

Sign Boards on the Up-road

By Hamilton B. Williams

Olive Shreiner has written some very beautiful fables in which a true philosophy is found. "The Lost Joy" shows how the most perfect happiness is found along the hard, rough way of loss.

THE LOST JOY

All day, where the sunlight played on the sea-shore, Life sat. All day the soft wind played with her hair, and the young, young face looked out across the water. She was waiting—she was waiting; but she could not tell for what.

All day the waves ran up and up on the sand, and ran back again, and the pink cheeks rolled. Life sat waiting; all day, with the sunlight in her eyes, she sat there, till, grown weary, she laid her head upon her knee and fell asleep, waiting still.

Then a keel grated on the sand, and then a step was on the shore—Life awoke and heard it. A hand was laid upon her, and a great shudder passed through her. She looked up, and saw over her the strange, wide eyes of Love—and Life now knew for whom she had sat there waiting.

And Love drew Life up to him. And of that meeting was born a thing rare and beautiful—Joy. First-Joy was it called. The sunlight when it shines upon the merry water is not so glad; the rosebuds, when they turn back their lips for the sun's first kiss, are not so ruddy. Its tiny pulses beat quick. It was so warm, so soft. It never spoke, but it laughed and played in the sunshine; and Love and Life rejoiced exceedingly. Neither whispered it to the other, but deep in its own heart each said, "It shall be ours forever."

Then there came a time—was it after weeks? Was it after months? (Love and Life do not measure time)—when the thing was not as it had been.

Still it played; still it laughed; still it stained its mouth with purple berries; but sometimes the little hands hung weary, and the little eyes looked out heavily across the water.

And Life and Love dared not look into each other's eyes, dared not say, "What ails our darling!" Each heart whispered to itself, "It is nothing, it is nothing, to-morrow it will laugh out clear." But to-morrow and to-morrow came. They journeyed on, and the child played beside them, but heavily, more heavily.

One day Life and Love lay down to sleep; and when they awoke, it was gone; only, near them, on the grass, sat a little stranger with wide-open eyes, very soft and sad. Neither noticed it; but they walked apart, weeping bitterly, "Oh, our Joy! our lost Joy! Shall we see you no more forever?"

The little soft and sad-eyed stranger slipped a hand into one hand of each, and drew them closer, and Life and Love walked on with it between them. And when Life looked down in anguish, she saw her tears reflected in its soft eyes. And when Love, mad with pain, cried out, "I am weary, I am weary! I can journey no further. The light is all behind, the dark is all before," a little rosy finger pointed where the sunlight lay upon the hillsides. Always its large eyes were sad and thoughtful; always the little brave mouth was smiling quietly.

When on the sharp stones Life set her feet, he wiped the blood upon his garments, and kissed the wounded feet with his little lips. When in the desert Love lay down faint (for Love itself grows faint), he ran over the hot sand with his little naked feet, and even there in the desert found water in the holes in the rocks to moisten Love's lips with. He was no burden—he never weighted them; he only helped them forward on their journey.

When they came to the dark ravine where the icicles hang from the rocks—for Love and Life must pass through strange dread places—there, where all is cold, and the snow lies thick, he took their freezing hands and held them against his beating little heart, and warmed them—and softly he drew them on and on.

And when they came beyond into the land of sunshine and flowers, strangely the great eyes

lit up, and dimples broke out upon the face. Brightly laughing, it ran over the soft grass; gathered honey from the hollow tree, and brought it to them on the palm of its hand; carried them water in the leaves of the lily, and gathered flowers and wreathed them round their heads, softly laughing all the while. He touched them as their Joy had touched them, but his fingers clung more tenderly.

So they wandered on, through the dark lands and the light, always with that little brave smiling one between them. Sometimes they remembered that first radiant Joy, and whispered to themselves, "Oh! could we but find him also!"

At last they came to where Reflection sits; that strange old woman, who has always one elbow on her knee, and her chin in her hand, and who steals light out of the past to shed it on the future.

And Life and Love cried out, "O Wise one! tell us: when first we met, a lovely radiant thing belonged to us—gladness without a tear, sunshine without a shade. Oh! how did we sin that we lost it? Where shall we go that we may find it?"

And she, the wise old woman, answered, "To have it back, will you give up that which walks beside you now?"

And in agony Love and Life cried, "No!"

"Give up this!" said Life. "When the thorns have pierced me, who will suck the poison out? When my head throbs, who will lay his tiny hands upon it and still the beating? In the cold and the dark, who will warm my freezing heart?"

And Love cried out, "Better let me die! Without Joy I can live; without this I cannot. Let me rather die, not lose it!"

And the wise old woman answered, "O fools and blind! What you once had is that which you have now. When Love and Life first met, a radiant thing is born, without a shade. When the roads begin to darken, when the shades begin to darken, when the days are hard, and the nights cold and long—then it begins to change. Love and Life will not see it, will not know it—till one day they start up suddenly, crying, 'O God! O God! we have lost it! Where is it?' They do not understand that they could not carry the laughing thing unchanged into the desert, and the frost, and the snow. They do not know that what walks beside them still is the Joy grown older. The grave, sweet, tender thing—warm in the coldest snows, brave in the dreariest deserts—its name is Sympathy; it is the Perfect Love."



