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MARY ALLETTE AYER

KEEP UP YOUR COURAGE

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KEY-NOTES TO SUCCESS

EDITED BY

MARY ALLETTE AYER

EDITOR OF "DAILY CHEER YEAR BOOK," "THE JOYS
OF FRIENDSHIP," AND "HEART MELODIES"

WITH INTRODUCTION BY

REV. J. R. MILLER, D.D.

*Courage — an independent spark from heaven's bright throne,
By which the soul stands raised, triumphant, high, alone.*

— GEORGE FARQUHAR.



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KEEP UP YOUR COURAGE.

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TO MY NEPHEW

F. A. S.

WHOSE FAITH, HOPEFULNESS, AND QUIET PERSISTENCE

HAVE EVER BEEN TO ME AN INSPIRATION

AND INCENTIVE TO

KEEP UP MY COURAGE

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M. A. A.

3 TENTH AVENUE,
HAVERHILL, MASS.

Introduction

THIS book needs no introduction. The compiler has proved her taste and skill in the bright and attractive volumes she has already prepared.

This one fully maintains the reputation she has made for herself, and those who turn to its pages in quest of readable and suggestive quotations will not be disappointed.

The compiler has gathered her selections from a wide field and from many writers. These are all in harmony with the title of the volume. Many readers will find the brief selections full of quickening and inspiring thought. Busy people in these days have not time to read many books, but often a well-chosen sentence or brief saying will prove as effective as a whole volume in giving cheer or kindling earnestness. A great many people are not by any means making the best of themselves or doing what they might do with their lives.

They are indolent, or they are easily discour-

aged. They forget that obstacles are not meant to be hindrances but inspirers of energy. The books the world needs to-day are not those which dwell upon the hardness of life and its hindrances, but those which, recognizing the obstacles that are in the way, yet teach that no true man need ever fail. The man of faith and courage can do impossible things. It is the mission of this book to emphasize and enforce the duty of persistence and unconquerableness. The lesson is taught on every page, and those who read it should be braver and stronger therefor.

J. R. MILLER.

PHILADELPHIA.

Keep up
Your
Courage

I

COURAGE and comfort! All shall yet go
well. — *Shakespeare.*

For the sages say, that the world makes way
For the earnest soul that says "I will."
— *Nixon Waterman.*

KEEP your *Courage* up, and, conversely, it will
keep you up. — *Lula Lyne Eames.*

WHEN you get into a tight place, and every-
thing goes against you, till it seems as if you
couldn't hold on a minute longer, *never give up then*,
for that's just the place and time that the tide'll
turn. — *Harriet Beecher Stowe.*

NOT suffering but faint heart is worst of woes.
— *James Russell Lowell.*

COURAGE is a virtue that the young cannot
spare; to lose it is to grow old before the
time: it is better to make a thousand mistakes
and suffer a thousand reverses than run away from
battle. — *Henry van Dyke.*

THROUGH wish, resolve, and act, our will
Is moved by undreamed forces still;
And no man measures in advance,
His strength with untried circumstance.
— *John G. Whittier.*

BREATHE the air of hope and faith and
courage
To make you resolute and strong.

— *William J. Lampton.*

IT is grand to look forward and see the heavens
brighten with the dawn of a new day ; but there
never yet was light upon the sky which was not
meant to illuminate the ground about our feet, and
show each of us his bit of work waiting for him
there.

— *George Adam Smith.*

THERE will always be stars through the window
bars — if we look to see them shine.

— *Mabel W. Clapp.*

“**T**HERE are three kinds of people in the world,
the wills, the won'ts, and the can'ts. The
first accomplish everything, the second oppose
everything, and the third fail in everything.”

I WILL give you three secrets of success,—
piety, perseverance, and probity ; a gracious
soul, a forceful will, and a blameless life.

— *J. T. Davidson.*

WHAT we call Luck is simply Pluck,
And the doing things over and over ;
Courage and will, perseverance and skill,
Are the four leaves of Luck's clover.

— *Anon.*

ENERGY, invincible determination, with a right
motive, are the levers that move the world.

— *Porter.*

BE strong and of a good courage. Be not afraid ;
neither be thou discouraged ; for I, the Lord
thy God, am with thee whithersoever thou goest.

— *Joshua 1 : 9.*

HIS resolve
Upbore him, and firm faith, and evermore
Prayer from a living source within the will,
And beating up through all the bitter world,
Like fountains of sweet water in the sea,
Kept him a living soul.

— *Alfred Tennyson.*

WE prepare ourselves for sudden deeds by our
reiterated choice of good or evil.

— *George Eliot.*

WHY do we stay on the earth, unless to grow ?
— *Robert Browning.*

WHATEVER you do, you need courage.
Whatever course you decide upon, there is always some one to tell you you are wrong. There are always difficulties arising which tempt you to believe that your critics are right. To map out a course of action and follow it to the end, requires some of the same courage which a soldier needs. Peace has its victories, but it takes brave men to win them.
— *Young People's Weekly.*

CONSCIENCE does make cowards of us all ;
And thus the native hue of resolution
Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought.
— *Shakespeare.*

THE direst foe of courage is the fear itself, not the object of it, and the man who can overcome his own terror is a hero and more.
— *George Macdonald.*

ONLY catch real earnest hold of life, and not defer one part of it for the sake of another, then each part of life will do for us what was intended.
— *Nathaniel Hawthorne.*

“ I CAN’T do it ” never yet accomplished anything ; “ I will try ” has performed wonders.
— *George P. Burnham.*

STEP out from the surging crowd, and make yourself a master.
— *Clay.*

CAN you do the thing that no one else can do, or can you do a thing in a way that no one else can do it ? Are you ingenious, always on the lookout for new devices, improved methods, up-to-date ways of doing things ; in short, are you a man of ideas ? Do you think to some purpose, or do you merely dream ? Are you alive to the tips of your fingers, or do you only exist ?

It is the exceptional man that forges his way to the front. There is always a place for him. No matter how many are out of employment, he is always in demand. There is a standing advertisement for him all over this broad land.

A man who is original and progressive in his methods, who leaves a beaten track to push into new fields, who is constantly on the alert for the slightest improvement in his way of doing things, is a man who succeeds.

It is astonishing what a tremendous difference

there is between the earning power of a man who does things pretty well, and of one who does them as well as they can be done; between that of a careless, incompetent employee and one who is painstaking and thoroughly competent.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

CCHEER your heart,
Be not troubled with the time, which drives
O'er your content these strong necessities;
But let determined things to destiny
Hold unbewailed their way. — *Shakespeare.*

IN the lexicon of youth, which fate reserves
For a bright manhood, there is no such word
As "fail." — *Owen Meredith.*

BE firm! one constant element in luck
Is genuine, solid old Teutonic pluck.
— *Oliver Wendell Holmes.*

IHAVE no fear! What is in store for me
Shall find me self-reliant, undismayed.
God grant my only cowardice may be
Afraid — *to be afraid!*
— *Everard Jack Appleton.*

COURAGE is imperial. It underlies true achievement. Unless we have moral nerve to live out our convictions, they are of small account.

Once it was popular to sneer at the man of one idea. They do not do it now. The one-idea man has shown himself to be a power. This is an age of specialties and specialists. "The jack of all trades is master of none." He who plans and prays and toils for one specific result generally wins.
— *Epworth Herald*.

"**I CAN,**" mightily and truly said, and then riveted and clenched by manly and heroic deeds, is the real secret, the true philosophy, of great men's lives. Take Washington, Franklin, Wilberforce, and all the master spirits that have found a name and place upon the page of history, and where is the nation, where the people, among whom they would not have been distinguished? It could not have been otherwise. They took "*I can*" for a motto, and then went forth and made themselves and the world just what they pleased. Then, young man, hear us, if it be only this once. If you would be something more than a common

prosy wayfarer in life, just put these magic words upon your lips; say, "I can," *and do it*. . . .

What a spirit, purpose, intensity, reality, in the phrase! It is a strong arm, a stout heart, a firm spirit, an indomitable soul. We never knew a man of its energy, vitality, unsubdued and energetic fire, that did not attain a place of some distinction among his fellows. — *American Union*.

"PERSEVERANCE conquers all things," said the Roman. That is abstract and stately. General Grant made it concrete and expressive as his army in the Wilderness. "I shall fight it out on this line if it takes all summer," said he. There was tenacity. There was determination that would hold to its purpose so long as life remained. Such a spirit is bound to win.

A prominent statesman, being asked to name the secret of political success in a single word, replied, "Stick-to-it-iveness." There you have it again,—tenacity. If more of our youth would learn that secret, it would contribute much to their peace and prosperity. Society is flooded with men and women who have no tenacity, no determination, no stick-to-it-iveness.

Then do not begrudge long years of preparation and discipline ; for these alone can give you the fundamentals of character, which insure success in this world and a safe journey to the next.

Jesus gave thirty years to preparation for less than three years' work. Do you wonder that his work lasts ? Moses was eighty years in the tanner's pit of preparation. Is it strange that his life wears to this day ? The apostle Paul devoted three years to solitary meditation in the Arabian desert before he began his Christian work. Does not that account for the enduring influence of his epistles ? The gospel of John was fashioned after more than a half a century of Christian experience and service, and even the critics cannot break it or wear it out.

— *George Henry Hubbard.*

THE hero is one who kindles a great light in the world, who sets up blazing torches in the dark streets of life for men to see by. The saint is the man who walks through the dark paths of the world, himself a light.

— *Felix Adler.*

TO suffer woes which Hope thinks infinite ;
To forgive wrongs darker than death or night ;
To defy Power, which seems omnipotent ;

To love, to bear, to hope till Hope creates
From its own wreck, the things to contemplate ;
Neither to change, to falter, or repent ;
This, like the glory Titan, is to be
Good, great and joyous, beautiful and free ;
This is alone, Life, Joy, Empire, and Victory.
— *Percy Bysshe Shelley.*

LOVE, hope, fear, faith, — these make human-
ity :
These are its sign, and note, and character.
— *Robert Browning.*

ASSERT thyself ; rise up to thy full height ;
Shake from thy soul these dreams effeminate,
These passions born of indolence and ease ;
Resolve, and thou art free.
— *Henry W. Longfellow.*

SO, let him wait God's instant, men call years ;
Meantime, hold hard by truth and his great soul,
Do out thy duty ! Through such souls alone,
God stooping, shows sufficient of His light
For us i' the dark to rise by. And I rise.
— *Robert Browning.*

SO few workers, in proportion to the whole number, give themselves, loyally and unreservedly to their immediate duty, and if you thus give yourself, you cannot but succeed. Thousands of people in small positions whine because their talents are thrown away — because their ability has no elbow room. It is not elbow room they need; it is “elbow grease”; it is energy and strength. Their very whining shows they are too small for the place they are in now. When the right kind of a person has too small a place, he does his work so well as to make the place bigger; people see more in it than they ever saw before.

— *Le Baron Briggs.*

GRANDEUR of character lies wholly in force of soul — that is, the force of thought, moral principle, and love; . . .

The greatest man is he who chooses Right with invincible resolution, who resists the secret temptations from within and without, who bears the heaviest burden cheerfully, who is calmest in storms and most fearless under menace and frowns, whose reliance on the truth, on virtue, on God, is most unfaltering.

— *William E. Channing.*

I HONOR any man who, in the conscientious discharge of his duty, dares to stand alone; the world, with ignorant, intolerant judgment, may condemn, the countenances of relatives may be averted, and the hearts of friends grow cold, but sense of duty done shall be sweeter than the applause of the world, the countenances of relatives, or the hearts of friends. — *Charles Sumner.*

WHAT men call luck
Is the prerogative of valiant souls,
The fealty life pays its rightful kings.
— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

THE worlds in which we live are two —
The world “I am” and the world “I do.”
— *Lyman W. Denton.*

DO thy part
Here in the living day, as did the great
Who made old days immortal! So shall men,
Gazing back to this far-looming hour,
Say: Then the time when men were truly men,
Though wars grew less, their spirits met the test
Of new conditions: conquering civic wrong;

Saving the new state by virtuous lives ;
Guarding the country's honor as their own ;
Defying leagued fraud with single truth ;
Not fearing loss, — but daring to be pure.

— *Anon.*

WHOEVER fights, whoever falls,
Justice conquers evermore, . . .
And he who battles on her side,
God, though he were ten times slain,
Crowns him victor glorified,
Victor over death and pain.

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

THIS one thing I *do*, forgetting those things
which are behind, and reaching forth unto
those things which are before, I press toward the
mark for the prize of the high calling of God in
Christ Jesus.

— *St. Paul.*

BROODING over the past, however foolish
and ruinous it has been, is useless, — only a
waste of strength and opportunity. Nothing good
ever comes of it. The Japanese have a proverb :

“ My skirt with tears is always wet,
I have forgotten to forget.”

Too many people forget to forget. St. Paul's way was better. He forgot the things that were behind, whether mistakes or attainments, left them altogether in the past, and, stretching forward to the things that were before, he used all his energy and strength to attain and achieve them. . . . Good wishes at the beginning of the year or on one's birthday are pleasant. They give us encouragement and put new zest into our lives. After all, however, good wishes will not come true by the mere wishing. We make our own years, and whether we are happy and beautiful or not will depend on the kind of living we put into them. — *J. R. Miller.*

IT is the strong *I will* that wins the day. I will do my part in this great work. If others fail, I will succeed! Such a spirit as this has won victories, and will win for you in the ranks of those worthy to be called sons and daughters of the King. Pray for a spirit of consecration, that we may be willing to pour out our lives, our all, at His feet, and then go forth Spirit-filled, conquering and to conquer!
— *Evelyn P. Marsh.*

OH! Arm of God, reach down and take a hold
Of my weak arm. Give it the living thrill
Of thy great strength, as prophets felt, when bold
They stretched theirs forth to lift the nations up.

— *Lois Mathilde Buck.*

I HAVE had many things in my hands, and have
lost them all; but whatever I have been able to
place in God's hands, I still possess.

— *Martin Luther.*

THE secret of success is constancy to purpose.

— *Beaconsfield.*

WE cannot all be a Franklin, a Joan of Arc,
or a Columbus, but we can all call into
exercise some portion of the same qualities which
actuated these great souls. We can *resolve* to do
something we feel is in our power.

Then we can *determine* to go ahead. We can
keep our purpose in mind continually and work at
it persistently. We can be patient and undiscour-
aged in the face of all obstacles.

— *Ella Wheeler Wilcox.*

MARCH on, my soul, nor like a laggard stay,
March swiftly on, yet err not from the way
Where all the nobly wise of old have trod, —
The path of faith made by the sons of God.

— *Henry van Dyke.*

LIFE means, not submission to, but mastery of,
environment. — *Abdon el-Tabakk.*

THE one resolution, which was in my mind
long before it took a form of a resolution, is
the key-note of my life. It is this, always to re-
gard as mere impertinences of fate the handicaps
which were placed upon my life almost at the
beginning. I resolved that they should not crush
or dwarf my soul, but rather be made to “blossom,
like Aaron’s rod,” with flowers. — *Helen Keller.*

A HIGH character might be produced, I sup-
pose, by continued prosperity, but it has very
seldom been the case. Adversity, however it may
appear to be our foe, is our true friend; and, after
a little acquaintance with it, we receive it as a pre-
cious thing—the prophecy of a coming joy. It
should be no ambition of ours to traverse a path
without a thorn or stone. — *Charles H. Spurgeon.*

O STRONG heart! not in vain you bore the
strife!

We who know all are braver for your life.

— *James H. West.*

THE way to *learn* to do things is to *do* things.
The way to learn a trade is to work at it.
Success teaches how to succeed. Begin with the
determination to succeed, and the work is half
done already.

Delay wastes time, weakens the will, dissipates
energy, discourages ambition, and prophesies fail-
ure. Resolve, and do! Do it now! Decide,
and get at it! . . . To get along in the world
and make for yourself a good name, you can make
no dependence upon mere luck. Pluck must be
your hero. If a chance does come, it will not
help you unless you are prepared to take it. Hold
to your purpose. Be not swerved from it. Keep
at it! Always at it — this accomplishes results.

— *J. N. Fradenburgh.*

THEN welcome each rebuff
That turns earth's smoothness rough,
Each sting that bids, nor sit, nor stand, but go!

