



The Conductor's Mistake

Many years ago, the train was waiting at a station of one of our railroads. The bagmaster was busy with his checks. Men, women, and children were rushing for the cars, anxious to get seats before the locomotive pulled away.

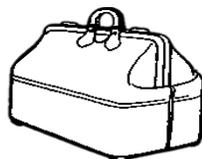
by the coat he wears, and the poorest should be treated with kindness. Take up your books, sir. If you change your conduct, nothing that has happened will injure you."

Day by day, we need to be kind to those around us, no matter how they



"No, sir."

"We'll see about that. I shall put you off at the next station." And he seized his travel bag.



"Better not be so rough, young man," returned the stranger.

We can also learn to forgive those that are unkind to us just like Mr. Warburton forgave the conductor.

And even better we know that if we confess our sins to Jesus and say we are sorry, Jesus will also forgive us and help us to be kinder the next time.



his books from his pocket, the bank bills and the tickets he had collected, and laid them beside Mr. Warburton.



"I resign my place, sir." he said.

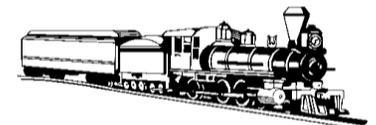
The president looked over the accounts for a moment, and then, motioning him to the vacant seat beside him, said: "Sit down, I want to talk to you."

The conductor gave him a contemptuous look, and slapping him familiarly on the shoulder, called out: "Hello, Limpy! Better get aboard or the train will leave you behind."

The man made no reply. As the train started to move, the man climbed on the last car and walked quietly in and took a seat.

"No, sir."

"That is Peter Warburton, the president of the railroad."



"Are you sure?" asked the conductor trying to conceal his worry.

"I know him," the man replied.

The train had gone a few miles when the conductor appeared at the door of the car where our friend was sitting. Passing along to take the tickets, he soon discovered him. "Your ticket, quick!"

"I don't pay," replied the lame man quietly. "Don't pay?"



4

The color rose in the young man's face, but with strong effort he controlled himself and went on collecting fares as usual.

Meanwhile Mr. Warburton sat quietly in his seat. None of those near him could interpret the expression of his face, nor tell what his next movements would be.

8

Jesus says in the Bible,
*... Verily I say unto you,
 Inasmuch as ye have done
 it unto one of the least of
 these my brethren, ye have
 done it unto me.*

Matt. 25:40



13

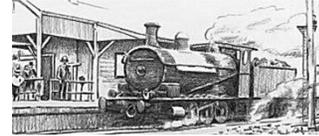
He could get even if he chose. He could tell the directors the truth, and the young man would be fired and lose his job. Would he do it? Those who sat near him waited curiously to see what would happen.



Presently the conductor came back. He walked up to Mr. Warburton's seat and took

9

A man, carelessly dressed, was standing on the station platform, seemingly giving little attention to what was going on. It was easy to see that he was lame; and at a hasty glance, one might have supposed that he was a man of neither wealth nor influence.



2

The conductor released the bag for a moment, and seeing that he could do no more then, passed on to collect the fare from the other passengers.



As he stopped at a seat a few paces off, a man who had heard the conversation, asked: "Do you know who that man is to whom you were speaking?"

6



If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

15

When the young man sat down, the president spoke to him in an undertone: "My young friend, I have no wish for revenge. You have been imprudent. Your manner would have been injurious to the customer if I had been a passenger, I could fire you, but I will not. In the future, remember to be polite to all you meet. You cannot judge a man

11