

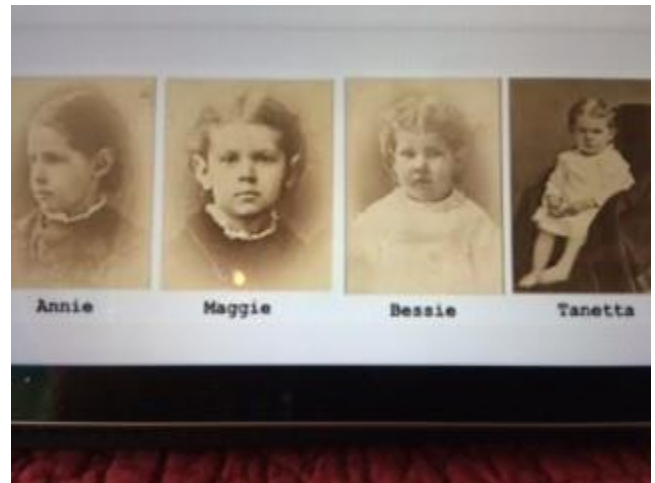


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“IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL”. This well known “favorite” , written by Horatio Spafford has an amazing story ....

In 1871, Horatio and Anna Spafford were living very comfortably in their beautiful home in Chicago with their four young daughters. A prosperous lawyer and owner of lucrative investments in Chicago real estate, he was also a devout Presbyterian church elder.

LIFE WAS GOOD! In that same year, however, the great fire broke out that devastated the entire city, including his law office and many of his land holdings. Though he had lost a fortune, he poured himself into rebuilding the city and helping the 100,000 who had been left homeless. Two years later, he had recovered enough to take his family to Europe ! At the last minute, business detained him, however, and he sent Anna and the girls on ahead. Disaster struck when the ship was rammed by a British vessel and it sank within minutes. Anna was picked up unconscious on a floating spar, but little Annie, Maggie, Bessie and Tanetta all perished. When Horatio received the telegram from Anna saying “Saved Alone”, he immediately booked passage to join her in Wales. En route, the captain called him aside and told him they were passing over the place where the ship had sunk, inspiring Horatio to write these words — a stunning testament of faith in the face of such unspeakable tragedy.....



“When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say “It is well, it is well with my soul.”