Be our joy three parts pain!
Strive and hold cheap the strain;
Learn, nor account the pang; dare, never grudge
the throe! — *Robert Browning.*

NEVER mind happiness, that is God's gift to a
few; do your duty. — *Carey.*

LIFE may be given in many ways,
And loyalty to truth be sealed
As bravely in the closet as the field.
— *Anon.*

A CHRISTIAN'S experience is like a rainbow,
made up of drops of the grief of earth, and
beams of the bliss of heaven. — *Charles Spurgeon.*

EVERY duty we omit obscures some truth we
should have known. — *John Ruskin.*

GOOD resolutions seldom fail of producing some
good in the mind from which they spring.
— *Charles Dickens.*

I HAVE resolved, for many years, to live in the present, never to mourn over the blunders of the past, as the page is turned, and there is no remedy for what is done, except the wisdom experience may give. Neither do I indulge in fears of the future, as it is impossible to tell what one day may bring forth. — *Elizabeth Cady Stanton.*

NOT once nor twice in our rough island story,
The path of Duty was the way to glory.
— *Alfred Tennyson.*

STRONG hearts within the present live,
The future veiled, the past forgot ;
Grasping what *is* with hands of steel,
They bind what *shall be* to their will.
— *Lewis Morris.*

CONCENTRATION is the secret of strength
in politics, in war, in trade ; in short, in all
management of human affairs.
— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

GREAT men stand like solitary towers in the
city of God, and secret passages running deep
beneath external nature give their thoughts inter-

course with higher intelligences, which strengthens and controls them, and of which the laborers on the surface do not even dream !

— *Henry W. Longfellow.*

OUT of the stress of the doing
 Into the conquest done,
Out of the long pursuing
 Into victory won.

— *S. Frances Foote.*

CONSIDER what God can do, and you will never despair of success.

— *Thomas Wilson.*

WE'VE all got to go to school, I expect, and we don't all get the same lesson to learn, but the one we do get is our'n, 'taint nobody else's, and if it's real hard, why, it shows the teacher thinks we're capable.

— *Rose Terry Cooke.*

THERE are bright days and dark days, and we must take advantage of the former, and be as little discouraged as possible about the latter. They are all in a lifetime, and the only way to have heart sunshine is to keep close to God.

— *Anon.*

IF there be lying before you any bit of work from which you shrink, go straight up to it. The only way to get rid of it is *to do it*. In every piece of honest work, however irksome, laborious, and commonplace, we are fellow-workers with God.

— *F. B. Meyer.*

UNFLINCHING labor conquers everything.

— *Rosenkrans.*

IF there be one thing upon this earth that mankind love and admire better than another, it is a brave man,—it is the man who dares to look the devil in the face and tell him he is a devil.

— *James A. Garfield.*

WH^O shall place
A limit to the giant's unchained strength,
Or curb his swiftness in the forward race?

— *Anon.*

TH^ER^E is work to do, and fighting, too. It is a work and a fight that requires red-blooded men. It is a task that has the assurance of success, because God is in the heavens. It is a great thing to realize that it is his task, working through us.

— *Charles Stelzle.*

HAVE a purpose. No man ever reached great things without trying for them. Thoughts of what is great, love for great ideals, daily acts done in a great spirit, prepare the hero's hour, and bring it to him. Purpose makes or mar's life. Purposelessness ruins life.

— *Christian Advocate.*

A LIFE without a purpose is a languid, drifting thing; every day we ought to review our purpose, saying to ourselves: This day let me make a sound beginning, for what we have hitherto done is naught!

— *Thomas a Kempis.*

NO good e'er comes of leisure purposeless;
And Heaven ne'er helps the man who will
not act.

— *From the Greek.*

"I CANNOT" on the tongue means mostly
"I will not" in the heart.

— *Ivan Panin.*

SUCCESS in life depends upon staying power.
The reason for failure in most cases is lack of
perseverance. Men get tired and give up.

— *J. R. Miller.*

ONE who never turned his back, but marched
breast forward ;
Never doubted clouds would break ;
Never dreamed, though right were worsted, wrong
would triumph ;
Held, we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better,
Sleep to wake. — *Robert Browning.*

IN God's world, for these who are in earnest,
there is no failure. No work truly done, no
word earnestly spoken, no sacrifice freely made,
was ever made in vain. — *F. W. Robertson.*

THIS I resolved on — to run, when I can ; to
go, when I cannot run ; and to creep, when I
cannot go. — *John Bunyan.*

HE who keeps a right resolution not only
strengthens his own character and enlarges
his own usefulness, but gives direction and force
to the purposes of others. . . . The *kept resolu-
tion*, if worthy, is one of the most powerful influ-
ences for good in all life.

I have made many good resolutions, and have
made memoranda of them, and have failed to keep

them in the spirit in which they were made. But they have lifted me, and helped me to try again.

To cease resolving is to die morally. I still believe in the New Year's resolutions. They may be inadequately kept, but the purpose in them lives and lifts. I have resolved to be true to the voice of the spirit of God in my soul always. The intention lived, though I have failed in my conduct at times to fulfil my *ideal*.

— *Hezekiah Butterworth.*

PRESS on! if once or twice thy feet
Slip back and stumble, harder try.

— *Park Benjamin.*

GREAT minds have purposes; others have
wishes. — *Anon.*

THERE is an infinite distance between the wishers and the doers. A mere desire is lukewarm water, which never will take a train to its destination; the purpose must boil, must be made into live steam to do the work.

Who would ever have heard of Theodore Roosevelt outside of his immediate community if he had

only half committed himself to what he had undertaken, if he had brought only a part of himself to his task? The great secret of his career has been that he has flung his whole life, not a part of it, with all the determination and energy and power he could muster, into everything he has undertaken. No dillydallying, no faint-hearted efforts, no lukewarm purpose for him!

Every life of power must have a great master purpose which takes precedence of all other motives, — a supreme principle which is so commanding and so imperative in its demands for recognition and exercise that there can be no mistaking its call. Without this the water of energy will never reach the boiling point, the life train will not get anywhere.

The man with a vigorous purpose is a positive, constructive, creative, force.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

AIM at the sun and you may not reach it; but your arrow will fly far higher than if aimed at an object on a level with yourself. — *J. Hawes.*

SHALLOW men believe in luck, believe in circumstances: It was somebody's name, or he

happened to be there at the time, or it was so then, and another day it would have been otherwise. Strong men believe in cause and effect.

· — *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

SUCCESS doesn't "happen." It is organized, preëmpted, captured, by consecrated common sense.

— *F. E. Willard.*

WE each have all the time there is; our mental and moral status is determined *by what we do with it.*

— *Mary Blake.*

AND he wants wit that wants resolved will.

— *Shakespeare.*

IF you want to succeed in the world, you must make your own opportunities as you go on. The man who waits for some seventh wave to toss him on dry land will find that the seventh wave is a long time a-coming. You can commit no greater folly than to sit by the roadside until some one comes along and invites you to ride with him to wealth and influence. — *John B. Gough.*

THERE is a tide in the affairs of men,
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune ;
Omitted, all the voyage of their life
Is bound in shallows and in miseries.

.
And we must take the current when it serves
Or lose our ventures. — *Shakespeare.*

THE sure way to miss success is to miss the
opportunity. — *Charles.*

WHO seeks, and will not take when once 'tis
offered, shall never find it more.
— *Shakespeare.*

BBETTER to stem with heart and hand
The roaring tide of life, than lie
Unmindful on its flowery strand
Of God's occasions drifting by.
— *John Greenleaf Whittier.*

'TIS in ourselves that we are thus or thus. Our
bodies are our gardens, to the which our wills
are gardeners ; so that if we plant nettles or sow
lettuce, set hyssop and weed up thyme, — have it

sterile with idleness, or industry, — why, the power and corrigible authority of this lies in our wills.

— *Shakespeare.*

THE soul that persists in righteousness becomes fixed in it, while the soul that persists in sin becomes fixed in sin. The longer a soul follows either course, the harder it is for him to love and follow the other. Character is destiny here and hereafter.

— *Byron Palmer.*

THE power of choice is man's crowning glory. By it he fixes his destiny. It is a fearful but sublime truth.

— *Zion's Herald.*

THE time is short! To spend that shortness basely were too long.

— *Shakespeare.*

LUCK is ever waiting for something to turn up. Labor, with keen eyes and strong will, will turn up something.

— *Cobden.*

WHEN we hear a young man whining that he has no chance, complaining that fate has doomed him to mediocrity, that he can never get a start for himself, but must always work for some-

body else; when we see him finding unconquerable obstacles everywhere; when he tells us that he could do this or that if he could only get a start, if somebody would help him, — we know there is very poor success material in him — that he is not made of the stuff that rises. He acknowledges that he is not equal to the emergencies which confront him. He confesses his weakness, his inability to cope with obstacles which others surmount. When a man tells us that luck is against him, that he cannot see any way of doing what he would like to do, he admits that he is not master of the situation, that he must give way to opposition because he is not big enough to surmount it. He probably has not lime enough in his backbone to hold a straw erect.

There is a weakness in the man who always sees a lion in the way of what he wants to do, whose determination is not strong enough to overcome the obstacle. He has not the inclination to buckle down to solid, hard work. He wants success, but he does not want it badly enough to pay the price. The desire to drift along overbalances ambition.

— *Young People's Weekly.*

NOTHING in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men of talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan, Press On! has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race.

— *Anon.*

ATTEMPT the end, and never stand to doubt, Nothing's so hard but search will find it out.

— *Herrick.*

THE world is full of unfortunates that have but one ailment,—indecision.

— *Samuel Johnson.*

IT is of no use to wait for our ship to come in unless we have sent one out.

— *Anon.*

BEFORE you are five-and-twenty you must establish a character that will serve you all your life.

— *Lord Collingwood.*

GOOD habits become as strongly fixed as evil ones, of which we hear vastly more.

— *Hatfield.*

LET honesty be as the breath of the soul, and never forget to have a penny, when all thy expenses are enumerated and paid; then shalt thou reach the point of happiness, and independence shall be thy shield and buckler, thy helmet and crown; then shall thy soul walk upright, nor stoop to the silken wretch because he hath riches, nor pocket an abuse because the hand which offers it wears a ring set with diamonds.

— *Benjamin Franklin.*

RESOLVED: never to do anything, which, if I should see in another, I should count a just occasion to despise him for, or to think any way more meanly of him. — *Jonathan Edwards.*

ONE resolution I have made, and try always to keep, is this: “To rise above little things.” — *John Burroughs.*

GIVE us, O give us, the man who sings at his work! Be his occupation what it may, he is equal to any of those who follow the same pursuit in silent sullenness. He will do more in the same time—he will do it better, he will persevere longer. One is scarcely sensible of fatigue whilst he marches to music. — *Thomas Carlyle.*

LIVE as though life was earnest, and life will
be so. — *Owen Meredith.*

DON'T blow yourself out because you are only
a candle; your poor weak candle light may
be the light of another's life. — *Zion's Herald.*

TO accept the inevitable; neither to struggle
against it nor murmur at it, — this is the great
lesson of life. — *Dinah Mulock Craik.*

THE great heart will no more complain of the
obstructions that make success hard, than of
the iron walls of the gun which hinder the shot
from scattering. — *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

CHEER up! 'tis no use to be glum, boys —
'Tis written, since fighting begun,
That sometimes we fight and we conquer,
And sometimes we fight and we run.
— *Thackeray.*

A POUND of pluck is worth a ton of luck.
* * * * *

Luck is an ignis fatuus. You may follow it to
ruin, but not to success. — *James A. Garfield.*

HE conquers, who awaits the end,
And dares to suffer and be strong.

— *Lewis Morris.*

NEVER to lose one moment of time, but to improve it in the most profitable way I possibly can.

That I will live, as I shall wish I had done when I come to die.

— *Resolutions of Jonathan Edwards.*

DO not dare to live without some clear intention toward which your living shall be bent ; mean to be something with all your might.

— *Phillips Brooks.*

THE tendency to persevere, to persist in spite of hindrances, discouragements, and impossibilities, — it is this that in all things distinguishes the strong soul from the weak.

— *Thomas Carlyle.*

BECAUSE perseverance is so difficult, even when supported by the grace of God, thence is the value of new beginnings. For new beginnings are the life of perseverance.

— *E. B. Pusey.*

I NEVER swerved
Not even by one hair's-breadth of heresy,
I have accomplished what I came to do.

— *Alfred Tennyson.*

NO! Time, shalt not boast that I do change :
Thy pyramids built up with newer might
To me are nothing novel, nothing strange ;
They are but dressings of a former sight.
Our dates are brief, and therefore we admire
What thou dost foist upon us that is old ;
And rather make them born to our desire,
Than think that we before have heard them told.
Thy register and thee I both defy,
Not wondering at the present nor the past ;
For thy records and what we see do lie,
Made more or less by thy continual haste :
This do I vow, and this shall ever be,
I will be true, despite thy scythe and thee.

— *Shakespeare.*

DID you tackle the trouble that came your way
With a resolute heart and cheerful ?
Or hide your face from the light of day
With a craven soul and fearful ?
Oh, a trouble's a ton, or a trouble's an ounce,

tion and moral sense, — “*I can.*” A brave, hearty, and manly expression. There is character, force, vigor, and determination, and will in it. The words have a spirit sparkling and pungent about them not to be resisted or forgotten. There is a world of meaning expressed, nailed down, so to speak, in these few letters. Whole lectures are there, and sermons of mighty grandeur and eloquence. We admire to hear a young man speak out bravely, boldly, and determined, as if it was an outstretching of his entire nature — his inner mind. It tells us of something that is earnest, sober, serious; of something that will race and battle with the world when the way is open for it.

— *American Union.*

SOME time ago Mr. Field wrote a letter to Dr. Newell D. Hillis of Brooklyn in which he laid down some principles for the successful conduct of business life. These principles are of vital interest to the youth of the land, and so we place them before our readers: —

Beware of a misfit occupation.

Practice economy, self-restraint, and self-denial always.

Try always to be ahead of your position and increase your efficiency.

Having started, learn your business thoroughly from the ground up.

Always remember that what you save, and not what you earn, counts.

Consider carefully your natural bent, whether for business or a profession.

Take stock of yourself and try to determine what business you are best fitted for.

Work with all your energy and do everything as well as you can, not merely well enough to pass muster.

Of course, the fact that we know something of how the other man did it does not prove that we, too, will achieve a large measure of success. The personal element is always an important factor. Many men fail even when they are trying to put the highest kind of rules and regulations into effect. But it is better for them to try and fail than not to try at all, or to succeed through base methods and ignoble motives.

— *Epworth Herald*.

I OUGHT — that is the law God on my heart
has written,

The mark for which my soul is with strong yearning
smitten.

I Must — that is the bound set either side the way,
By nature and the world, so that I shall not stray.

I Can — that measures out the power intrusted me
Of action, knowledge, art, skill, and dexterity.

— *Epworth Herald.*

A CONSTANT struggle, a ceaseless battle to
bring success from inhospitable surroundings,
is the price of all great achievements. — *Success.*

BETTER it is to battle with the gale
Than drift o'er glassy seas with listless sail.

— *Louis A. Robertson.*

THINGS are achieved, when they are well begun;
The perfect archer calls the deer his own
While yet the shaft is whistling. — *George Eliot.*

THE victor is he who can go it alone.

— *J. G. Saxe.*

MAN is his own star ; and the soul that can
Render an honest and a perfect man
Commands all light, all influence, all fate.
Nothing to him falls early or too late.

— *John Fletcher.*

GOD has made you after his own plan, and he
places you just where he wishes you to work
with him to bring about the highest results for
yourself. He has given you every opportunity.
Make yourself what you will. Remember it lies
with you. God can make no mistakes !

— *Alice Freeman Palmer.*

THE world has battle-room for all.
Go fight and conquer if ye can.
But if ye rise or if ye fall,
Be each, pray God, a gentleman !

— *Thackeray.*

IF you know a thing is right, do it. If you have
a solemn conviction, dare to utter it in the fear
of God, regardless of the wrath of man.

— *John B. Gough.*

LOOK to the end, and resolve to make the service of Christ the first object in what remains of life, without indifference to the opinion of your fellow-men, but also without fear of it.

— *Liddon.*

HE was a hero, fighting all alone,
A lonesome warrior,— never one more brave,—
Discreet, considerate, and grave.
He fought some noble battles : but he gave
No voice to fame, and passed away unknown.

So grandly to occasion did he rise,
So splendid were the victories he planned,
That all the world had asked him to command
Could it his native valor understand ?
He fought himself, and, winning, gained the prize.

— *Ironquill.*

MUSE not that I thus suddenly proceed ;
For what I will, I will, and there an end.

— *Shakespeare.*

THIS I beheld or dreamed it in a dream :
There spread a cloud of dust along a plain ;
And underneath the cloud, or in it, raged

A furious battle, and men yelled, and swords
Shocked upon swords and shields. A prince's
banner

Wavered, then staggered backward hemmed by foes.
A craven hung along the battle's edge,
And thought, "Had I a sword of keener steel, —
That blue blade that the king's son bears, — but this
Blunt thing —" He snapt and flung it from his
hand,

And lowering crept away and left the field.
Then came the king's son, wounded, sore bestead,
And weaponless, and saw the broken sword
Hilt buried in the dry and sodden sand,
And ran, and snatched it, and with battle-shout
Lifted afresh he hewed his enemy down,
And saved a great cause that heroic day.

