**CHAPTER** **5**

*Young Tobias seeking a guide for his journey, the angel Raphael, in shape of a man, undertaketh this office.*

**1** Then Tobias answered his father, and said: I will do all things, father, which thou hast commanded me.

**2** But how I shall get this money, I cannot tell; he knoweth not me, and I know not him: what token shall I give him? nor did I ever know the way which leadeth thither.

**3** Then his father answered him, and said: I have a note of his hand with me, which when thou shalt shew him, he will presently pay it.

**4** But go now, and seek thee out some faithful man, to go with thee for his hire: that thou mayst receive it, while I yet live.

**5** Then Tobias going forth, found a beautiful young man, standing girded, and as it were ready to walk.

**6** And not knowing that he was an angel of God, he saluted him, and said: From whence art thou, good young man?

**7** But he answered: Of the children of Israel. And Tobias said to him: Knowest thou the way that leadeth to the country of the Medes?

**8** And he answered: I know it: and I have often walked through all the ways thereof, and I have abode with Gabelus our brother, who dwelleth at Rages a city of the Medes, which is situate in the mount of Ecbatana.

**9** And Tobias said to him: Stay for me, I beseech thee, till I tell these same things to my father.

**10** Then Tobias going in told all these things to his father. Upon which his father being in admiration, desired that he would come in unto him.

**11** So going in he saluted him, and said: Joy be to thee always.

**12** And Tobias said: What manner of joy shall be to me, who sit in darkness, and see not the light of heaven?

**13** And the young man said to him: Be of good courage, thy cure from God is at hand.

**14** And Tobias said to him: Canst thou conduct my son to Gabelus at Rages, a city of the Medes? and when thou shalt return, I will pay thee thy hire.

**15** And the angel said to him: I will conduct him thither, and bring him back to thee.

**16** And Tobias said to him: I pray thee, tell me, of what family, or what tribe art thou?

**17** And Raphael the angel answered: Dost thou seek the family of him thou hirest, or the hired servant himself to go with thy son?

**18** But lest I should make thee uneasy, I am Azarias the son of the great Ananias.

**19** And Tobias answered: Thou art of a great family. But I pray thee be not angry that I desired to know thy family.

**20** And the angel said to him: I will lead thy son safe, and bring him to thee again safe.

**21** And Tobias answering, said: May you have a good journey, and God be with you in your way, and his angel accompany you.

**22** Then all things being ready, that were to be carried in their journey, Tobias bade his father and his mother farewell, and they set out both together.

**23** And when they were departed, his mother began to weep, and to say: Thou hast taken the staff of our old age, and sent him away from us.

**24** I wish the money for which thou hast sent him, had never been.

**25** For our poverty was sufficient for us, that we might account it as riches, that we saw our son.

**26** And Tobias said to her: Weep not, our son will arrive thither safe, and will return safe to us, and thy eyes shall see him.

**27** For I believe that the good angel of God doth accompany him, and doth order all things well that are done about him, so that he shall return to us with joy.

**28** At these words his mother ceased weeping, and held her peace.