

was on Mount Horeb that the Lord appeared to Moses in the burning bush, as it was the smitten rock of Horeb that yielded a wonderful supply of water to the host of Israel, as it was on Horeb that the up lifted hand of the man of God enabled him to prevail against Amalek, and gave Joshua his glorious victory. On Horeb, God renewed His gracious covenant with His people after He had delivered them from Egypt.

Elijah arrived and I can imagine as the stage was being set, we see him climbing to the top of the mountain. It is late in the evening and he is up upon the peaks of Horeb. Doubtless he has prayed for help from God, but out before him, he sees the rugged layers of stone and the brush growing on the side of the mountain. There is no trace of a human being anywhere in sight, and he is all alone. It seems, forsaken in this situation. Should he travel on, he could not do it. He deals the limit of his journey, and his assignment here. And so he seeks out a retreat where he might find shelter from wild beast. He wraps his mantle about him and creeps into a gloomy cave. Here he is most anxious for the night of his life to past. It must

be easily supposed that no sleep could close the good man's eyes. And yet in this time of trouble, he should remember, as we ought to remember, that if the keeper of Israel himself could sleep, or if not he could delight in knowing that God was watching over his town.

I. Act I

V.9
Number Walls and

The first act of the drama is in the form of a question. What does thou here? Elijah recognizes at once that this is the voice of God. He did not expect such a question as this. Perhaps he thought that his old journey had brought him to a place where he would be away from the people, and that he would be restful and that not even God would disturb his peace on the mountain-side. It remains us especially of how his faith must have weakened. That it must have made his ashamed. For God is gracious, and made known our sins to us, and how satisfied we are at times. We seem as if nothing more was necessary to make us happy. What does thou here?