— *E. R. Sill.*

OLIVER Wendell Holmes says that it does not matter so much where one stands as the direction in which he is moving. If you are working according to an intelligent plan; if you are trying to make everything you do a means of advancement to the goal you have in view; if your great ambition is, not to make yourself famous, or rich, or happy, but to make your life mean something in

God's world, — go ahead, for you are moving in the right direction and will reach your goal. But if you are looking for an easy place, or running away from hard work; if you are too listless, or indifferent, or careless to take stock of yourself, to decide upon the path you wish to take, to look carefully ahead, but not too far ahead, or to make out an intelligent plan of action and follow it as nearly as you can, — no matter where you stand you are not moving in the right direction.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

NO man is born into the world, whose work
Is not born with him. There is always work
And tools to work withal, for those who will:
And blessed are the horny hands of toil.

— *J. R. Lowell.*

DO your best, not because your work is worth it, but because you are. Whatever you are doing, you are making manhood. Half-hearted work makes only half a man. Slipshod methods mean loose principles. The only way to keep character up to the standard is by continually living up to the highest standard in all that you do.

— *Young People's Weekly.*

COURAGE, the highest gift, that scorns to bend
To mean devices for a sordid end.

Courage — an independent spark from heaven's
bright throne,

By which the soul stands raised, triumphant, high,
alone. — *George Farquhar.*

COLUMBUS had faith in his enterprises. His
faith inspired him with courage and persever-
ance sufficient to overcome difficulties and crown
him with success.

In every life there are grand opportunities for
discoveries and achievements. What we need is
faith, courage, and perseverance.

— *William Burt.*

THERE is something about allowing a strong
resolution to evaporate without executing it
that has a deteriorating influence upon the charac-
ter. It is the execution of a plan that makes
stamina. Almost anybody can resolve to do a
great thing.

*If we could only make our highest moments per-
manent, what splendid things we would do in life,
and what magnificent beings we should become ;
but we let our resolutions cool, our visions fade*

until it is more convenient to execute them, and they are gone. — *Orison Swett Marden.*

WAS it long ago, or was it but yesterday, that we prayed for strength to perform a certain duty, to bear a certain burden, to overcome a certain temptation, and received it? Do we dream that the Divine force was exhausted in answering that one prayer? No more than the great river is exhausted by turning the wheels of one mill. Put it to the proof again with to-day's duty, to-day's burden, to-day's temptation. Thrust yourself further and deeper into the stream of God's power, and feel it again as you have felt it before, able to do exceeding abundantly. Remember and trust. — *Henry van Dyke.*

THERE is always a golden age, soon to be behind us, which, at every period of our life, is before us—just as to-morrow's yesterday is still to-day. So we may all take courage. It is never too late to mend. — *Lucy Elliot Keeler.*

YOU are beaten to earth? Well, well, what's that?

Come up with a smiling face.

It's nothing against you to fall down flat,
But to lie there, that's disgrace. — *Anon.*

I BELIEVE in reflex action," replied her aunt ;
"I believe that when a person feels morose
and moody, by putting on a brave smile and adopt-
ing a cheerful tone of voice her mood will actually
change to match the expression ; and in the same
way persistence in doing small kindnesses will
transform the coldest of us into women glowing
with helpfulness and good cheer."

— *Lucy Elliot Keeler.*

LET us lay aside every weight, and the sin which
doth so easily beset us, and let us run with
patience the race set before us, looking unto Jesus,
the author and finisher of our faith. — *St. Paul.*

MAKING up one's mind, even if it can only
be to meet what comes courageously, is the
secret of "taking heart." — *A. S. Hardy.*

COURAGE consists not in hazarding without
fear, but being resolutely minded in a just
cause. The brave man is not he who feels no
fear, for that were stupid and irrational, but he

whose noble soul subdues its fear, and bravely dares the danger nature shrinks from.

— *Ferrolld.*

TAKE the instant way ; . . .

For emulation hath a thousand sons,
That one by one pursue. If you give way,
Or hedge aside from the direct forthright,
Like to an enter'd tide, they all rush by,
And leave you hindmost. — *Shakespeare.*

IT is the man who goes straight to his goal, obstacle or no obstacle, that commands our respect, gets our confidence and gets to the front. He is the man who is sought in an emergency, not the man who is afraid of obstacles, who magnifies difficulties. — *Orison Swett Marden.*

THE temper of the mind in which we meet the hundred and one tiny circumstances of every hour determines our happiness or unhappiness far more than does the detail of what those circumstances are. We cannot choose the circumstances, but we can choose the temper.

— *Lucy H. M. Soulsby.*

WHAT is your motive in life? Every life finds its chief inspiration somewhere. Perhaps it is to succeed? But what do you mean by success? Is it to gather together dollar after dollar; to stand in a conspicuous place in the social circle; to achieve some great result in invention, in commercial life, in art, in letters, in politics, in the professions; to indulge in the pleasure of the world life; or is it to so live, that by the unhindered utterance of the highest instincts and impulses of the heart, you shall make some permanent contribution toward the uplifting of men? The interpretation of life depends altogether upon the motive that inspires it.

— *Stephen J. Herben.*

THE history of a man is his character.

— *Goethe.*

I ALMOST think that if I were asked to indicate the worst curse of life, because the most frequent, I should reply — *Desultoriness*. What is it to be desultory? It includes procrastination, irresolution, lack of aim. . . . The life that conquers is the life that moves with a steady resolution and persistence toward a predetermined goal. The

men who succeed are those who have thoroughly learned the immense importance of plan in life, and the tragic brevity of time. "Never be unemployed, and never be triflingly employed," was one of John Wesley's wise rules for his helpers. He himself was a model of method. Wesley had his plan of life, which he carried out with a tireless industry, and he never had a desultory hour.

— *W. J. Davison.*

WHEN about to start in life, it is well that a young man should begin at the beginning and occupy the most subordinate positions. He will be introduced to the broom, — and spend the first hour of his business life sweeping out the office. I was a sweeper myself; and who do you suppose were my fellow-sweepers? David McCargo, now superintendent of the Allegheny Valley railroad, and Robert Pitcairn, superintendent of the Pennsylvania railroad.

Begin at the beginning, but aim high. I would not give a fig for the young man who does not already see himself the partner or the head of some important firm. The thorough man of business knows that only by years of patient, unremitting attention to affairs can he earn his reward, which

is the result, not of chance, but of well-devised means for the attainment of ends.

— *Andrew Carnegie.*

ALL the doors that lead inward to the secret place of the Most High are doors outward — out of self — out of smallness — out of wrong.

— *George Macdonald.*

MANHOOD begins when we have in any way made truce with necessity; but begins joyfully and hopefully only when we have reconciled ourselves to necessity.

— *Thomas Carlyle.*

WE are to know that we are never without a pilot. When we know not how to steer, and dare not hoist a sail, we can drift. The current knows the way though we do not. . . . The ship of heaven guides itself and will not accept a wooden rudder.

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

WHEN one wills anything persistently, unconsciously he has gained concentration of purpose. All his thoughts tend toward the subject for which he is striving. It is almost impossible for a person having one aim in life and a strong will to fail to bring that about. Without con-

scious thought, all the influences about him tend toward the end he has set for himself. Therefore, say to yourself that you will succeed; say it again and again, until you are certain in your own mind that, whatever comes, success shall be yours. Never, *never* say, if a disappointment come to you, "I am the unluckiest person alive, and I knew nothing so good could ever happen to me." Never allow yourself to think such a thought for an instant. If you find a thought of failure coming into your mind, immediately drive it out by a thought of success. There is the soundest sense in this. Your attitude carries with it failure or success when you meet others. If you have not confidence in yourself or in your ability, why should others have who do not know as much about you as you do about yourself? This world is too busy to stop to investigate merits which you are not conscious of possessing. Study yourself and know what you can do — and believe that you can do it. Believe it with all your heart and work to prove that you can do it, and you will find no lack of those who will believe with you. This is the true philosopher's stone, because with it come all knowledge and all success. — *The Household.*

IT is better to say, "This one thing I do," than to say, "These forty things I dabble in."

— *Washington Gladden.*

OH, the unused foundations of character which stand along our human street, and make the city on our human life so tragical! Oh, the bodily vigor which has never been put to any strong work for God or man! — *Phillips Brooks.*

BLESSED is the man who has found his work; let him ask no other blessedness.

— *Thomas Carlyle.*

WHEN I hear a young man spoken of as a great genius, the first question I ask about him is, always, *Does he work?* — *John Ruskin.*

THE man who consecrates his hours
By vigorous effort and an honest aim,
At once he draws the sting of life and death.
He walks with nature; and her paths are peace.

— *Edward Young.*

START fair — however the day may dawn,
Start fair in the race before you;
And, looking bravely ahead, keep on,

Straight on, with a hope high o'er you ;
And truth and courage will help you win
In every race they are listed in.

— *Frank Walcott Hutt.*

THERE is always room for a man of force, and he makes room for many. Society is a troop of thinkers, and the best heads among them take the best places.

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

WE are always in these days endeavoring to separate intellect and manual labor. We want one man to be always thinking, and another to be always working, and we call one a gentleman, and the other an operative; whereas the workman ought often to be thinking and the thinker often to be working, and both should be gentlemen in the best sense. As it is, we make both ungentle, the one envying, the other despising his brother, and the mass of society is made up of morbid thinkers and miserable workers.

— *John Ruskin.*

CHARACTER is higher than intellect. . . . A great soul will be strong to live, as well as strong to think.

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

MANY men have their wishbones where their
backbones ought to be. . . .

Do not turn the good resolutions of January into
the by-laws of February. — *W. W. Bustard.*

IT is not enough to begin; continuance is neces-
sary. Mere enrolment will not make one a
scholar; the pupil must continue in the school
through the long course, until he masters every
branch. Success depends upon staying power. The
reason for failure in most cases is lack of persever-
ance. — *J. R. Miller.*

HE alone is great,
Who by a life heroic conquers fate.
— *Sarah K. Bolton.*

AH, God, for a man with heart, head, hand,
Like some of the simple great ones gone
For ever and ever by,
One still strong man in a blatant land,
Whatever they call him — what care I? —
Aristocrat, democrat, autocrat — one
Who can rule and dare not lie!
— *Alfred Tennyson.*

DO not falter or shrink ;
But just think out your work,
And just work out your think.

— *Nixon Waterman.*

TOO often we hear young men declare that their business or profession is a failure, because it has not brought immediate wealth or honor, and find them leaving one occupation for another that appears more promising. In many cases the new calling adopted is no more satisfactory than the one previously followed, and it in turn gives place to another. And so change follows change, the cause of failure always being ascribed to the occupation that has not been thoroughly tried by any continuous effort.

Good results come only to those who deserve them.

The secret behind many of the great achievements of life is just "keeping at it." Thus the greatest duties are performed, and success wrought from the most unpromising circumstances. The men who have done much have not been those who went from one calling to another, or who labored by fits and starts. They have been those who,

having chosen an occupation, began their work earnestly and kept at it.

Spasmodic efforts amount to little or nothing. It is steady, continuous driving that counts. It is well to begin a work ; it is better to *finish* it. The lesson for all to learn is to do one thing at a time, and to follow that until it is *done*.

— *Young People's Weekly*.

HE only is a well-made man who has a good determination.

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson*.

TH**E**RE are three lessons I would write,
Three words as with a burning pen,
In tracings of eternal light
Upon the hearts of men.

Have hope. Though clouds environ now,
And gladness hides her face in scorn,
Put thou the shadow from thy brow —
No night but hath its morn.

Have faith. Where'er thy bark is driven —
The calm's disport, the tempest's mirth —
Know this : God rules the host of heaven.

Have love. Not love alone for one,
But man as man thy brother call,
And scatter, like the circling sun,
Thy charities on all.

Thus grave these lessons on thy soul —
Faith, hope, and love — and thou shalt find
Strength when life's surges rudest roll,
Light when thou else wert blind.

— *Friedrich von Schiller.*

HE who resolves to do one thing honorably and thoroughly, and sets about it at once, will attain usefulness and eminence.

— *E. P. Roe.*

THE very act of life, so far as I have been able to observe, consists in fortitude and perseverance.

— *Sir Walter Scott.*

HELP us with the grace of courage that we be none of us cast down when we sit lamenting over the ruins of our happiness. Touch us with the fire of Thine altar, that we may be up and doing to rebuild our city.

— *Robert Louis Stevenson.*

COME, my friends,
'Tis not too late to seek a newer world :
Push off, and sitting well in order, smite
The sounding furrows ; for my purpose holds
To sail beyond the sunset, and the paths
Of all the western stars, until I die.
— *Alfred Tennyson.*

FROM farthest distance high, a clear voice
rang,
“Ashes and dust shall blossom as the rose !
Climb thou above the tempests,” sweet it sang,
“Patience ! ‘On every height there lies repose.’”
— *Celia Thaxter.*

MANY men owe the grandeur of their lives to
their tremendous difficulties. — *Spurgeon.*

I HOLD that it becomes no man to nurse despair,
But in the teeth of clinch'd antagonisms
To follow up the worthiest till he die.
— *Alfred Tennyson.*

THE whole period of youth is one essentially
of formation, edification, instruction. There
is not an hour of it but is trembling with destinies

— not a moment of which, once past, the appointed work can ever be done again, or the neglected blow struck on the cold iron. — *John Ruskin.*

THE reputation for straightforwardness has given many a poor youth capital with which to start in business for himself.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

RELECT, that life, like every other blessing,
Derives its value from its use alone ;
Not for itself but for a nobler end,
Th' Eternal gave it, and that end is virtue.

— *Dr. Johnson.*

TIME *wasted* is existence ; *used* is life.

— *Young.*

HAST thou been faithful to the truth and right ?
Hast helped to make another's burden light ?
Art thou a better man than yesternight ?

— *Paul Pastnor.*

SUCCESS and suffering are vitally and organically linked. If you succeed without suffering, it is because some one suffered for you ; if you suffer

without succeeding, it is in order that some one else may succeed after you.

— *Edward Judson.*

EARTH for work, heaven for wages; this life for battle, another for the crown; time for employment, eternity for enjoyment. — *Guthrie.*

OH, if we could only lift up our heads and live with Him; live new lives, high lives, lives of hope and love and holiness, to which death should be nothing but the breaking away of the last cloud, and the letting of life out to its completion!

— *Phillips Brooks.*

I'M proof against that word "failure."

I've seen behind it. The only failure a man ought to fear is failure in cleaving to the purpose he sees to be best.

— *George Eliot.*

IN the moral world there is nothing impossible, if we bring a thorough will to it.

— *William von Humboldt.*

O THE joy of a manly selfhood!

To be servile to none, to defer to none, not to any tyrant known and unknown,

To walk with erect carriage, a step springy and elastic,

To look with calm gaze or with a flashing eye.

— *Walt Whitman.*

SO faith is strong
Only when we are strong, shrinks when we shrink.

It comes when music stirs us, and the chords,
Moving on to some grand climax, shake our souls.
With influx new that makes new energies.
It comes in swellings of the heart and tears
That rise at noble and at gentle deeds.

— *George Eliot.*

ALL that is, at all, lasts ever —
Past recall;
Earth changes, but thy soul and
God stands sure.

— *Robert Browning.*

FACE your deficiencies and acknowledge them;
but do not let them master you. Let them
teach you patience, sweetness, insight. . . .

When we do the best we can, we never know
what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life
of another.

— *Helen Keller.*

FOR I, as man with men am linked,
And not a brick with bricks ; no gain
That I experience must remain
Unshared. — *Robert Browning.*

WORK is the law of life. It stands for activity,
progress, and the outgoing of energy. . . .
But work may be a joy or drudgery. It is
drudgery only when it loses the inspiration of the
presence and spirit of our Supreme Co-worker.
— *Epworth Herald.*

WHAT'S brave, what's noble,
Let's do it. — *Shakespeare.*

I AM not bound to win, but I am bound to be
true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am
bound to live by the light that I have. I must
stand with anybody that stands right, stand with
him while he is right, and part with him when he
goes wrong. — *Abraham Lincoln.*

I WILL be a man among men ; and no longer a
dreamer among shadows. Henceforth be mine
a life of action and reality ! I will work in my
own sphere, nor wish it other than it is. This
alone is health and happiness.
— *Henry W. Longfellow.*

ARE you in earnest? seize this very minute,
What you can do, or think you can, begin it.
— *Faust.*

THIS world is not so much a place for doing
things as for making character.
— *J. R. Miller.*

SOULS are built as temples are —
Based on truth's eternal law,
Sure and steadfast without flaw.
Through the sunshine, through the snows,
Up and on the building goes;
Every fair thing finds its place,
Every hard thing lends a grace,
Every hand may make or mar.
— *Susan Coolidge.*

NOTHING, nothing else but character survives,
and character is Christ formed within.
— *Bishop Huntington.*

CAPITAL is not what a man has, but what he
is. Character is capital; honor is capital.
— *Macduff.*

DIFFICULTIES exist to be surmounted. . . .
A strenuous soul hates cheap successes.

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

MAKE up your mind that you will accomplish in a
thorough and capable manner what needs to be
accomplished and **STICK** to it until you succeed.

