to disparage one's self, but to use whatever we have in the humblest service. The same is greatest--The selfishness is the root of all sin. It "diminishes the crown and diminishes the throne of those who would otherwise be great." True humility is one of the surest marks of true greatness.

5. Whoso shall receive--That is, shall show kindness to, shall help and care for. One such little child--This refers not only to actual children, but also to those who are Christ's followers, who have a humble, childlike spirit. In my name--Out of love to Me and for my sake. Receive ye Me--Jesus considers Himself as His little ones. He says, "I am the least of you." 6. Shall offend--Who shall cause one of My little ones to stumble and to fall into sin. "Our Lord does not mean vexing them or making them angry, but tempting or leading them into evil. It were better to suffer the heinousness of the offence, than to allow a child to be led into sin. About his neck, etc. Drowning in the sea was a punishment used among the ancients.

7. Woe unto the world--Or, alas for the world. It is the opinion of some that this world is used to expiate the sins of the angels. Because of occasions of stumbling (R. V.)--Because there are so many temptations and stumbling-blocks put before men--so many things to lead men downward. It must be so in this world, that is so full of sin and wickedness, those who serve Christ will be tempted; there will be all sorts of temptations presented to them. Woe to that man, through whom the occasion cometh (R. V.)--Woe to the man who is guilty of the awful crime of leading others down to hell. "He that sins himself is weak; but he that leads others into sin is devilish. It is a fiend's business."

8. If thy hand, foot, eye causeth thee to stumble (R. V.)--If objects as dear to thee as these most valuable and precious members of the body cause thee to stumble and to fall into sin. Cut them off and cast them away. The pleading thing, if it must be cut off, let it be cut off. It is of no use to try to regulate and moderate; safety lies only in entire abstinence. Into the hell of fire (R. V.)--The literal Gehenna was a valley to the south of Jerusalem, a former scene of Moloch worship, and later the place where the refuse of the city was burned with perpetual fire.

9. Because not--A thing though they were beneath your notice. Little ones--The weakest and most lowly of those who believe in Christ. In Heaven they possess the angels in Heaven, who behold the face of the Father, have a peculiar charge over them. How dear must these "little ones" be to God and how great the peril of those who offend them.

11. Son of man is come--Jesus came to save sinners. This verse is omitted in R. V.

12. One of them be gone astray, etc.--The lost sheep is a type of one straying away from the fold of Christ into sin. He immediately leaves the ninety and nine in a place of safety and goes into the mountains, into the difficult and dangerous places and seeks the straying one.

13. He rejoiceth more--That sheep was of no more value than the other sheep. It was its rescue that caused the joy.

Teachings--Those things that seem great to men are very small in the sight of God. There will never be any contention about greatness among those who have right views concerning it. Jesus takes a deep interest in the least and most insignificant of his saints, and considers what is done to them as though it were done to Himself.

MARKET REPORTS

OF THE
The Week,

Leading Wheat Markets.
Following are the closing prices at important wheat centres to-day:

Market	Cash	Sept
Chicago	80 1/2	80 7/8
New York	80 1/2	80 3/4
Milwaukee	79 1/2	79 3/4
St. Louis	79 1/2	79 3/4
Toledo	79 1/2	79 3/4
Detroit	78 1/2	78 3/4
Detroit, white	78 1/2	78 3/4
Duluth, No. 1	77 3/8	77 1/2
Duluth, No. 1 H.	77 1/2	77 1/2
Minneapolis, No. 1	77 1/2	77 1/2
Northern	77 1/2	77 1/2
Minneapolis, No. 1 hard	77 1/2	77 1/2

Toronto Farmers' Market.
July 24--Receipts of farm produce were light, 250 bushels of grain and 10 tons of hay.

Wheat--One load of goose sold at 72 1/2-cents per bushel.
Oats--Two hundred bushels sold at 31 1/2-cents to 32 1/2-cents.

Potatoes--Old potatoes are practically out of the market, and new ones are selling at 20 to 50c per bushel.

