

Specially written for the "S.A. Jewish Chronicle" by Dr. F. G. Cawston, M.D. (Cantab.)

#### "GRACE TO CARRY ON."

The Bible might be called "The Daily Light on the Daily Path," for it is meant to have a message for every day of our lives; though sometimes we are tempted to think that we can get along very well without what the psalmist has described as "a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." It isn't until we find ourselves off the right track that we are sometimes led back to the word of God for guidance and help.

People soon weary of the life of faith. It is an old story and well illustrated by the march of faith the Israelities took out of Egypt to the Promised Land. As they toiled along the weary trek from Hormah to the head of the Akaba gulf, we are told that the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.

Under the pitiless Arabian sun, across a desolate desert with the surface littered with loose granitic debris, the armed men began to talk of rebellion, the women began to complain and the children got fretful and tired. They were tempted to give up their walk of faith and return to the bondage of their Egyptian taskmasters.

It is a great gift to be able to stay the course on a long and tedious march, to endure to the end—to win through!

The people had lost heart in the great task they were attempting. However among them were men like Moses, Joshua and Caleb, who were uninfluenced by passing circumstances, for their hope was centred in Canaan and they were consident that He Who had seen them safely out of Egypt would see them safely home to their inheritance.

Some of the people began to complain of their food supply; others in despair broke out with "Why have you brought us up here to die?" What could God do with such discouraged, despairing, grumbling folk? Would He give them up, or would they give Him up?

What their leader needed just then and what the people needed was Grace to carry on. And that was just what God provided for them after He had sent them a means of deliverance from the fiery serpents which so greatly aggravated their distress.

People sometimes pray to be delivered from the trails that surround them, when really they should take those trials as a providential leading that it is time for them to make a There are times when it is wrong to pray for grace to carry on and when we should rather pray for grace to enable us to clear out, Arise ye and depart, for this is not your rest." On the other hand, others may pray to be delivered from the srrroundings in which God has placed them; but he answers there request by granting them grace to carry on. And let us not limit God. He is Master of our circumstances. Without Him we are powerless; but all things are possible with God. And He is ready to grant us victory over all circumstances, however varied or troublesome they may appear.

When Elisha comes before us as a farmer, ploughing with oxen, his life does not appear to have been a particularly interesting one and, when he was endued with the Holy Spirit for life and for service and the prophet Elijah was taken up to heaven, he might well have expected to be sent away to some other sphere of opportunity where his chances of doing something really useful in the world would be greater. However we read that he is sent back to his old home, back to the farm, to carry on amidst his old acquaintances, revealing in his old, yet new life that he had received the blessing.

And to day, for those of us who are wearying and perhaps despairing as we tread the heavenly way, God is ready to provide the necessary strength for us too to carry on.

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His Majesty's.

When this issue reaches our readers, there will be only two more nights, on which they will have an opportunity of witnessing this charming play which has had a record run of five consecutive weeks. Miss Gertrude Elliott has during that period not only charmed and captivated thousands of playgoers, but she has also fully justified the excellent reputation which had preceeded her visit. "Paddy the Next Best Thing" is by no means a "one man's and the fact that this talented play" actress was assisted by a number of first class artists, contributed in no small degree to the unqualified success of the piece. However, all good things must come to an end and thus "Paddy" is being withdrawn to morrow night to make room on Monday for "The Dawn of a To-morrow" by Frances Hodgson Burnett. The plot of this play, although weird and extraordinary to a degree, is said to be nevertheless, highly attractive and interesting, offering a study in social psychology in which "christian science" or healing faith plays a big part. In it Miss Elliott takes the part of a girl from the slums, saving by her faith, a man from the upper society who drifts into those regions and who has been given up by his medical advisers. More I am not prepared to divulge at this juncture leaving it to my readers to acquaint themselves with further particulars "on the spot." This play will positively be staged for a fortnight only so that early booking is impera-

#### The Empire.

The programme at present being submitted at this popular place of amusement is a singularly interesting one. This week there are three new turns and all are good. The first is Lilian Burgiss, who is described as an English "ballad" singer. Possessed of a charming soprano voice, her enunciation is clear and her phrasing excellent and, as she is not over-ambitious, the result is entirely satisfactory. Then we have the Bohemian Quartette Party, who are declared to be songsters and quipsters. These four gentlemen give a very interesting turn which is a little out of the ordinary and when they change their programme and give us a few songs that are not quite so hackneyed they will provide a very popular item. As it is they are well received and when the curtain fell on their act there was loud and sustained applause. Finally, there is

George Jackley who is quite amusing both with his songs and jokes. Staying over from last week's programme are Nelson and Nelson, who Present a novel act, entirely on stilts. This exhibition requires a great deal of skill and balancing capability, the diameter of the stilts measuring barely more than one inch. There is apparently nothing which a man on his feet does, which this pair of artists cannot accomplish, including acrobatic feats, their performance being a complete success. Another of the old turns is Warzan and his Apes. These well trained "animals" showed such skill in climbing and the imitation of the "real thing" that but for the shape of the hands, one would positively take them for what they purported to be. It was a really clever imitation' the deception being kept up till the very last. The third of last week's turns is that of Smith and Walker who are Scotch, although their names hardly imply this fact. But if there were any doubt about it their brogue is undeniable, supported by their national attire which, being of entirely white fabric, is exceed ingly pretty and tasteful. Their act consists of singing, dancing and patter, in addition to which the male performer gives an amusing imitation of Charlie Chaplin. Alt gether an excellent and diverting programme which should fail the house with a better attendance than the show is receiving.

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IN ALL ITS ASPECTS.

They therefore invite contribu-tions from all those who have anything to say upon the dif-ferent questions relating to our people, either as

a Race. a Nationality or a Creed.

according to whichever aspect they view us from. Where desired—and this must be distinctly stated in a letter accompanying the communication-payment will be made, provided the Editor considers the contribution of sufficient merit to warrant such special consideration

Contributors may forward their contributions under a nom deplume which will be strictly respected but, in each case, these contributions must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication but merely as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor is entirely indifferent as to whether his contributors are Zionists or Anti Zionists, Territorialists or Nationalists, whether Orthodox or Reform, provided only that what they have to say is for the

#### Benefit of Judaism

generally, and South African Jewry particularly, and is said in publishable English, coherently, succintly and without unnecessary verbiage.

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