— *Spare Moments.*

WE judge others by results; how else? not
knowing the process by which results are
arrived at.

— *George Eliot.*

WHAT makes one man succeed where another
fails? Naturally ability has something to
do with it. Environment may be a help. But
every man who has made his mark will tell you that
the chief factors are energy, confidence, indefatigable
toil, readiness to learn, a determination which never
relaxes its grip. And if so, why should you not
succeed as well as some one else? What is there
out of these qualities that you may not cultivate?
Most of us have ability enough, if we will add to
it the push and hard work and determination with-
out which talent is helpless.

— *Young People's Weekly.*

IT is the eye, as Emerson says, that makes the horizon, and although annoyances and trials and griefs spring up, we want to get the knack of seeing around them, or over them. Sidney Smith used to say that if it was his lot to crawl he would crawl contentedly; if to fly he would fly with alacrity; but as long as he could help it he would never be unhappy. Nothing is so impregnable as gayety and courage, and there are always a thousand reasons for being courageous. Duty is hard sometimes, and presses the joy out of life? Possibly, as seen in prospect; but is it not a singular way of honoring duty, that of seeming to drag it through life instead of wearing it as a crown?

— *Lucy Elliot Keeler.*

TO have what we want is riches; but to be able to do without is power.

— *George Macdonald.*

MOST of us can, if we choose, make this world either a palace or a prison.

— *Lord Avebury.*

DO not dare to live without some clear intention toward which your living shall be bent. Mean to be something with all your might.

— *Phillips Brooks.*

EVERY time a man thinks or talks of the difficulties that confront him, unless he does so in order to overcome them, he weakens himself. No difficulty is of any value in the world save as an invitation to defeat it. To recognize an obstacle as something that cannot be changed or circumvented is to lessen our power against it. Most men do not realize this. They seem to think it helps them to tell some one else about the peculiar hardships of their work. They miss the fact that to do so is like opening one of their own arteries and letting the blood run out. Successful workers in every field find life too short, and time and energy too precious, to waste any of it in a lament over what they wish were different. But to recognize and discuss a difficulty for the sole purpose of discovering how to overcome it is good employment for one's time. Difficulties ought to be used like tenpins — never bring them up except for the purpose of knocking them down.

— *Sunday School Times.*

WORDS will fail where a resolute heart need not.

— *Alice Brown.*

WHERE is great power in a resolution that has no reservation in it — a strong, persistent, tenacious purpose — which burns all bridges behind it and which clears all obstacles from its path and arrives at its goal, no matter how long it may take, no matter what the sacrifice or the cost.

No man can hope to accomplish anything great in this world until he throws his whole soul, flings the force of his whole life, into it.

In Phillips Brooks's talks to young people he used to urge them *to be something with all their might*.

It is not enough simply to have a general desire to accomplish something. There is but one way to do that; and that is, to try to be somebody with all the concentrated energy we can muster.

Any kind of a human being can wish for a thing, can desire it; but only strong, vigorous minds with great purposes can do things.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

DO not, for one repulse, forego the purpose
That you resolv'd to effect.

— *Shakespeare.*

IN life's small things be resolute and great
To keep thy muscles trained; for knowest
thou

When Fate thy measure takes or when she'll
say,

“ I find thee worthy ; do this thing for me ? ”

— *James Russell Lowell.*

THE lucky man is one who sees and grasps his
opportunity. — *Anon.*

WISE to resolve, and patient to perform.
— *Alexander Pope.*

DID you ever see a man whom you could not
down, — whom no discouragement, however
great, could dishearten, whom no hardships could
discourage ? Did you ever see a man who had no
give up in him, who would never let go his grip,
no matter what happened, — who, every time he
failed, would come up smiling, with the air of a
conqueror, and more determined than ever ? Did
you ever see a man who did not know the meaning
of failure, who never knew when he was beaten,
who had excluded the word “ can't ” from his
dictionary, who did not know what it meant to be
discouraged, whom no obstacle could down, no
reverse weaken or turn back, — the man who
never wavered or doubted or took a step backward,
no matter what misfortune overtook him ? The

man who was never feazed, have you met him?
If you have, you have seen a conqueror,— a real
man. — *Orison Swett Marden.*

LET your soul be filled with the morning air,
Turn your head and your hands loose in it;
The world is full of the possible,
But you've got to fight to win it.
— *William J. Lampton.*

'**T**IS just to be and do and dare
Nor lose our faith and "vim";
And do the task that's nearest us
And leave results to Him.
Although the task is not the one,
Which we would like to do,
It leads to others farther on,
Which now are out of view.
— *Alice Dudley.*

ALTHOUGH the world is full of suffering, it
is full of the overcoming of it.
— *Helen Keller.*

THERE is no duty we so much underrate as
being happy. By being happy we sow
anonymous benefits upon the world, which remain
unknown even to ourselves. — *R. L. Stevenson.*

WE are haunted by an ideal life, and it is because we have within us the beginning and the possibility of it. — *Phillips Brooks.*

MAN'S character is an element of his wealth, and you cannot make him rich in what he has except as you teach him to be rich in what he is. — *John Ruskin.*

IMPATIENT people water their miseries and hoe up their comforts; sorrows are visitors that come without invitation, and complaining minds send a wagon to bring their troubles home in. — *Charles Spurgeon.*

WISE men ne'er sit and wail their loss,
But cheerly seek how to redress their harms. — *Shakespeare.*

I HAVE told you of the Spaniard who always put on his spectacles when about to eat cherries, that they might look bigger and more tempting. In like manner, I make the most of my enjoyments, and pack away my troubles in as small a compass as I can. — *Robert Southey.*

HERE is the prime condition of success, the great secret, — concentrate your energy, thought, and capital exclusively upon the business in which you are engaged. Having begun on one line, resolve to fight it out on that line, to lead in it, adopt every improvement, have the best machinery, and know the most about it. Finally, do not be impatient, for, as Emerson says, “No one can cheat you out of ultimate success but yourself.”

— *Andrew Carnegie.*

HUMANLY speaking, the man is everything. Put him anywhere, and what ought to be, happens.

— *Anon.*

THE ability to achieve and advance depends upon the determination to go on when everything says, “Stop!” and when we long to stop. There is nothing spectacular about doggedness. It is just plain keeping on and getting through.

— *Priscilla Leonard.*

THE stern determination to do exact justice, the high purpose to struggle for the right, and the common sense to struggle for it in practical fashion — all these qualities, we must show now,

in our civil and social business life, as you show them when, in the days of your youth and lusty strength, you marched forth, an army of banners, and brought back the peace that comes, not to the weakling and the craven, but to those whose proud eyes tell of triumph tasted.

— *Theodore Roosevelt.*

SEIZE your staff! beyond this height
We shall find the Infinite Light!
Gird your thigh! this sword shall hew
Paths that reach the untroubled blue!
Though dark mountains form the stair,
It is ours to climb and dare.

— *Frederic Lawrence Knowles.*

O FRIENDS, be men and let your hearts be strong.
— *William Cullen Bryant.*

IT is good to know; it is better to do; it is best to *be*. To be pure and strong, to be honest and earnest, to be kindly and thoughtful, and in all to be true, to be manly and womanly and Christly—this is the greatest ambition in life. It is not in knowing or having or doing, but *through* knowing and having and doing the best, it is in *being*, in

what a man is in himself. He can do more for others who has done most with himself. Mastery of circumstances comes only through mastery of self.
— *S. D. Gordon.*

TO the formation of a good character it is of the highest importance that you have a commanding object in view and that your aim in life be elevated. Set your standard high; and though you may not reach it, you can hardly fail to rise higher than if you aimed at some inferior excellence.

— *Joel Hawes.*

MY rule is to go straight forward in doing what appears to me to be right, leaving the consequences to Providence.
— *Benjamin Franklin.*

MY brother Charles, amid the difficulties of our early ministry, used to say, "If the Lord would give me wings, I would fly." I used to answer, "If the Lord bid me fly, I should trust for the wings."
— *John Wesley.*

TO the truly moral and religious man, everything that comes to pass is the will of God with him, and therefore the best that can possibly come to pass.
— *Fichte.*

KNOW this of a truth, no evil can happen to a good man, either in life or after death.

— *Socrates.*

THERE grows within each heart, the giant image of perfection. — *Robert Browning.*

STRENGTH of will is the quality most needing cultivating in mankind. Will is the central force which gives strength and greatness to character. We overestimate the value of talent because it dazzles us, and we are apt to underrate the importance of will because its works are less shining. Talent gracefully adorns life, but it is will which carries us victoriously through the struggle. Intellect is the torch which lights us on our way, will the strong arm which rough hews the path for us. . . . In this world there cannot be virtue without strong will; the weak “know the right, and yet the wrong pursue.” . . . Knowledge, after all, is not the greatest thing in life; it is not the “be-all” and the “end-all” here. Life is not a science. The light of intellect is truly a precious light, but its aim and its end is simply to shine. Strength of character, goodness, loving-

kindness, and quiet self-sacrifice are worth all the talents in the world.

— *George Henry Lewes.*

THREE things are great — conscience, and will,
And courage, to fulfil the duties they create.

— *Anon.*

“**I**F you undertake to do a thing, do it,” is the secret of one man’s success, both in business and religion.

A good motto is often the secret of a noble life.

“Deeds not words” was the motto of one of New England’s leading reformers of the past generation, upon which was fashioned a life of useful and benevolent activity.

Wanted, deeds !
Not words of winning note,
Not thoughts from life remote,
Not fond religious airs,
Not sweetly languid prayers,
Not love of sects and creeds, —
Wanted, deeds.

The crest of the Prince of Wales bears the simple watchword, "I serve," and no more princely motto can be found.

We cannot determine whether our faces shall be beautiful or ugly, our bodies graceful or deformed. But the shaping of our life is in our own hands. We make that great or small, noble or mean, as we will.

What is William of Germany or the emperor of China by comparison with Booker Washington, who has mounted from slavery to real sovereignty by sheer force of service? The motto, "I serve," always betokens real power and lasting authority. More, it is a truly Christian motto and proclaims eternal kinship with the highest.

— *George Henry Hubbard.*

A VALIANT man
Ought not to undergo, or tempt a danger,
But worthily, and by selected ways,
He undertakes with reason, not by chance,
His valor is the salt t' his other virtues,
They're all unseasoned without it.

— *Ben Jonson.*

THE brave man seeks not popular applause,
Nor, overpower'd with arms, deserts his
cause ;
Unsham'd, though foil'd, he does the best he can,
Force is of brutes, but honor is of man.

— *John Dryden.*

THE brave man is not he who feels no fear,
For that were stupid and irrational ;
But he, whose noble soul its fear subdues,
And bravely dares the danger nature shrinks
from.

— *Joanna Baillie.*

HAPPY and strong and brave shall we be, — able
to endure all things, and do all things, — if we
believe that every day, every hour, every moment,
of our life is in His hands. — *Henry van Dyke.*

LIFE is worth while. Its work is not useless,
its joys are not superficial, its discipline is not
unnecessary. Every experience that comes has a
value of its own. Every day, if we meet its
opportunities halfway, is well worth while. When
disappointments come, face them cheerfully. There
are people who brood miserably over their failure,
as if it were exceptional, instead of inevitable.

Refuse to let disappointment shadow your heart or your face. It does not do to give up because one's cherished plan has made shipwreck. The disappointment that wrings our heart may be the best thing for us, and many a time, as we look back over the way we have come, we see that God knew better than we. It is never well to lose sight of the beautiful truth that our disappointments may be His appointments. — *Young People's Weekly*.

BEFORE God's footstool, to confess
A poor soul knelt, and bowed his head.
"I failed!" he cried. The Master said:
Thou didst thy best, — that is success!
— *Henry Coyle*.

I KNOW a lady who has been confined to her couch in a small room for years, and can see only the tops of trees from her resting-place, yet she is so cheerful and hopeful that people go to her with their troubles and always go away comforted and encouraged.

"Oh, isn't the spring beautiful!" (or summer, autumn, or winter, as the case may be), is her exclamation to callers, even when her body is quiver-

ing with pain. Her eyes are always smiling. A light shines through them which was never seen on land or sea.

Will any one say that this woman, who has brought light and cheer to all who know her, is poor, or a failure, simply because she has been confined to that little room all these years? No; she is a greater success than many a rich woman. She has the wealth that is worth while,—the wealth that survives pain, sorrow, and disasters of all kinds,—that does not burn up,—which floods or droughts cannot affect,—the inexhaustible wealth of a sunny, cheerful soul.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

TH**E**RE are seasons when to *be still* demands immensely higher strength than to act.

— *Channing.*

ON**L**Y be thou strong, and very courageous, then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

— *Joshua 1: 7, 8.*

TH**E** world has no room for cowards. We must all be ready somehow to toil, to suffer, to die. And yours is not the less noble because no

drum beats before you when you go out into your daily battlefields, and no crowds shout about your coming when you return from your daily victory or defeat.

— *Robert Louis Stevenson.*

GO to your work and be strong, halting not in your ways,
Balking the end half-won, for an instant's dole of praise.
Stand to your work and be wise, certain of sword and pen,
Being neither children, nor gods, but men in a world of men.

— *Rudyard Kipling.*

WHEN it comes to doing a thing in this world,
I don't ask myself whether I like it or not,
but what's the best way to get it done.

— *Ellen Glasgow.*

FAITH takes up the cross, love binds it to the soul, patience bears it to the end.

— *Bonar.*

THE world always listens to a man with a will in him.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

MEN, my brothers, men the workers, ever reaping something new,
That which they have done but earnest of the things that they shall do.
For I dip't into the future, far as human eye could see,
Saw the vision of the world, and all the wonders that would be. — *Alfred Tennyson.*

THE efforts and strivings of our threescore years are not adjusted to the scale of seventy; they are adjusted to the scale of immortality. This life is not the opera, it is the overture. It is not the book, it is the first chapter of the book. A man must be wakeful to his eternal destiny if he would know the magnitude of things. — *G. H. Morrison.*

ENDURING will-power in the development of character and in the attainment of the Divine will is often the direct result of prayer and patient discipline. — *Anthony D. Evans.*

SOME day, in years to come, you will be wrestling with the great temptation, or trembling under the great sorrow, of your life. But the real struggle

is here, now, in these quiet weeks. *Now* it is being decided whether, in the day of your supreme sorrow or temptation, you shall miserably fail or gloriously conquer. Character cannot be made except by steady, long-continued process.

— *Phillips Brooks.*

IT is one thing for a man to *deny* himself, and a very different thing for a man to deny *himself*. No one wins success of any sort without some measure of self-denial. The champion of the prize ring has denied himself many things ; and has sacrificed his intellectual and spiritual growth to his physical development. But this is not Christian self-sacrifice. Nor is the sacrifice of every natural inclination and the crucifixion of every noble desire in order to acquire wealth any more Christian. In each case one part of the man has been denied for the sake of another part. He has not denied *himself*, but only a fraction of himself. It is self-abnegation of which Christ is speaking. It is the death of self-will which he demands.

— *Josiah Strong.*

TO have failed is to have striven, to have striven is to have grown. — *Maltbie D. Babcock.*

MY business is not to make myself,
But to make the absolute best of what
God made. — *Robert Browning.*

THOUGH truth appear in homely gray,
Her counsel ne'er despise ;
She will be clad in light, one day,
To honor him who tries !
— *Ernest Neal Lyons.*

SO do I gather strength and hope anew,
For well I know Thy patient love perceives
Not what I did, but what I strove to do —
And though the full, ripe ears be sadly few,
Thou wilt accept my sheaves. — *Anon.*

IF we should fail —
We fail.
But screw your courage to the sticking-place,
And we'll not fail. — *Shakespeare.*

IT is not the straining for great things that is most effective ; it is the doing the little things, the common duties, a little better and better — the constant improving — that tells.

We often see young people who seem very ambitious to get on by leaps and bounds, and are

impatient of what they call the drudgery of their situation, but who are doing this drudgery in a very ordinary, slipshod way. Yet it is only by doing the common things uncommonly well, doing them with pride and enthusiasm, and just as well, as neatly, as quickly, and as efficiently as possible, that you take the drudgery out of them. This is what counts in the final issue. How can you expect to do a great thing well when you half do the little things? These are the stepping-stones to the great things.

The best way to begin to do great things is to improve the doing of the little things just as much as possible,—to put the uncommon effort into the common task, to make it large by doing it in a great way. Many a man has dignified a very lowly and humble calling by bringing to it a master spirit. Many a great man has sat upon a cobbler's bench, and has forged at an anvil in a blacksmith's shop. It is the man that dignifies the calling. Nothing that is necessary to be done is small when a great soul does it. — *Orison Swett Marden.*

PEACE is an excellent thing, but principle and pluck are better.

— *James Russell Lowell.*

“I AM learning that what I *choose* is the real me.”

A FREE will determined upon improvement, and a God ready to grant desired grace at any time, make it possible for all, whether young or old, to learn more perfectly the art of living.

— *Anthony D. Evans.*

LOVE, hope, fear, faith,— these make humanity; These are its sign, and note, and character.