July 26--Receipts of grain on the street market here to-day, four loads. Wheat--One load of spring wheat sold 1c lower at 71c and one load of goose wheat 1c higher at 72c.

Oats--Two loads sold steady to firm at 31c to 32c.
Hay and straw--Six loads of hay sold at \$10 to \$10.50 a ton for new and \$13 a ton for old. No straw offered.

Toronto Fruit Market.

Raspberries, 6 1/2 to 7 1/2; blueberries, 7 1/2 to 9; gooseberries, 40c for small and 50c to 80c per basket for large varieties; cherries, 80c to \$1.10 for common and \$1.10 to \$1.50 for sweet; red currants 30c to 50c; black currants, 70c to 85c; tomatoes, 70c to 80c; cucumbers, 12 1/2-cents to 20c; beans, 15c; harvest peas, 50c per basket; apples, 15c to 25c per basket; green corn, 10c to 12c per dozen; potatoes, 40c per bushel.

Toronto Live Stock Market.

Milk cows, each, \$39.00 to \$41.00
Export cattle, choice, per cent, 4 to 4.50
Export cattle, light, per cent, 4 to 4.50
Butcher's cattle, picked, 4.40 to 4.60
Butcher's cattle, good, 3.95 to 4.20
Do. medium, 3.75 to 4.00
Butcher's calves, 2.75 to 3.00
Bulls, export, heavy, per cent, 4.35 to 4.65
Bulls, export, light, per cent, 3.75 to 4.25
Feeders, 90 to 120 lbs., 2.00 to 2.50
Do. 100 to 900 lbs., 3.25 to 3.75
Suckling cows, 400 to 500 lbs., per cent, 3.25 to 3.50
Do. off-colors and heifers, 2.25 to 3.50
Butcher's bulls, per cent, 2.50 to 3.00
Light stock bulls, per cent, 2.00 to 2.50
Sheep, export, ewes, per cent, 3.75 to 4.00
Do. bucks, in the kingdom, 3.00 to 3.50
Spring lambs, each, 2.00 to 2.50
Calves, per head, 2.00 to 3.00
Hogs, choice, per cent, 6.25 to 6.50
Hogs, light, per cent, 5.75 to 6.00
Hogs, heavy, fat, per cent, 5.75 to 6.00
Hogs, cured, 5.50 to 6.00
Sows, 2.00 to 2.50
Stags, 2.25 to 3.00

Cheese Markets.

Woodstock, Ont., July 25--At the cheese market here to-day, there were 3,192 boxes boarded, 1,608 unboarded, and 1,585 white; 91-2-c were the highest bid, and 440 boxes were sold at this price.

Pictou, Ont., July 25--At the Board to-day 17 factories boarded 110 boxes, all colored. Highest bid 9 1/2-c; 890 sold.

Stirling, Ont., July 25--At the Stirling Cheese Board to-day, 325 boxes white were boarded. Watkins bought 400, Brenton 205, Hodgson 59, all at 9 1/2-c.

Peterboro, Ont., July 25--At the Cheese Board held here to-day about 4,800 colored cheeses were offered, being the first half of the July make. The cheese was all quickly disposed of as follows, in round figures: Bailey, 400; 50c; also 500 at 40c-45c; 37 at 9 1/2-c; White, 600 at 9 1/2-c; 95-8c, also 400 at 9 1/2-c; 200 at 9 1/2-c; Rollins, 1,000 at 9 1/2-c; Claxton, 500 at 9 1/2-c; Kerr, 450 at 9 1/2-c; also 100 at 10 1/2-c. Def factory sold at the close, the offer not accepted.

Financial.

According to R. G. Dun & Co., the business failures in Canada for the week ending July 26th totalled 28, against 27 the previous week, and 22 the corresponding week of 1899. By Province the past week's failures were: Ontario 15, Quebec 8, New Brunswick and British Columbia each 2, Manitoba 1, Nova Scotia and P. E. I. each none.

Bradstreet's on Trade.

