GEORGE MUELLER OF BRISTOL

AND HIS WITNESS TO A PRAYER-HEARING GOD 1899

The originally "authorized memoir".

BY ARTHUR T. PIERSON

God's Faithfulness In Providing

MR. PERRY writes:

At one meeting at Huntly, by special request Mr. Mueller gave illustrations of God's faithfulness in answer to prayer, connected with the orphan work, of which the following are examples:

a. He stated that at various times, not only at the beginning of the work, but also in later years, God had seen fit to try his faith to the utmost, but only to prove to him the more definitely that He would never be other than his faithful covenant-keeping God. In illustration he referred to a time when, the children having had their last meal for the day, there was nothing left in money or kind for their breakfast the following morning. Mr. Mueller went home, but nothing came in, and he retired for the night, committing the need to God to provide. Early the next morning he went for a walk, and while praying for the needed help he took a turn into a road which he was quite unconscious of, and after walking a short distance a friend met him, and said how glad he was to meet him, and asked him to accept £5 for the orphans. He thanked him, and without saying a word to the donor about the time of need, he went at once to the orphan houses, praising God for this direct answer to prayer.

b. On another occasion, when there were no funds in hand to provide breakfast for the orphans, a gentleman called before the time for breakfast and left a donation that supplied all their present needs. When that year's report was issued, this proof of God's faithfulness in sending help just when needed was recorded, and a short time after the donor called and made himself known, saying that as his donation had been given at such a special time of need he felt he must state the circumstances under which he had given the money, which were as follows:

He had occasion to go to his office in Bristol early that morning before breakfast, and on the way the thought occurred to him:

"I will go to Mr. Mueller's orphan house and give them a donation,"

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and accordingly turned and walked about a quarter of a mile toward the orphanage, when he stopped, saying to himself,

"How foolish of me to be neglecting the business I came out to attend to! I can give money to the orphans another time,"

and he turned round and walked back towards his office, but soon felt that he *must* return. He said to himself:

"The orphans may be needing the money *now*. I'm leaving them in want when God had sent me to help them;"

and so strong was this impression that he again turned round and walked back till he reached the orphanages, and thus handed in the money which provided them with breakfast. Mr. Mueller's comment on this was:

"Just like my gracious heavenly Father!"

and then urged his hearers to trust and prove what a faithful covenant-keeping God He is to those who put their trust in Him.