— *Robert Browning.*

HE who wishes to fulfil his mission must be a man of one idea, that is, of one great overmastering purpose, overshadowing all his aims, and guiding and controlling his entire life. — *Bate.*

YOU need not choose evil; you have only to fail to choose good, and you *drift* fast enough toward evil. You do not need to say, “I will be bad”; you have only to say, “I will not choose God’s choice,” and the choice of evil is already settled.

— *W. J. Dawson.*

SO here hath been dawning another blue day; Think, wilt thou let it slip useless away?

Out of eternity this new day is born ;
Into eternity at night will return.

Behold it aforesaid no eye ever did ;
So soon it forever from all eyes is hid.

Here hath been dawning another blue day ;
Think, wilt thou let it slip useless away ?

— *Thomas Carlyle.*

EVERY day is a new opportunity to serve God
and the world. — *Anthony D. Evans.*

NO success is attained by a leap and a bound,
but by patient plodding and many resolves.

— *C. M. R.*

BEHOLD, God is my salvation ; *I will trust,*
and not be afraid. — *Isaiah 12 : 2.*

“ HOW can I,” cries the poor bereaved heart,
sitting in the darkened room alone, “ how
can I live my dreary life alone ? ” “ Go and live
it ” is the answer. And as he goes on, it is not
dreary, and he can live it bravely in Christ’s
strength.

— *Phillips Brooks.*

BROKEN at last I bowed my head,
Forgetting all myself, and said,
“Whatever comes, His will be done.”
And in that moment peace was won.

— *Henry van Dyke.*

IT seems strange that when we know perfectly well that we are dependent, for every breath we draw, upon a Divine Power which is constantly providing for us and protecting us, we do not learn to trust it with absolute confidence and resignation.

There is only one thing for us to do, and that is to do our level best, right where we are, every day of our lives; to use our best judgment, and then to trust the rest to that Power which holds the forces of the universe in His hand, and which does all things well.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

THE noisy waves are failures, but the great silent tide is a success. . . . Do you know what it is to be failing every day, and yet to be sure that your life is, as a whole, in its great movement and meaning, not failing, but succeeding?

— *Phillips Brooks.*

BUT wherefore do you droop? Why look so sad?

Be great in fact, as you have been in thought ;
Let not the world see fear and sad distrust.
Govern the motion of a kingly eye ;
Be stirring as the time ; be fire with fire ;
Threaten the threatener, and outface the brow,
Of bragging honor ; so shall inferior eyes,
That borrow their behaviors from the great,
Grow great by your example ; and put on
The dauntless spirit of resolution.

— *Elizabeth Barrett Browning.*

MAN who would be,
Must rule the empire of himself ; in it
Must be supreme, establishing his throne,
Of vanquished will, quelling the anarchy
Of hopes and fears, being himself alone.

— *Percy Bysshe Shelley.*

IN going forward from year to year, one of the secrets of a true life lies in cutting loose from the past. No year is good enough to be a standard for the one that comes after it. Each new year should be a step in the mountain climb, lifting our feet a little higher, into clearer air and heavenlier atmos-

phere. Whatever our attainments or achievements may have been yesterday, they should be nobler and better to-day. Every one's past is full of mistakes. The whitest pages are flecked with many a stain. . . . But no past, however one has seemed to fail, should be accepted as defeat. May we rise and cheerfully rebuild the ruins we have made in the past !

— *J. R. Miller.*

OLD Past, let go and drop i' the sea
Till fathomless waters cover thee !
For I am living, but thou art dead ;
Thou drawest back, I strive ahead
The day to find.

— *Anon.*

LAY aside life-harming heaviness,
And entertain a cheerful disposition.

— *Shakespeare.*

THE best part of health is fine disposition. It is more essential than talent, even in the works of talent. Nothing will supply the want of sunshine to peaches, and, to make knowledge valuable, you must have the cheerfulness of wisdom.

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

A MERRY heart keeps on the windy side of
care. — *Shakespeare.*

WHY not rejoice more? Count up your
golden mercies; count up your opportunities
to do good; count up your “exceeding great and
precious promises”; count up your joys of heirship
to an incorruptible inheritance, and then march on
the road heavenward, shouting.

— *Theodore L. Cuyler.*

LEARN to laugh. A good laugh is better than
medicine. Learn how to tell a story. A
good story is as welcome as a sunbeam in a sick-
room. Learn to keep your own troubles to your-
self. The world is too busy to care for your ills
and sorrows. Learn not to croak. If you cannot
see any good in the world, keep the bad to your-
self. Learn to hide your aches and pains under a
pleasant smile. Learn to meet your friends with
a smile. — *Young People's Weekly.*

MEN'S muscles move better when their souls
are making merry music.

— *George Eliot.*

O LORD, pinch me into the remembrance of my promise, so that I may reënforce my old vows with new resolutions.

— *Thomas Fuller.*

WHAT we need is not a new compass every year, but a new determination to steer straight by the old compass, which is the word of God in Christ.

— *Henry van Dyke.*

“**D**ANIEL purposed in his *heart*.” That is the trouble with a great many people; they purpose to do right, but only purpose in their heads, and that doesn’t amount to much. “With the *heart* man believeth unto righteousness.”

— *D. L. Moody.*

I PROFESS not talking : only this,
Let each man do his best. — *Shakespeare.*

WHOO does the best his circumstance allows,
Does well, acts nobly, — angels could do no more.

— *Young.*

THE keen spirit
Seizes the prompt occasion — makes the thought

Start into instant action, and at once
Plans and performs, resolves and executes.

— *Hannah More.*

ONE of Washington's most invaluable characteristics was the faculty of bringing order out of confusion. All business with which he had any concern seemed to regulate itself as if by magic. The influence of his mind was like light gleaming through an unshaped world.

— *Nathaniel Hawthorne.*

I PROPOSE to fight it out on this line if it takes
all summer. . . .

No other terms than unconditional and immediate surrender.

— *Ulysses S. Grant.*

LEAVING the past behind, asking no praise, pay, or reward, submitting ourselves to the grand law of the world, turning the way of faith and hope, giving ourselves to the nearest present duty, asking ourselves only what does right or truth or love bid, we thus enter into the joyful life of the children of God.

— *Charles F. Dole.*

IN matters of principle — stand like a rock.
In matters of taste — swim with the current.
— *Anon.*

OH, lift your natures up;
Embrace your aims; work out your freedom.

Knowledge is no more a fountain seal'd!
Drink deep, until the habits of the slave,
The sins of emptiness, gossip, and spite
And slander, die. Better not be at all,
Than not be noble.

— *Alfred Tennyson.*

I OWE my success in life to having always
been a quarter of an hour before my time.
— *Nelson.*

MY first word to all men and boys who care to
hear me is, Don't get into debt. Starve
and go to heaven, but don't borrow. Don't buy
things you can't pay for!

— *John Ruskin.*

FOR the conduct of life, habits are more important than maxims, because a habit is a maxim verified. To take a new set of maxims for one's

guide is no more than to change the title of a book ; but to change one's habits is to change one's life. Life is only a tissue of habits. — *Amiel.*

GOOD angels they who give us strength,
And prove our heart and brain ;
Success may come to us at length
Through hunger, want and pain.
— *Frank H. Sweet.*

SO by our leadings, be they good or bad,
We carve our moral likeness day by day.
— *George B. Griffith.*

THE secret of happiness is
Never to allow your energies to stagnate.
— *Adam Clarke.*

HAVE you missed in your aim ? Well, the mark
is still shining ;
Did you faint in the race ? Well, take breath for
the next ;
Did the clouds drive you back ? but see yonder
their lining.
Were you tempted and fell ? let it serve for a
text.

* * * * *

It is never too late to begin rebuilding,
Though all into ruins your life seems hurled.
For look! how the light of the New Year is gild-
ing
The worn, wan face of the bruised old world.

— *Ella Wheeler Wilcox.*

MY own hope is, a sun will pierce
The thickest cloud earth ever stretched; . . .

That what began best, can't end worst,
Nor what God blessed once, prove accurst.

— *Robert Browning.*

“**W**ASHINGTON'S first and greatest victory
was over himself.”

“**T**HE things of a man for which we visit him,”
says Emerson, “were done in the dark and
the cold.” Men look with envy upon the hero
with his “blushing honors thick upon him,” and
hailed by the plaudits of the multitude. They are
apt to forget that the deeds thus recognized and
rewarded were done “without a thought of fame,”
when, taking his life in his hand, he forgot himself
into immortality.

We are apt to lose sight of the fact, too, that, for years, these men went into training, so to speak, for the success that was eventually to be theirs. For years, Grant and Von Moltke, Farragut and Dewey, were comparatively obscure. But they learned patience when hope was long deferred. During a lifetime, as one may say, they were growing toward the final triumph that was in store. Thus they learned the lesson of persistency. They never quailed and never despaired. All unknown to themselves, they were preparing for the great future which awaited them. Thus, when the hour and the opportunity came, they were ready, and "walked up to fame as to a friend."

It is thus in every walk of life. Leadership, mastery, is no accident. It is ever the result of well-known laws. What one needs to cultivate, then, is a tenacity of purpose that will not quail, nor turn aside, — a courage that, in emergencies, dares to separate from the crowd, — that never recognizes defeat, and will not stay defeated.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

FOLKS that's afeared to fail are sure of failure.

— *James Russell Lowell.*

SELF you will find your greatest enemy ; and
self-conquest your greatest mission.

— *McKerree H. Chamberlin.*

HARD things are put in our way, not to stop
us, but to call out our courage and strength.

— *Anon.*

A TRUE life ever reaches upward and strives
toward better things. It leaves undone the
things that are not right or beautiful, the things
that are not essential, and gives all its energy to
the things that belong to the imperishable and
eternal life.

— *J. R. Miller.*

HASTEN slowly, and without losing heart, put
your work twenty times upon the anvil,

— *Boileau.*

HITCH your wagon to a star. Let us not fag
in paltry works. Let us not lie and steal.
No god will help. We shall find all their teams
going the other way. Work rather for those
interests which the divinities honor and promote,
— justice, love, freedom, knowledge, utility.

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

HE had not yet begun by the use of his will . . . to blend the conflicting elements of his nature into one. He was therefore a man much as the mass of flour and raisins, etc., when first put into the bag, is a plum pudding; and had to pass through something analogous to boiling to give him a chance of becoming worthy of the name he would have arrogated. — *George Macdonald.*

A MAN without decision can never be said to belong to himself. — *Foster.*

STICK-TO-IT-IVENESS in any given line, coupled with the thought "I *shall* succeed," make for success. First, if possible, find your niche in life. Look for the occupation you are fitted for, then *stick to it*. If, from uncontrollable circumstances, you are prevented from carrying out the scheme adapted to you, accept the *next best thing* with all cheerfulness, amiability, and tenacity of your makeup. Remembering that in the end, money, fame, and position do not hold the only place in what some count success. It is the untiring effort, and the development of personal character on right lines, that will bring you all that success implies. — *Emma Parker.*

IF you could once make up your mind, in the fear of God, never to undertake more work of any sort than you can carry out calmly; quietly, without hurry or flurry, and the instant you feel yourself nervous and like one out of breath would stop and take breath, you would find this simple, common-sense rule doing for you what no prayers or tears could ever accomplish. — *Elizabeth Prentiss.*

THE power of the will is sometimes sublime; and what it will for, if it cannot help us in emergencies. — *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

CHARACTER and choice go hand in hand. Where there is preference for good, there the thing done reacts upon the doer, fashions itself into a readiness, becomes a joy and a renovation of the whole nature. A grumbling, reluctant virtue has no formative effect. — *B. H. Alford.*

BUT try, I urge, the trying shall suffice,
The aim, if reached or not, makes great the
life. — *Robert Browning.*

ON the main floor of one of New York's largest department stores, a man was running back and forth, looking very much annoyed. After

watching him a moment, I saw the cause of his distress was his failure to catch an up-going elevator. Standing at the entrance to one, he saw another at the extreme end of the store, descending. Starting after it, he reached it just as it had started on the upward trip. Meanwhile, the first had come and gone. Continuing this running back and forth, he finally succeeded in boarding one, having wasted time and energy unnecessarily, and believing himself very much abused.

How typical is this of the lives of many of us — the secret of many failures !

If everything does not come our way at once in our chosen pursuit, we rush off to some other field, only to find it filled, or that we are not fitted for it ; while if we are only patient at the outset, Time's own elevator-man will open his gate and bear us up, stopping only to call out Fame, Fortune, Power, or whatever department in Life's great store we wish to enter.

— *Annie Partland.*

CHANCE is like an amberill,— it don't take twice to lose it.

— *J. R. Lowell.*

AND we must take the current when it serves,
Or lose our ventures.

— *Shakespeare.*

NOBLE souls, through dust and heat,
Rise from disaster and defeat
The stronger. — *Henry W. Longfellow.*

INSIST on yourself; never imitate. Your own gift you can present every moment with the cumulative force of a whole life's cultivation; but of the adopted talent of another, you have only an extemporaneous, half possession. That which each can do best, none but his Maker can teach him. Where is the master who could have taught Shakespeare? Where is the master who could have instructed Franklin, or Washington, or Bacon, or Newton? Every great man is unique. Do that which is assigned thee, and thou canst not hope too much or dare too much.

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

SELF-REVERENCE, self-knowledge, self-control,—

These three alone lead life to sovereign power.

— *Alfred Tennyson.*

“**A** MAN of grit carries in his very presence a power which controls and commands.”

— *Anon.*

“**MEN** who do things, who achieve results, have strong convictions ; they believe something in particular, and believe it without reservation. A man who is willing to fight for an idea, to sacrifice everything in order to develop it, has something definite in his life, a specific certainty that will bring him out somewhere in the neighborhood of success.

“A man without a policy, without a definite purpose, without a strong conviction of any kind, who believes a little of everything and not much of anything, who is willing upon pressure to relinquish his opinion on any subject, to abandon any idea he has conceived, whether it be feasible or not, who does not hold on to any one thing tenaciously, will never accomplish much in this world.”

CHARACTER in force — it is the vital energy of the individual, the motive power.

A well-known opinion tells us that there is more to be hoped from a man that failed, and yet went on in spite of his failure, than from the buoyant career of the successful.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

HOW many weak men there are — limp, flabby, molluscous, not vertebrate men, with backbone. Alas! that it should be so, for we need strong, robust men for the work and for the battle of the kingdom. Weak men may become strong if only they will trust and try. . . . In one of the East Indian wars the Bengal regiment was disgraced and their colors were taken from them. In the next fight Sir Charles Napier desired to offer the regiment an opportunity to retrieve itself, and riding to the head of the line, he said, “Men, your colors are on top of yonder hill!” The men answered with a shout and stormed and took the hill, and so their colors were restored. Our great Leader deals so with us. He says to each, “Your colors are on yonder hill.” There is nothing for us to do but to press on and up and conquer. “Be of good courage.” Froude says, “Half the vices in the world come of cowardice.” I believe it is true. . . . When they led Polycarp to martyrdom they were about to nail his hands to the stake, when the brave man said: “No; God has helped me to come to the fire, and He will give me patience to bear it!” And so he stood as if transfixed until the agony was over. — *Thomas S. Hastings.*

VICTORIES that are easy are cheap.

— *Henry Ward Beecher.*

THERE are three dangers in the path to success. The first is the drinking of liquor, the second is speculation, and the third is "indorsing." When I was telegraph operator in Pittsburg, I knew all the men who speculated. They were not our citizens of best repute; they were regarded with suspicion. I have lived to see all of them ruined, bankrupt in money and bankrupt in character. There is scarcely an instance of a man who has made a fortune in speculation and kept it. The third danger is the perilous habit of indorsing notes. When a man in debt indorses for another, it is not his own credit or his own capital that he risks; it is the money of his own creditors. Therefore I say that if you are ever called upon to indorse, never do it unless you have cash means not required for your own debts, and *never* indorse beyond your means. — *Andrew Carnegie.*

WE are very apt to measure ourselves by our aspiration instead of our performance. But in truth, the conduct of our lives is only the proof of the sincerity of our hearts. — *George Eliot.*

ESAU filled his life with regret for trifling one day; Esther's was full of glory for one day's courage. Peter slept one hour and lost a matchless opportunity; Mary's name is fragrant forever for the loving deed of a day. Do your best *now*.
— *Maltbie D. Babcock.*

NO one is striving after the best things who is not intent on an upward and a forward movement continually. The circular movement is essential too, — the going around and around in the old grooves, — routine work, daily tasks; yet even in this treadmill round, there should be constant progress. We ought to do the same things better every day.
— *J. R. Miller.*

BRING your will to your fate, and suit your mind to your circumstances. — *Marcus Aurelius.*

WHEN Daniel Webster was asked by a friend what was the greatest thought that had ever impressed his mind, the great man bent his heavy brows for a moment, and then replied, "The greatest thought that has ever impressed me is the thought of my personal responsibility to Almighty God."

