The Master of Kinloch and his lad

Audio Transcript

Length: 4 minutes and 19 seconds

There were bad times in the past when there were many servants seeking places. And there were not many places for them. There was a farmer there, and he would not take any servant, but one who would stay with him for seven years. And who would not ask for wages. But what you could catch in his mouth of seed corn, when he would be thrashing corn in the barn.

No one would take service with him. At last, he said that he would let them plant their seeds in the best ground, he might have and they should get his own horses and plow to make the drill and his own horses to harrow it. That was a young farm boy there and he said, I will take the job with you. And the farmer set wages in the farm boy.

And the bargain was that the wages the farm boy would get or to be as many grains of seed as you could catch his mouth when they were beating sheaves in the barn. And he was allowed to plant the seed in the best land the farmer had. And he was to keep as much as he grew of that seed, and to put with it, whatever seeds he might catch his mouth when he was thrashing the corn, and to plant that in the best land which the farmer had on the next year.

He was tough horses and plough or any other equipment he might want for planting or reaping from his master, and so on to the end of seven years. That he should have seven winters in the barn thrashing, seven springs to plant, seven summars of growth for the crop, and seven autumns of reaping.

And whatsoever the outcome of the farm lads seed, that was the wage who was to have when he went away. The farm lad went home was his master. And always when he was thrashing the barn, his master was thrashing with him and he only caught only three grains of sweeds in his mouth on that winter. And he kept these carefully till the spring came, then planted them in the best land the old man had. Their grew out of those three stocks, and there were three score good grains of seed on each stock. The farm lad kept these carefully and what grains he caught he put together with them. He planted these again in the spring and in the autumn, he'd as good as he had in the year before.

The farm lad put his seed by carefully and anything he caught in his mouth when he was thrashing in the next winter. He put it was the other lot and so was the farm lad from year to year. To let last to make a long story short the farm lad planted in the last year. Every bit of plowing land the old man had.

I'm the more seed to set and the old man was nearly broke. He had to pay rent to the farmer next to him for the land to which the farm lad might set the excess seed he had. And he had to sell some of his cattle for want to have ground on which they could graze and he would not make a bargain in the same way with a farm lied for ever after or after.