SEVENTH-DAY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. V. L. Eggleston will preach at 10:30 on Sabbath morning. Sabbath School at 11:30. Prayer Meeting on Friday evening at 7:30. Leader, E. C. Langworthy. Topic, "waiting Tasks."

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rev. Chas. Collins, Pastor. The usual services next Sunday. The pastor will preach at 10:30. Sabbath School at 11:45. Epworth League at 6:30. The federated service at 7:30, in the Baptist church. Every body invited.

The Inasmuch Society meets with Miss Marguerite Earley, this Friday evening. The Camp-fire Girls met on Monday of this week. Remember the Thursday evening prayer meeting. Plan to come.

Regular meeting of the W. F. M. Society of the M. E. church, Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 5th, at the church.

The Standard Bearers will meet

directly after school, Tuesday afternoon, at the church.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Hamilton B. Williams, Minister

Sunday Morning, Nov. 7.

The day will be notable if the people will make the day worshipful. There's enough to make us all glad. The sermon will be an attempt to show the better way.

The Federated Meeting

Mr. Randall will preach the sermon to the federated congregations Sunday evening, at 7:30. Let the Baptist church be filled with a large audience.

The Sunday School, 11:45

Will the people kindly plan to remain for the session of Sunday School? The Round Table Class is for the clearing of current events, and is extremely valuable. Stay for the hour.

The Endeavor Meeting, Worthwhile

The young people's meeting at 6:30 is very much worth the attention of the older folk. Pay a visit. It will do you good.

The Mid-week Meeting, Inspiring

Let the people respond to this opportunity of conference. We have delightful meetings Thursday evenings at 7:30.

For the King's Kingdom.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. W. H. Randall, Pastor

Sunday Services. The Sunday morning service will be held in the church at 10:30.

Sunday School, 11:45

The Sunday School will be held after the morning service at 11:45.

The Young People's Services

The Christian Endeavor Society will meet at the evening hour of 6:30. The topic will be, "Tasks that are waiting for the church of Christ." The leader will be Mrs. V. L. Eggleston. Come and do your part to make the meeting a success.

The Federated Service

The federated service of the churches will be held in our church at 7:30. The pastor will give the second one of the series, "Modern Lessons From Historical Epochs." Come and see what history teaches us.

The Mid-week Service of the church will be held on Thursday evening at 7:30. Come and tell us what we can do to make our meeting the better.

The Covenant Meeting of our church will be held on Saturday, at 2:30. Let all come who are well enough interested to come.

The Woman's Missionary Society will meet with Mrs. Forest Gee on Tuesday afternoon. The world tour will be continued from Cairo to Calcutta. Do not forget to bring your tickets. Meeting called to order at 3 o'clock, promptly. Bring the November copy of Missions.

The Missionary Day of Prayer of all the churches will be held in our church on Friday, the 12th at 2:30. This meeting will be announced next Sunday from the pulpits of all the churches.

NOTICE TO PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST ALLEGANY COUNTY

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Allegany, New York, will hold its annual session at the court house in the village of Belmont, on Monday, November 8, 1915. All persons having claims against said county are hereby notified to present the same, to the Board not later than the third day of the session.

L. D. BENNETT, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Alfred, N. Y., Oct. 20, 1915.

Three courses are open to the small merchant; to advertise in the best local newspaper so aggressively, so interestingly, that his little store will grow big; to confine his advertising to the unusual "schemes," and thus to remain little with ever-diminishing chances of survival; or to fail to advertise at all, and thus fail entirely to build up a permanent store.

The News \$1.00 per year.



They're all here now

WE'VE shown you a few of the new fall Wooltex styles, enough to tell you what are the most prominent features of the new modes.

This week we invite you to attend a style exposition of still greater interest. This is our

complete fall showing of Wooltex tailored suits and coats

Always, the Wooltex designers have kept carefully in mind the correct style tendencies, such as natural, graceful figure lines, belted or partial belted effects, and the smart flaring bottom lines of jackets and coats.

But with faithful adherence to style, they have varied the designs to provide garments that are becoming to each type of figure.



Graceful curves of a good figure are shown to the best advantage in this suit. Stout figures appear more slender. And what, it is so refined and graceful. Note how it conforms to the correct style tendencies.

Wooltex garments for all types-of figures

Are you stout? There are Wooltex models to give you a more slender appearance.

Are you slender? There are Wooltex models to add beauty to your graceful, supple figure.

Have you an unusually good figure? There are Wooltex models that are, as the French say, "caressing" in their charming suitability and gracefulness.



For used to the best advantage, make this a beautiful model, and a very fashionable one. There is remarkable grace and charm in its graceful lines. The belt is only across the front.

Whatever your figure, whatever your tastes, whatever your purse—there's a Wooltex tailored garment that will just suit you

There's style and added value in Wooltex

In Wooltex tailored garments, you not only get correct style, but you get added value in superior materials, custom-quality tailoring, and a longer period of pleasurable service.

We'd like to show you just how Wooltex garments are made. You'll know, then, why they keep their fresh, new appearance so much longer than ordinary garments.

This week is a most favorable time to see the new Wooltex fall suits and coats, and to make your selection

Suits at \$25 to \$65
Coats at \$16.50 to \$45
Skirts at \$5 to \$15

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