I FEAR there are times coming, my lad, when every man must choose his side, and stand arrayed in his own colors. It is not for me to shape your way of thinking. Decide in your own mind what is right, and when you have so decided . . . know then that God is with you, and swerve not from thy course the width of this blade for any man.
— *Winston Churchill.*

LOVE — duty — the world ; in these three words lie all the human, all the divine, tragedy.
— *James Lane Allen.*

MAN is not the creature of circumstances.
Circumstances are the creatures of men.
— *Disraeli.*

HOPE, child, to-morrow hope, and then again to-morrow,
And then to-morrow still! Trust in a future day.
Hope, and each morn the skies new light from dawn shall borrow ;
As God is there to bless, let us be there to pray.
— *Victor Hugo.*

KEEP a brave spirit, and never despair ;
Hope brings you messages through the keen
air —

Good is victorious — God everywhere.

Grand are the battles which you have to fight,
Be not downhearted, but valiant for right ;
Hope, and press forward, your face to the light.

— *Anon.*

THE men whom I have seen succeed best in
life have always been cheerful and hopeful
men, who went about their business with a smile
on their faces, and took the changes and chances
of this mortal life like men, facing rough and
smooth alike as it came. — *Charles Kingsley.*

THE greatest work has always gone hand in
hand with the most fervent moral purpose.

— *Sidney Lanier.*

IN the first Psalm is shown the process by way
of which true Prosperity is attained : —

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the
counsel of the wicked,

Nor standeth in the way of sinners,

Nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
But his delight is in the law of the Lord ;
And in His law doth he meditate day and night.
And he shall be like a tree planted by the streams
 of water,
That bringeth forth its fruit in its season.
Whose leaf also doth not wither ;
And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”

MAN is not God, but hath God's end to
 serve,
A master to obey, a course to take,
Somewhat to cast off, somewhat to become.
Grant this, then man must pass from old to
 new,
From vain to real, from mistake to fact,
From what once seemed good to what now proves
 best.
How can man have progression otherwise ?

— *Robert Browning.*

THERE are two little words in our language
 which I always admire — “TRY” and
“TRUST.” You know not what you can or
cannot do until you try ; and if you make trial in
the exercise of trust in God, mountains of diffi-

culties will vanish as you approach them, and help will be given that you never expected.

— *Anon.*

LET a man begin in earnest with "I ought," he will end by God's grace, if he persevere, with the free blessedness of "I will."

— *F. W. Robertson.*

OH, square thyself for use; a stone that may fit in the wall, is left not in the way.

— *R. C. Trench.*

ENTHUSIASM is essential to the successful attainment of any high endeavor.

— *A. Bronson Alcott.*

UNLESS you convince my reason . . . I cannot, and I will not retract! For it is not safe for a man to go against his moral sense.

— *Martin Luther.*

WHAT grander sight is there than that of a stalwart man made irresistible by the things which have tried to down him,— a man who stands without wavering or trembling, with head

erect and heart undaunted, ready to face any difficulties, defying any cruelties of fate, laughing at obstacles because he has developed in his fight with them the superb strength of manhood and vigor of character which make him master?

No fate or destiny can stop such a man, — a man who is dominated by a mighty purpose.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

TRUE hope is based on the energy of character.

A strong mind always hopes, and has always cause to hope, because it knows the mutability of human affairs and how slight a circumstance may change the whole course of events. Such a spirit, too, rests upon itself; it is not confined to partial views or to one particular object. And if at last all should be lost, it has saved itself.

— *Von Knebel.*

LITTLE minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune; but great minds rise above it.

— *Washington Irving.*

WHAT'S gone, and what's past help
Should be past grief.

— *Shakespeare.*

MAKE this a day. There is no gain
In brooding over days to come ;
The message of to-day is plain,
The future lips are ever dumb. — *Anon.*

OH, well for him whose will is strong !
He suffers, but he will not suffer long ;
He suffers, but he cannot suffer wrong.
For him nor moves the loud world's random mock,
Nor all Calamity's hugest waves confound,
Who seems a promontory of rock,
That, compass'd round with turbulent sound,
In middle ocean meets the surging shock,
Tempest-buffeted, citadel-crown'd.

But ill for him who, bettering not with time,
Corrupts the strength of heaven-descended Will,
And ever weaker grows thro' acted crime,
Or seeming-genial venial fault,
Recurring and suggesting still !
He seems as one whose footsteps halt,
Toiling in immeasurable sand,
And o'er a weary sultry land,
Far beneath a blazing vault,
Sown in a wrinkle of the monstrous hill,
The city sparkles like a grain of salt.

115 — *Alfred Tennyson.*

OUR best friends are not those who make life easy for us ; our best friends are those who put courage, energy, and resolution into our hearts. . . . If you can wake up a young man, arouse his sleeping or undiscovered powers, so that he will win a fortune or do a brave thing with his own hands and brain, that is an infinitely better thing to do for him than if you were to give him a fortune as a present. Things are not possessions. Money and real estate and stocks and bonds are not real possessions in the hands of a man with a soul. They are entirely external to the man himself. Hence it is a greater kindness to incite another to open the hard rocks and thus find water for himself than it is to bring him the water which another has led down from the mountains.

— *J. R. Miller.*

SUFFERING overcomes the mind's inertia, develops the thinking powers, opens up a new world, and drives the soul to action.

— *Anthony D. Evans.*

NAY, never falter ; no great deed is done
By falterers who ask for certainty.
No good is certain but the steadfast mind,

The undivided will to seek the good ;
'Tis that compels the elements and wrings
A human music from the indifferent air.
The greatest gift the hero leaves his race
Is to have been a hero.

— *James Russell Lowell.*

WE all have to learn, in one way or another,
that neither men nor boys get *second* chances
in this world. We all get *new* chances till the end
of our lives, but not second chances in the same
set of circumstances ; and the great difference be-
tween one person and another is, how he takes hold
of and uses his first chance, and how he takes his
fall if it is scored against him.

— *Thomas Hughes.*

DO you say, “ But my will is weak and waver-
ing ! ” Train your will, then, till it becomes
steady and strong, and you will be surprised to
find how soon the *act* of willing develops the *power*
of willing.

— *W. J. Dawson.*

IT is only through labor and prayerful effort, by
grim energy and resolute courage, that we move
on to better things.

— *Theodore Roosevelt.*

“MY purpose was to make good in the town where I was born, — make good for myself and the folks ; and I did.”

In these few, simple words, John A. Johnson, the new governor of Minnesota, condenses the simple story of his life.

This young man, born in poverty, cradled in want, hemmed in on every hand by seemingly insurmountable obstacles, and without friends or opportunity for education or advancement of any sort, has added one more name to the glorious roll of American boys with “no chance” who have conquered adversity and risen to distinction. He has proved again that the world stands aside for a determined soul, and that success is in the *man*, not in the chance.

* * * * *

In spite of his desperate struggle with want, this boy never lost courage or self-reliance. He saw in the midst of it all a chance for a noble career. Where others saw only mediocrity or humdrum lives, he saw opportunity for great things. What did he care for obstacles? He felt that he was greater than anything which could get in his path.

He pushed ahead and “tried to make good.”

No responsibility frightened him. A chance was all he wanted. He did not wait for it ; he made it.
— *Orison Swett Marden.*

MEN at some time are masters of their fates :
The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,
But in ourselves. — *Shakespeare.*

WHO fails to strike when man's assailed,
For fear of selfish pain or loss ;
Who weakly cowers when Right is nailed
Upon the proud world's heavy cross ;
Who fails to speak the splendid word
Of bold defiance to a lie ;
Whose voice for Truth is faintly heard
When party passions mount on high —
That man's a coward ; and no deeds
Of valor done on fields of strife
Can prove his courage.
— *Hattie Tyng Griswold.*

STAND upright! speak thy thoughts! declare
The truth thou hast, that all may share!
Be bold! proclaim it everywhere!
They only live, who dare! — *Lewis Morris.*

NOTHING that is without a man can make him rich or restful. . . . That which we are makes us rich or poor; that which we own is a trifle.
— *Alexander Maclaren.*

A VIGOROUS will is a perpetual tonic.

PAY as little attention to discouragements as possible. Plough ahead as a steamer does, rough or smooth, rain or shine. To carry your cargo and make your port is the point.
— *Maltbie D. Babcock.*

THERE'S a divinity within, that makes men great whene'er they will it.
— *Gerald Massey.*

WHILE you are saying, "There is no chance for me," and "I can't," thousands of boys and girls in this country, with nothing like your opportunities, are tearing the words "impossible" and "I can't" out of their dictionaries. While you are thinking of the great things you would do if you only had a college education and a little money to start with, others much less favored by fortune are annihilating these obstacles and forging

ahead. Many of these poor boys and girls are not only starting without friends, money, influence, or any assistance whatever, but are, besides, heavily handicapped by others depending upon them, or by some physical deformity; yet they are defying the fates which you say are keeping you back.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

THE highest moral courage is born of the will and not of the organization.

— *George Macdonald.*

CARLYLE was once talking with a young friend, and asked him what his aim in life was. The young man replied that he had none. "Get one, then, and get it *quick*," said Carlyle, sharply. — Make something your specialty. Life is a very uncertain affair. Knowing a little about five hundred things won't do us much good. We must be able to do something well, that our work will be needed and valuable.

Get all the information you can in general, but choose some one thing, and make yourself as nearly perfect in that as possible.

— *Kate L. Gates.*

THERE'S place and means for every man alive.
— *Shakespeare.*

AND ah, for a man to arise in me,
That the man I am
May cease to be ! — *Alfred Tennyson.*

IF thou could'st in vision see
Thyself, the man God meant,
Thou nevermore would'st be
The man thou art, content. — *Anon.*

THE victory of the will is achieved when the
will of man relates itself to the will of God
and the two become one. — *Lilian Whiting.*

KNOWING ourselves, our world, our task so
great,
Our time so brief, 'tis clear if we refuse
The means so limited, the tools so rude
To execute our purpose, life will fleet,
And we shall fade, and leave our task undone.
— *Robert Browning.*

THE desire to begin over again is one of those
longings so common and universal that we
may say it is a native instinct . . . that we have

failed, and failed again and again, need not intimidate us for a new trial. Aspirations, imperfections, and failures are intimations of future achievements. Defeats foretell future successes. The sin to be dreaded is the unlit lamp and ungirt loin. Our light must be burning, however dimly, and we must keep on the right road, however often we stumble on the way. Under no circumstances can it be true that there is not something to be *done*, as well as something to be suffered. Let us sit down before the Lord and count our resources, and see what we are *not* fit for, and give up wishing for it. Let us decide honestly what we *can do*, and then do it with all our might.

— *Amelia D. Barr.*

O STAR of strength ! I see thee stand
And smile upon my pain ;
Thou beckonest with thy mailed hand,
And I am strong again.

* * * * *

The star of the unconquered will,
He rises in my breast,
Serene, and resolute, and still,
And calm, and self-possessed.

And thou, too, whosoe'er thou art,
That readest this brief psalm,
As one by one thy hopes depart,
Be resolute and calm.

O fear not in a world like this,
And thou shalt know ere long,
Know how sublime a thing it is
To suffer and be strong.

— *Henry W. Longfellow.*

HAVE a purpose, and do with your utmost
might ;
You will finish your work on the other side,
When you wake in His likeness, satisfied.

— *Anon.*

A HAPPY-MINDED woman came from the West to take her place in the van with the girl who works, — the girl with a purpose, — an ambition beyond society. That she was in earnest there could be no doubt.

She began with stenography ; she took a course in physical culture ; she studied the work of book-cover designing ; she even spent a week as a cloak model ; she tried to win success as an advertising

agent. In nothing could she achieve any success. Yet she worked hard and was encouraged and aided by friends. But she failed to *keep on* at any of the many branches she adopted.

It is not always possible to see the stars beckoning us. A philosophic woman has written, we must dig to find our star. But we must keep on — blindly, sometimes — through the darkness, with nothing but the keeping on itself in view. Worry not over environment or lack of the immediate success that may be your due. Waste no time over small regrets or failures or small achievements.

These things only prove that you are alive and in the battle, just as the singing of a bullet tells a soldier that he is in the field. But when the tired time comes to you, — the girl who works, — and you look out over untrodden fields where the daisies may glow alluringly and the star of success may perch low enough to reach without too much straining, — just stick to your purpose, whatever it may be. — *Orison Swett Marden.*

SET yourself earnestly to see what you were made to do, and then set yourself earnestly to do it. — *Phillips Brooks.*

BE strong!

We are not here to play, to dream, to drift;
We have hard work to do, and loads to lift;
Shun not the struggle — face it, 'tis God's gift.

— *Maltbie D. Babcock.*

ONCE to every man and nation comes the moment to decide,
In the strife of Truth with Falsehood, for the good
or evil side; . . .

Then to side with Truth is noble when we share
her wretched crust,

Ere her cause bring fame and profit, and 'tis prosperous
to be just;

Then it is the brave man chooses,
While the coward stands aside.

Doubting in his abject spirit, till his
Lord is crucified.

— *James Russell Lowell.*

ONE by one thy duties wait thee,
Let thy whole strength go to each,
Let no future dreams elate thee,

Learn thou first what these can teach.

— *Adelaide A. Procter.*

DIFFICULTIES are things that show what
men are. — *Epicetus.*

NO one can live your life for you. No one but
yourself can answer your questions, meet
your responsibilities, make your decisions and
choices. . . .

There are people who begin many noble things,
but soon weary of them and drop them out of
their hands.

Patient persistence through days and years is
the mark of true living. — *J. R. Miller.*

GOD give us men! A time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith, and
ready hands,

Men whom the lust of office does not kill ;

Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy ;

Men who possess opinions and a will ;

Men who have honor, — men who will not lie.

— *J. G. Holland.*

SOULS are built as temples are, —

Here a carving rich and quaint,

There the image of a saint. — *Anon.*

SUCCESS

IT does not come by wishing,
It does not come by prayer ;
But in the doing of thy task
Thy fate pursues thee fair.

Luck grants no blindfold favor —
No dreamy drone he crowns ;
But slow and sure persistence
He always greets and owns.

Success is not a blunder —
A blessing by mistake —
Complain not if you miss it,
It comes not for your sake.

Well, do your work and rest not,
Give, asking not again ;
The universe will widen
Unto your narrow ken.

Give love and life and labor,
And seek not but to bless.
Defeat and loss will teach you
Far more than mere success.

— *Luella Clark.*

A LIGHT heart lives long. — *Shakespeare.*

THEN let us smile when skies are gray,
And laugh at stormy weather !
And sing life's lonesome times away ;
So — worry and the dreariest day
Will find an end together ! — *Anon.*

“ **T**HERE is no need to worry. When God
shuts a door He opens a window.” A
world of sunshine and hope is epitomized in this
Italian proverb. To look out on the world with
eyes unclouded by shadows of fear or doubt or
worry ; to go forward in the spirit of love and trust,
never for an instant wavering in faith or hope ; to
resolve

“ Never to look behind me for an hour ;
To wait in weakness and to walk in power,
But always fronting forward to the light — ”

is to take a long step toward a happy and successful
life. To look back constantly on past mistakes
and failures is as destructive to the growth
of spiritual beauty and power, ay, and to the
development of material success, as it is to look
forward to ills that may never come. The people

who take a melancholy pleasure in recalling the fact that they "have seen better days," and in bemoaning present conditions, never see "better days" again. Their attitude of mind shuts them out from all possibility of happiness or prosperity.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

CEASE to lament for that thou canst not help,
And study help for that which thou lament'st,
Time is the nurse and breeder of all good.

— *Shakespeare.*

IT is a poor heart that never rejoices.

— *Charles Dickens.*

THE secret of success lies in the man and not in
the stuff he works on.

— *Bradford Torrey.*

LIFE is always difficult in proportion to its
intensity and reality.

— *Edward Howard Griggs.*

THE man who would lift others must be up-
lifted himself, and he who would command
others must learn to obey.

— *Charles K. Ober.*

I AM tired of hearing about self-made men.
There is not a self-made man in the world.
The so-called self-made man is the man who
has seized his God-given opportunities, and those
given him by circumstances, and has made use of
them. — *Lucius Tuttle.*

TO know a truth well, one must have fought it
out. — *Novalis.*

GOOD habits are not made on birthdays, nor
Christian character at the New Year. The
workshop of character is every-day life. The un-
eventful and commonplace hour is where the battle
is lost or won. — *Maltbie D. Babcock.*

THE man who is without a purpose is like a
ship without rudder or compass or course.
Over the foaming waste of the world's wide oceans
thousands of ships are passing, but not one without
a purpose. Hail them where you will, each will
tell you where it is going, what it is doing, why it
is afloat. Can you conceive such a thing upon the
high seas as a ship whose captain does not know
where he is going, who replies to your question of
"Whither bound?" — "I don't know"; who

carries a precious cargo he knows not whither ; who has no care to ascertain in what latitude he sails ; who has before him no vision of a harbor, no scheme of commerce or conquest ; and who gayly replies to your remonstrance, “ Oh, what does it matter ? I go where the winds and current take me ; it will be all the same in the end ” ? You would call that man a maniac. Yet that is a frequent spectacle upon the high seas of life.

