

The Healing of Rev. S. H. Platt

Excerpt from "Prayer and Its Remarkable Answers" by William W. Patton. D.D.

This testimony was so well known that Patton republished it in his book that received national attention. Note that this was at the very beginning of the faith cure movement and he visited Mary Mossman shortly after she moved to Ocean Grove.

Rev. S. H. Platt is at present stationed in the De Kalb Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church, Brooklyn, N. Y. He has been lame, and a great sufferer in one knee for twenty-five years, and in both for three years, and has never been able to preach standing until since his recent cure. For many years he has been a believer in the gift of healing in special cases, but could not see any reason to think that it was God's will to heal him; especially as in 1872, he visited Dr. Cullis, at Boston, without gaining permanent relief.

In the summer of 1875, he went to Ocean Grove, for a vacation, and took with him a collection of narratives of faith-cures, which he carefully read, and by which he was much impressed. Sunday, July 25th, two ladies called at his cottage, one of whom was a Miss Mossman, who claimed that the Lord had sent her to tell him that he might be cured of his lameness, if he would only believe. He mentioned his experience with Dr. Cullis; and she said his faith had subsequently failed, and she related to him a marvelous cure of broken- ankle at Syracuse; N. Y., by the simple prayer, repeated several times, "Please, Lord, heal my foot." She stated that hearing of his case, she felt divinely impressed to go to him with the message mentioned, as she had successfully gone to several others. Says Mr. Platt: "Kneeling, she rested one hand upon each knee, just as she would upon a chair, with no pressure and no motion of any kind, and in a short prayer, of not even two minutes; she asked for the healing of these knees. I was conscious of no change whatever, either mental, spiritual or physical, until about a minute after she had resumed her seat; when a sensation, unlike anything ever before or since experienced by me, began about four inches below each knee, and slowly swept upward with a sort of enveloping, condensing and toning up feeling, seeming to permeate every fiber of tissue about the joints, and then faded out at about the same distance above the knees. I mentioned this sensation; "oh yes, you are cured" was her confident reply; "only hold on and don't lose it. When pain comes, trust in Jesus. Ask God to put power into your knees whenever you want to go anywhere, but don't go anywhere, unless he wants you to; and if he wants you to, you can walk any distance."

Since that time, Mr. Platt has walked without his canes, has preached standing, and has gradually been delivered from pain. Miss Mary H. Mossman is the daughter of a Congregational Deacon in Massachusetts, who for sixteen years has been leading a life of faith in Christ and the leadings of the Holy Spirit, and is of slight build and feeble health. Her prayers avail only in cases in which she is especially impressed by the Spirit to pray for the recovery of the person. Mr. Platt had previously tried medical and surgical remedies in vain; as also electricity and magnetism, without any permanent benefit. He has published the full particulars of his case in a pamphlet.

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