Trade at Montreal has been of fair volume for this season. The sorting trade has kept up well. Orders for the fall have been considerable, and the indications promise a large movement for the fall. The improved conditions of the crops in the west lead to the belief that sales of goods for the fall in the west will be larger than expected at the opening of the month. Values are generally fair. Remittances are fair for this season. Money is steady.

Orders for fall delivery continue to come forward at Toronto in fair average quantities for this season. Values are very firm, and wholesale people say that a good many lines now being sold for the fall and winter could not be replaced at prices paid for them.

Trade at Hamilton this week has been very fair for this season. Prices for domestic and imported goods continue firm. Manufacturers are busy, labor is well employed, and reports from travellers are encouraging.

There has been a marked improvement in wholesale business at the Coast cities the past ten days. The logging camps are all very busy, and the lumber trade is brisk. The outlook for the fisheries industry is very promising. The mining industry generally is showing good progress. Payments are showing signs of improvement. There is still complaint of over competition among retailers.

In wholesale circles at Winnipeg, provisions, fruits and groceries are the most active lines. There is rather more inquiry for fall goods. The outlook for business has improved somewhat since the worst reports of the wheat damage began to come. Payments are fairly satisfactory for this time of the year.

Business at London is fair for this season. Crop reports are fair, and the outlook for business is good. The good many shipments are being made. Values are firm. Remittances are satisfactory for this season.

BIT OFF CAT'S TAIL. Drunken Freak of a Young English Laborer.

MUST SERVE 28 DAYS IN JAIL.

At the Durham Quarter Sessions on Wednesday, says the Newcastle, Eng. Chronicle, a fellow Scott, laborer, Stockton, pleaded against a conviction of the Stockton magistrates committing him to prison for 28 days, without the option of a fine, for having ill-treated a cat by biting a peck off its tail. Mr. Luck was the appellant, and Mr. Simey for the respondents.

Mr. Simey, in opening the case, said that there was no question about the facts as in the court below, the appellant pleaded guilty. The appeal was brought in the endeavor to get sentence reduced and to try whether the magistrate had used a right discretion in sending the appellant to prison without the option of a fine.

Miss Ann Goodman, a little girl living with her parents in Stockton, was called to give evidence in support of the conviction. She stated that on the 3rd of May Matthew Scott, an attorney, and another man, her mother's house in a drunken condition. The cat was lying on the hearthrug in front of the fire, and Scott's companion said to him, "Go and get the cat." The cat was the cat, Scott picked the cat up, and put it under his arm, and at once bit off 2 1/2 inches from the end of its tail. The cat screamed as if in great pain, and witness's mother coming in, ordered them out of the house. The wound did not heal, and the cat died at the month's end.

Inspector Cape, of the South-Durham and North-Wharfedale Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, spoke to having seen the cat shortly after the offence had been committed. It was then, he said, suffering great pain.

Mr. Luck, for the appellant, stated that Scott was an industrious and respectable young man. Mr. Luck put it to the magistrates that this conduct was merely that of a foolish drunken freak. He would produce evidence that the biting off of the cat's tail would only give it momentary pain, and in all circumstances, he asked the Bench to take a merciful view of the case.

Thomas Elliott, veterinary surgeon, Stockton, gave it as his opinion that the operation of docking the cat's tail would only give it slight pain, and not inflict any lasting injury.

Other witnesses were called who spoke to appellant's good character. The Bench decided to confirm the conviction, and dismissed the appeal with costs.

Mr. Luck asked if the prisoner might have his sentence without hard labor. The Chairman stated that the Bench refused to interfere, and the conviction of the magistrates below remained.

Directions by Phone

"Hello!"
"Hello!"
"Is that you, Henry?"
"Yes."
"This is Carrie. I want to talk to you."
"Be in a hurry, please, Carrie. Twenty persons are here waiting to talk to me."
"I will. We are going to have a chicken for dinner, and the girl wants me to ask you how she ought to kill it. Shall she--"
"Oh, ring off!"

"And the dear little woman at the other end of the wire immediately told the girl to go in the kitchen and wring the chicken's head off."

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