— *W. J. Dawson.*

TRIALS, temptations, disappointments, — all these are helps instead of hindrances, if one uses them rightly. They not only test the fibre of character, but strengthen it. Every conquered temptation represents a new fund of moral energy. Every trial endured and weathered in the right spirit makes a soul nobler and stronger than it was before.

— *James Buckham.*

WHAT was he doing ? Waiting — that was all. He had done everything that lay in his power, and now there remained nothing but to sit quietly and helplessly between the gates and wait while the great events transpired beyond the reach of ear or hand. Ah ! but that is a thousand

times harder than action. What is more terrible than just waiting? We all reach a point where we can do no more, and then — we must just wait. Adopt the pace of nature; her secret is patience. “Upon the heat and flame of thy distemper sprinkle cool patience.” Are you sitting between the gates waiting? Do it with the dignity of a David. If the messenger is to bring you sorrow, receive it with submission.

— *Charles Frederic Goss.*

BE strong! be good! be pure!
The right only shall endure.

— *Henry W. Longfellow.*

IT is not enough for a man to build a ship so that it looks beautiful as it stands on the docks. What though a man build his vessel so trim and graceful that all admire it, if, when she comes to be launched, she is not fit for the sea, if she cannot stand stormy weather, if she is a slow sailer and a poor carrier, if she is liable to founder on the voyage? All her fine lines and grace and beauty are of no account if she fails there. It makes no difference how splendidly you build; so far as this world is concerned, your life is a failure unless you

build so that you can go out into the great future on the eternal sea of life. Death is not an end. It is a new impulse. — *Henry Ward Beecher.*

SO what is there to frown or smile at ?
What is left for us, save, in growth
Of soul, to rise up, far past both,
From the gift looking to the giver,
And from the cistern to the river,
And from the finite to infinity,
And from man's dust to God's divinity.

— *Robert Browning.*

THE world-conquerors are those who have been transformed by that of which they were convicted. Joan of Arc, by the magic of her inspiration, was transformed from the peasant maid to a divine warrior on a God-errand. Her conviction was irresistible.

A Jew boy becomes early persuaded of his power, and rises from the bended knee of the boot-black to a ruler in English politics and literature ! Hindrances indeed help ; they afford good ballast. Every advance is made through some sort of warfare ; over some sort of battle-field.

William Lloyd Garrison was mobbed and im-

prisoned in Boston for helping to free a black race from slavery.

Favoring things too generously strewn are disfavoring to a good development; it is the climb that puts on muscle. Anything worth having is never cheap. God has no bargain-counters for even his poor or weak. It hurts to fall down, but it strengthens us to pick ourselves up.

It is a great thing, greater than we have yet come to know, to be born with the stuff of the martyr in us. Edwin Markham says of Abraham Lincoln :

“ He held his place —

Held the long purpose like a growing tree —
Held on through blame and faltered not at praise.
And when he fell in whirlwind, he went down
As when a kingly cedar green with boughs
Goes down with a great shout upon the hills,
And leaves a lonesome place against the sky.”

— *Lida Hood Talbot.*

“ IF you can't be a sun, resolve not to be a cloud.”

ENTHUSIASM in life is the great generator of sunshine. Without a living interest in the busy world, and that sympathy of feeling which

connects us with every other living being, we cannot infuse any warmth into our manners, or bring others into sympathy with us. Helen Keller, whose sunshiny soul is as sensitive to impressions as a delicate flower is to atmosphere, in her "Story of My Life," writes: "The touch of some hands is an impertinence, while that of another is like a benediction. I have met people so empty of joy that, when I clasped their frosty finger-tips, it seemed as if I were shaking hands with a north-east storm. Others there are whose hands have sunbeams in them so that their grasp warms my heart."

It is as natural for us to be attracted toward sunshiny natures as it is for flowers to turn toward the sun. In spite of a life of almost constant illness, Robert Louis Stevenson charmed all who came under his influence by his spontaneous cheerfulness and absolute freedom from all shadow of bitterness or repining. He found the keynote of each day in this simple prayer, born of his own inspiration: "The day returns and brings us the petty round of irritating concerns and duties. Help us to play the man, help us to perform them with laughter and kind faces, let cheerfulness

abound with industry. Give us to go blithely on our business all this day, bring us to our resting-beds weary and content and undishonored; and grant us in the end the gift of sleep."

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

I CANNOT, yet I can.

This is the strength of man,
Balked hope is not defeat;
Retiring, not retreat
We find the higher way
And victory comes with day.

— *Anon.*

NO endeavor is in vain;

Its reward is in the doing,
And the rapture of pursuing
Is the prize of vanquished gain.

— *Henry W. Longfellow.*

IT'S faith *in* something and enthusiasm *for* something that makes life worth living.

— *O. W. Holmes.*

LET us have faith that right makes might, and let us dare to do our duty as we understand it.

— *Abraham Lincoln.*

GOD looks with approval and man turns with gratitude to every one who shows by a cheerful life that religion is a blessing for this world and the next.

— *Henry van Dyke.*

MEN seldom mount at a single bound
To the ladder's very top ;
They must slowly climb it round by round,
With many a start and stop.
And the winner is sure to be the man
Who labors day by day,
For the world has found that the safest plan
Is to keep on pegging away. . . .

And so, though skies may frown or smile,
Be diligent day by day ;
Reward shall greet you after a while
If you just keep pegging away.

— *Nixon Waterman.*

HALF the battle is in meeting the day with a determination to make the best of things, to put yesterday's mistakes and worries in the background—and to start the new day with a brave heart.

— *Beatrice Fairfax.*

THREE things are given man to do —
To dare, to labor and to grow :
Not otherwise from earth we came,
Nor otherwise our way we go.

— *Bliss Carman.*

ERASE “cannot” from your dictionary. You can never tell what you can do till you have tried. Trial develops power as well as tests it. The idle mill-pond can do nothing for the mill; but when it gets into the mill-race it drives the great water-wheel without difficulty. Have faith in yourself because you have faith in God; take what work he gives you; believe that you can succeed; be willing to fail, if he wills to give you the discipline of failure.

— *Lyman Abbott.*

WE often fail, by searching far and wide
For what lies close at hand. To serve our
turn

We ask fair wind and favorable tide.
From the dead Danish sculptor let us learn
To make occasion, not to be denied.
Against the sheer, precipitous mountain side
Thorwaldsen carved his Lion at Lucerne.

— *T. B. Aldrich.*

WE might watch the sun at its rising ; we might study it at its setting, but then we don't. We *might* do a great many things, but then, — we don't. — “*Elizabeth Eliza Peterkins.*”

THERE'S folks u'd hold a sieve under the pump and expect to carry away the water. — *George Eliot.*

'TIS a bad sign when folks wears out their best clothes faster'n they do their every-day ones. — *S. O. Jewett.*

HAVE a *purpose*. A worthy purpose will speedily free the mind and spirit of the mumps and measles, dyspepsia, and languor. — *P. S. Boyd.*

I NEVER had any faith in luck at all, except that I believe good luck will carry a man over a ditch if he jumps well, and will put a bit of bacon into his pot if he looks after his garden and keeps a pig ; and my notion is, it taps once in a lifetime at everybody's door, but if industry does not open it, away it goes. — *C. H. Spurgeon.*

IT will not hurt you to believe in luck as long as you do not rely upon it. If a belief in good luck will make you optimistic, cheerful, and aggressive, cling to it, but do not forget to dig while you cling. If you cannot both hold on and dig, turn loose and dig with both hands. You would better keep hustling with your heart full of pessimism and discouragement, than to sit supine with your soul full of optimism and cheerfulness. It is permissible to believe in luck, but it is fatal to depend upon it. Luck, the optimist, lends hope to persevering Pluck, and working together they constitute an invincible team, but Pluck must do all the work and be satisfied to let Luck travel on a pass. Believe in yourself and your good fortune. Do not permit the unkind fates to shake your self-confidence; but keep busy while you believe, and hustle while you hope. — *Spare Moments.*

DO not be a coward at the thought of failure. His is the worst defeat who, to escape failure, accepts failure without trying.

— *Abram H. Harris.*

THE strength of will is the test of a young man's possibilities.

Scarcely anything seems impossible to the man who can will strongly enough and long enough.

The chances are that what you call "hard luck," or "fate" that is against you, is some weakness, some vicious habit, which is counter-acting all your efforts and keeping you down.

There is a divinity in the meanest man, a philanthropist in the stingiest miser, a hero in the biggest coward, which an emergency great enough will call out. — *Orison Swett Marden.*

ALL true, whole men succeed, for what is worth
Success's name, unless it be the thought,
The inward surety, to have carried out
A noble purpose to a noble end?

— *James Russell Lowell.*

FIND your purpose and fling your life out to it ;
and the loftier your purpose is, the more sure
you will be to make the world richer with every
enrichment of yourself. — *Phillips Brooks.*

IF you do not wish for His kingdom, don't pray
for it ; but if you do, you must do more than
pray, you must work. — *John Ruskin.*

I EXPECT to meet with some difficulties and trials, yet I count it all joy, not only to believe in Christ, but also to suffer in his name.

—*Joseph Neesima.*

“**I**T is not to taste sweet things,” says Carlyle, “but to do noble and true things, and vindicate himself under God’s heaven, as a God-made man, that the poorest son of Adam dimly longs.” This dim longing for what is noble and true, the still small voice which calls to one imperatively in moments of temptation, is the safeguard which, if hearkened to, not only protects one in severe trials of manliness or womanliness, but also incites to the formation of a fine character, without which all acquisitions, all graces and accomplishments, all talents and all learning are but as “sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal.” —*Orison Swett Marden.*

LIFE every man holds dear; but the brave
man

Holds honor far more precious — dearer than life.

—*Shakespeare.*

FAILURES are with heroic minds the stepping-
stones to success.

—*Haliburton.*

THERE is salvation in every hindrance.

Men *must* climb; . . . and the higher men climb the more they see, heartened by each discovery.

— *J. T. Nettleship.*

TO help the young soul, add energy, inspire hope, and blow the coals into a useful flame; to redeem defeat by new thought, by firm action, that is not easy, that is the work of divine men.

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

BUT victory, unless gained in a certain spirit, (is) no victory; defeat, sustained in a certain spirit, (is) itself victory.

— *Thomas Carlyle.*

THERE is only one real failure in life possible; and that is, not to be true to the best one knows.

— *Canon Farrar.*

RELIGION is not something that is fastened upon the outside of life, but is the awakening of the truth inside of life.

— *Phillips Brooks.*

DO not think for a moment that to be a Christian means a melting away of all manliness. Far from it. The Christian ought to be the very highest type of man, and whilst we would emulate

all the gentleness, all the love, and all the forbearance of our blessed Saviour, we would also breathe this prayer to Him, and say : " With Thy gentleness give me Thy greatness ; and with Thy long-suffering give me Thy holy impetuosity for the Father's glory ; and with all Thy meekness give me Thy boundless spirit of determined purpose ! May I steadfastly set my face towards the path of duty marked out for me, to whatever it may lead."

— *Archibald G. Brown.*

FIND your niche and fill it. Do something in the great battle for God and truth.

— *Charles H. Spurgeon.*

LET us not be afraid of those noble failures out of which have come all the great triumphs of the world.

— *John Hunter.*

IN the kingdom of Christ there will be an aristocracy, but it will be nobility of service ; there will be superiority, but it will be priority of humility.

— *Charles Edward Locke.*

ONLY those who do something for the world have a right to wear its crowns.

— *Wentworth F. Stewart.*

IT is in one sense a small thing to do little things without orders, but it is the doing of them that makes great captains, great engineers, great artists, great architects, great workers in any department.

—*Charles M. Sheldon.*

BE true to thyself, and all things shall be true about thee.

—*Sylvester Fudd.*

IAM quite clear that one of our worst failures is at the point where, having resolved like angels, we drop back into the old matter-of-fact life, and do just what we did before, because we have always done it, and because everybody does it, and because our fathers and mothers did it; all of which may be the very reason why we should not do it. There is no station of life, and no place of one's home, where, if he wants to enlarge his life in caring for people outside himself, he may not start on a career of enlargement which shall extend indefinitely. And the man who enters upon infinite purposes lives the infinite life.

—*Phillips Brooks.*

A DIVIDED heart is the secret of most wrecks in life. Men are unwilling to make a square and definite choice that means a rejection of the

world as well as a surrender to God. Our business in the world is to help, to serve, to uplift, and to make the world around us better because we have lived. The test is, what have we done for our fellow-men? "He who hears these words of mine," says Jesus, "and *lives* them out in his daily life, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house upon a rock." — *E. A. King.*

OLIVER GOLDSMITH, whose path of life was by no means a smooth one, remarked that our greatest glory consists, not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

True it is that the best men are moulded out of faults, and the men who achieve come up out of the great tribulations of many defeats. A great poet once said, that "it is not what man does that exalts him, but what he would do; the aim, if reached or not, makes great the life."

— *Epworth Herald.*

AND if you fall — why, arise again! Get up, and go on: you may be sorely bruised and soiled with your fall, but is that any reason for lying still, and giving up the struggle cowardly?

— *Charles Kingsley.*

BBETTER the chance of a shipwreck on a voyage of high purpose, than expend life in paddling hither and thither on a shallow stream to no purpose at all. — *Miss Sedgwick.*

YOUTH is the only time
To think and decide on a great course ;
Manhood with action follows ; but it's dreary
To have to alter our whole life image —
The time past, the strength gone.
— *Robert Browning.*

LIFE'S a reckoning we cannot make twice over.
You cannot mend a wrong subtraction by
doing your addition right. — *George Eliot.*

IS there anything so wretched as to look at a man
of fine abilities doing nothing ? — *Chapin.*

THE highest sphere of action is within. The little Corsican Emperor of the French could win great victories on the battle-field, but he could not overcome the horribly selfish ambitions, hungrily eating the heart out of his human spirit. The man of Tarsus and Antioch had as intense an

ambition, as great a grasp, and as strong a will, but his chief ambition was to be well-pleasing to his Master; his grasp was upon his own nature to bring it into subjection, and his will drove him over the world, that all men might know the same blessed self-mastery through Jesus. The greatest ambition is not knowledge nor possession, nor notable achievement, but it is the *being* pure, and strong, and gentle; that is to say, being Christly.

— *S. D. Gordon.*

IT takes a soul

To move a body: it takes a high-souled man
To move the masses, even to a cleaner sty:
It takes the ideal to blow a hair's breadth off
The dust of the actual.

— *Elizabeth Barrett Browning.*

HOWEVER strong and skilled art thou, my foe,
However fierce is thy relentless hate;
Though firm thy hand, and sure thy aim, and
straight

Thy poisoned arrows leave the bended bow
To pierce the target of my heart, — ah! know

I am the master yet of my own fate.
Thou canst not rob me of my chief estate,

Though fortune, fame, and friends, yea, love,
shall go ;
Not to the dust shall my true self be hurled,
Nor shall I meet thy worst assaults dismayed.
When all things in the balance are well weighed,
There is but one great danger in the world.
Thou canst not force my soul to wish thee ill —
There only lies the evil that can kill. — *Anon.*

THE man of principle gets never a holiday.
Our true character silently underlies all our
words and actions, as the granite underlies the other
strata. Its steady pulse does not cease for any
deed of ours, as the sap is still ascending in the
stalk of the fairest flowers. — *Henry Thoreau.*

AN upright life is the best argument against
severe criticism. — *Epworth Herald.*

UNDERSTAND this first, last, and always :
The world wants the best thing,
It wants *your* best. — *Frances Willard.*

WE can read poetry, and recite poetry, but to
live poetry — is the symphony of life.
— *S. Frances Foote.*

WHATEVER you undertake to do, realize that
the Infinite is with you ; therefore you can-
not fail. — *L. May Dean.*

THERE is no summit you may not attain,
No purpose which you may not yet achieve,
If you will wait serenely, and believe,
Each seeming loss is but a step toward gain.
Between the mountain tops lie vale and plain ;
Let nothing make you question, doubt, or grieve ;
Give only good, and good alone receive ;
As you welcome joy, so welcome pain.
— *Ella Wheeler Wilcox.*

IN all God's diadem
No star shines brighter than the kingly man,
Who nobly earns whatever crown he wears,
Who grandly conquers, or as grandly dies ;
And the white banner of his manhood bears
Through all the years uplifted to the skies.
— *Julia C. R. Dorr.*

MAN is his own star ; and the soul that can
Render an honest and a perfect man,
Commands all light, all influence, all fate ;
Nothing to him falls early or too late.

Our acts our angels are ; or good or ill,
Our fatal shadows that walk by us still.

— *Beaumont and Fletcher.*

GREATLY begin ! though thou have time
But for a line, be that sublime ;
Not failure, but low aim, is crime.

— *James Russell Lowell.*

IT would be an unspeakable advantage if men
would consider the great truth that no man is
wise or safe but him that is *honest*.

— *Walter Raleigh.*

DO something ; do it soon— with all thy might.

— *Carlos Wilcox.*

MMORAL courage is nothing in the world but
just the capacity for doing what we know
we ought to do. Give that to every man, and
only think with what a stir of eager and vivacious
interest this dull world in which we are living
would wake and start !

— *Phillips Brooks.*

THERE is no royal road to the temple of
melody, where St. Cecilia dwells. There is
no short cut to the temple of the beautiful, where

Apollo reigns as lord of the arts of color, form, and music. The eager aspirant for eloquence, or wealth, or wisdom, begins a long, long way from the excellence that crowns one's life-work. Every morning Mother Nature whispers to the youth, "Strive, struggle." Every night her last message is, "Sleep to waken again to new struggles, wrestlings, and achievements." In the realms of conscience and character man must work out his own salvation through ceaseless struggling, toiling long, hard, and patiently. And just in proportion as he goes toward excellence does the work become difficult.

— *Newell Dwight Hillis.*

RIGHTEOUSNESS is a creation of will. Holding one's self to the resolute purpose of prompt and unflinching execution of plans formed, the will rises naturally and easily to all the demands made upon it.

— *Lewis Ransom Fiske.*

A HEART unspotted is not easily daunted. . . . Our remedies oft in ourselves do lie, Which we ascribe to *Heaven.*

— *Shakespeare.*

HE had not advanced one step,—not one. The same dreams, the same longings, the same aspirations, the same indecisions. A thousand

things had been planned, and none completed. . . .
From that hour forth he resolved that he would
no longer veer with every shifting wind of circum-
stance,—no longer be a child's plaything in the
hands of Fate, which we ourselves do make or
mar.
— *Henry W. Longfellow.*

USE all your hidden forces. Do not miss
The purpose of this life, and do not wait
For circumstances to mould or change your fate,
In your own self lies destiny.
— *Ella Wheeler Wilcox.*

TO be always intending to lead a new life, but
never to find time to set about it; this is as
if a man should put off eating and drinking and
sleeping from one day and night to another, till he
is starved and destroyed.
— *Tillotson.*

REMEMBER that if the opportunities for
great deeds should never come, the opportu-
nity for good deeds is renewed day by day. The
thing for us to long for is the goodness, not the
glory.
— *F. W. Faber.*

ALAS! men doubt, they lack faith and will and persistence. One thought borne upward, one prayer uplifted, one Word within us, and our souls are forever changed. — *Honoré de Balzac.*

LET each endeavor to grow, to grow according to the law of our own being; to be ourselves and no one else, to be our best selves and so find out our own strength and weakness.

To be true to ourselves; to be faithful to the light God gives us; not to be moulded by fashion, but to stand on one's own feet, this gives every one some strength, some power to do good.

— *James Freeman Clarke.*

OTHERS are affected by what I am, and say, and do. And these others have also their sphere of influence. So that a single act of mine may spread in widening circles through a nation, or humanity.

— *William E. Channing.*

THE first lesson of life is to burn our own smoke; that is, not to inflict on outsiders our personal sorrows and petty morbidness, not to keep thinking of ourselves as exceptional cases.

— *James Russell Lowell.*

NEX' week is gin'ully gwine to be mighty busy
time. — *J. A. Maccon.*

A CHARACTER in "The Little Minister" said he was going to cut down a certain tree which was in his way, but he kept postponing it. The tree widened and grew tall. The man aged, and still the tree stood. "I grew old looking for an axe," he said. We all know people who are all their lives announcing that they are going to do a certain thing, but they never get at it. They are always waiting for an axe, waiting for the most favorable opportunity, for just the right tools.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

DELAY leads to impotent and snail-paced beggary. — *Shakespeare.*

AT thirty, man suspects himself a fool.
Knows it at forty, and reforms his plan ;
At fifty chides his infamous delay,
Pushes his prudent purpose to resolve,
In all the magnanimity of thought ;
Resolves, and re-resolves, then dies the same.
And why? because he thinks himself immortal.
All men think all men mortal but themselves.

— *Shakespeare.*

BE wise to-day, 'tis madness to defer ;
Next day the fatal precedent will plead ;
Thus on till wisdom is pushed out of life.

— *Young.*

TH**E**R**E** is nothing so really practical as the truly ideal. Ideal does not mean visionary in the weak sense. It means aiming high ; no, it means aiming highest. It is reaching, stretching up. It is dissatisfied with anything a whit less than the highest level. Its favorite motto is, "Forgetting, I press forward." Forgetting the things behind, *I press toward the mark.* The ideal man is he who has a vision of the mountain top, and is sweetly, earnestly, untiringly, unflinchingly making every bit of strength and time and every circumstance bend toward reaching it, and who resolutely pushes aside everything that would hinder and not help.

— *S. D Gordon.*

EV**E**R**E**Y man has at times in his mind the ideal of what he should be, but is not. This ideal may be high and complete, or it may be quite low and insufficient, yet in all men that really seek to improve, it is better than the actual character.

Man never falls so low that he can see nothing higher than himself. — *Theodore Parker.*

AN element of weakness in much of our resolving is, that we try to grasp too much of life at a time. We think of it as a whole, instead of taking the days one by one. Life is a mosaic, and each tiny piece must be cut and set with skill.

— *Anon.*

YOUNG men are to remember that their truest wealth is lying, doubtless, at their very feet, awaiting only the stalwart arm and dauntless will to seek and find. In themselves and in the homely surroundings of to-day lie hid the treasures for which, elsewhere, they shall seek in vain. The annals of successful careers everywhere emphasize this truth, and the lesson of Longfellow's "Gaspar Becerra," — *that is best which lieth nearest,* — is verified again and again.

Refreshing as an oasis or a gushing fountain in a dreary desert is the sight of a man in this money-mad age for whom the glitter of gold has no attraction. Such a one is John Burroughs, that great soul who lives near the heart of Nature, who draws

sweetness and strength from communion with her, whose daily life is rich beyond the wildest dream of the millionaire. — *Orison Swett Marden.*

and comforted by the very existence of that goodness. — *Phillips Brooks.*

THE brave, blind, dauntless Helen Keller speaks thus: —

~~of those who make the~~

WHY do we worry about the years
That our feet have not yet trod?
Who labors with courage and trust, nor fears,
Has fellowship with God.

— *Sarah K. Bolton.*

“**T**HE path of duty leads to the castle of happiness.”

KEEP an eye on your weak points, and see that they are strengthened daily. Have the reënforcements ready for the attack. Deal with your infirmity honestly, as in the sight of God, for “a man’s character is formed by the way he deals with his weaknesses.”

— *Epworth Herald.*

I COUNT life just a stuff
To try the soul's strength on. Educe the man.
— *Robert Browning.*

GOING ON in much of our resolving
is, that we try to grasp too much of life at a
time. We think of it as a whole, instead of tak-
ing the days one by one. Life is a mosaic, and
each tiny piece must be cut and set with skill.

— *Anon.*
desire to solve its mysteries, we should be happier.
If we put more into it, we should get more out
of it.
— *Epworth Herald.*

THE tendency to persevere, to persist in spite
of hindrances, discouragements, and impossi-
bilities — it is this that in all things distinguishes
the strong soul from the weak.
— *Thomas Carlyle.*

NO great characters are formed in this world
without suffering and self-denial.
— *Matthew Henry.*

IT is the lives, like the stars, which simply pour
down on us the calm light of their bright and
faithful being, up to which we look, and out of

which we gather the deepest calm and courage. No man or woman of the humblest sort can really be strong, gentle, pure, and good without the world being better for it, without somebody being helped and comforted by the very existence of that goodness.

— *Phillips Brooks.*

THE brave, blind, dauntless Helen Keller speaks thus: —

“Join the great company of those who make the barren places of life fruitful with kindness. Carry a vision of heaven in your hearts, and you shall make your home, your college, the world, correspond to that vision. Your success and happiness lie in you. External conditions are the accidents of life, its outer trappings. The great, enduring realities are love and service. Joy is the holy fire that keeps our purpose warm and our intelligence aglow. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulty.”

THE heart must be beaten or bruised, and then the sweet scent will come out.

— *John Bunyan.*

THE every-day cares and duties, which men call drudgery, are the weights and counterpoises of the clock of time, giving its pendulum a true vibration, and its hands a regular motion.

— *Henry W. Longfellow.*

IT is not easy to be cheerful when everything one undertakes seems to go wrong, especially after one has done his very best. When the business enterprise that looked so promising ends in disaster; when your plans for going to college—plans which it has taken years of toil and sacrifice to carry to the point of success—are suddenly overturned by some unforeseen occurrence—these, or any of the thousand and one disappointments, great and small, which come to the most sheltered lives, to the greatest of fortune's favorites, are trials to one's soul. But what of that? Are we to sit down and weep and wail and bemoan our hard luck because things go wrong? That is the easiest thing to do, to be sure. The ignoble thing usually seems easier to do than the noble thing. But what of the results? If you rise superior to your disappointment, whatever it may be, you are

adding a hundred per cent to your power to conquer future difficulties.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

FAILURE after long perseverance is much grander than never to have a striving good enough to be called a failure.

— *George Eliot.*

WHEN Fate her gloomy mantle spreads
O'er future prospects bright,
'Tis then I feel like one who dreads
The ocean gale at night.
But with one ray of light to shine,
My drooping heart to cheer,
With Faith, that always brings success,
I'll hope and persevere.

— *Wesley K. Burr.*

FAINT not, despair not! As a child may ask
A father, pray the Everlasting Good
For light and guidance midst the subtle snares
Of sin thick-planted in life's thoroughfares,
For spiritual strength and moral hardihood!

— *Anon.*

BE strong, O heart of mine,
Look toward the light.

— *Adelaide A. Procter.*

GRAND opportunities come only now and then. A workman may “show off” for an hour, but it is not so easy to stick steadily at work all day long. Besides, it is the constancy in trifles which in the long run tells. Repeated blows of a little hammer may be more effective than the single downfall of the ponderous sledge. The clock strikes at intervals, the ticking is momentary. We hear the one; we do not notice the other. Yet the hour stroke comes not if the ticking fails. Life is made up of the constant, quietly passing moments, not of the sudden strokes.

— *Gerard F. B. Hallock.*

BLIND enthusiasm, absorption in one idea, I grant is generally ridiculous, and must be fatal to the respectability of an ordinary man; it requires a very high and powerful character to make it otherwise. But a great man attains his normal condition only through the inspiration of one great idea.

— *Nathaniel Hawthorne.*

ANY life that is worth living for must be a struggle, a swimming not with, but against, the stream. — *Dean Stanley.*

THERE is only one real failure in life possible, and that is not to be true to the best one knows. — *George Eliot.*

THERE is no time so miserable but a man may be true. — *Shakespeare.*

GLORIOUS it is to wear the crown
Of a deserved and pure success;
He who knows how to fail, has won
A crown whose lustre is not less.
— *Adelaide A. Procter.*

THE man who is determined to keep others fast and firm, must have one end of the bond about his own breast, sleeping and waking. — *W. S. Landor.*

NOT in our stars, but in ourselves, not in the world, but in the man, the trouble lies, not in the world, but in *you.* — *Phillips Brooks.*

AND he who waits to have his task marked out,
Shall die and leave his errand unfulfilled.

— *James Russell Lowell.*

SIT not blindfold, soul, and sigh
For the immortal by and by!
Dreamer, seek not heaven afar
On the shores of some strange star!
This a star is — this thine earth!
Of God's sacred life in thee,
Heir of immortality.

— *Edward Mortimer.*

A MAN must stand erect, not be kept erect by
others.

— *Marcus Aurelius.*

THE miserable have no other medicine,
But only hope.

— *Shakespeare.*

WE do not understand the *next* page of God's
lesson book, we see only the one before
us; nor shall we be allowed — it is indeed impossi-
ble we should do it — to turn the leaf until we
have learned the lesson of that before us.

— *George Macdonald.*

LET us be of good cheer, however, remembering that the misfortunes hardest to bear are those which never come.

— *Oliver Wendell Holmes.*

JUST as there comes a warm sunbeam into every cottage window, so comes a love beam of God's care and pity for every separate need.

— *Nathaniel Hawthorne.*

GOD hides some ideal in every human soul. At some time in our life we feel a trembling, fearful longing to do some good thing. Life finds its noblest spring of excellence in this hidden impulse to do our best.

— *Robert Collyer.*

MEN who postpone their visions, who postpone the execution of their ideas, who bottle up their thoughts, to be used at a more convenient time, are always weaklings. *The forceful, vigorous, effective men are those who execute their ideas while they are full of the enthusiasm of inspiration.*

Our ideas, our visions, our resolutions, come to us fresh every day, because this is the divine pro-

gramme for the day, not for to-morrow. Another inspiration, new ideas will come to-morrow. *To-day we should carry out the vision of the day.*

When the awakening power of a new purpose, a resolute aim is born in a man, he is a new creature. He sees everything in a new light; the doubts, the fears, the apathy, the vicious temptations which dogged his steps but yesterday, the stagnation which had blighted his past life, all vanish as if by magic. They are dispelled by the breath of a new purpose. Beauty and system take the place of unsightliness and confusion. Order reigns in the place of anarchy. All his slumbering faculties awaken to activity. The effect of this new ambition is like the clarifying change made by a waterway in a stagnant, swampy district. The water clarifies as soon as it begins to move, to do something; flowers spring up in place of poisonous weeds, and vegetation, beauty, birds, and song make joyous the once miasmatic atmosphere.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

AMONG some skaters was a boy so small and so evidently a beginner that his frequent mishaps awakened the pity of a tender-hearted, if not

wise, spectator. "Why, sonny, you are getting all bumped up," she said. "I wouldn't stay on the ice and keep falling down so; I'd just come off and watch the others." The tears of the last downfall were still rolling over the rosy cheeks, but the child looked from his adviser to the shining steel on his feet, and answered, half indignantly, "I didn't get some new skates to give up with; I got 'em to learn how with." The whole philosophy of earthly discipline was in the reply. Life's hard tasks are never sent for us "to give up with"; they are always intended to awaken strength, skill, and courage in learning how to master them.

— *Forward.*

THE "luck" that I believe in
Is that which comes with work;
And no one ever finds it
Who's content to wish and shirk.
The men the world calls "lucky"
Will tell you, every one,
That success comes not with wishing,
But by hard work, bravely done.

— *Eben E. Rexford.*

SOME of the greatest men in history never discovered themselves until they lost everything but their pluck and grit, or until some great misfortune overtook them and they were driven by desperation to invent a way out of their dilemma.

The stalwarts, the men of iron, of stamina and grit, are self-made. They are giants because they have been great conquerors of difficulties, supreme masters of difficult situations. They have acquired the strength which they have overcome.

Many of our giant business men never got a glimpse of their real power until some great panic or misfortune swept their property away and knocked the crutches out from under them. Many men and women have never discovered their ability until everything they thought would help them to success had been taken away from them; until they had been stripped of everything that they held dear in life. Our greatest power, our highest possibility, lies so deep in our natures, that it often takes a tremendous emergency, a powerful crisis, to call it out.

It is only when we feel that all bridges behind us are burned, all retreat cut off, and that we have no outside aid to lean upon, that we discover our

full inherent power. As long as we get outside help, we never know our own resources. How many young men and young women owe their success to some great misfortune which cut off a competence,— the death of a relative, the loss of business or home, or some other great calamity, which threw them on to their own resources and compelled them to fight for themselves!

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

IN the school of life many branches of knowledge are taught.

But the only philosophy that amounts to anything, after all, is just the secret of making friends with our luck.

— *Henry van Dyke.*

CONTENTED speckled hens, industriously scratching for the rarely found corn, may sometimes do more for a sick heart than a grove of nightingales.

— *George Eliot.*

WONDROUS is the strength of cheerfulness.

— *Thomas Carlyle.*

AY, if yo do but live long enoof, yo get past t' bad bits o' t' road.

— *Mrs. Humphry Ward.*

I KNOW an old man who has had a great deal of trouble and many losses and misfortunes ; but he started out in life with a firm determination to extract just as much real enjoyment from it, as he went along, as possible — not in dissipation, but in wholesome recreation and fun. He has always tried to see the humorous side of things, the bright side, and the duty of happiness.

The result is that, although this man has had more than his share of sorrow in his career, he has developed the inestimable faculty of making the best of every situation, and of always facing the sun and turning his back to the shadows. This life-habit of cheerfulness and optimism has brought out a sweetness of character and a poise and serenity of mind which are the envy of all who know him. Although he has lost his property and the most of his family and relatives, yet he radiates sunshine and helpfulness wherever he goes.

A man who can laugh outside when he is crying inside, who can smile when he feels badly, has a great accomplishment. We all love the one who believes the sun shines when he cannot see it.

A potted rose in a window will turn its face

away from the darkness toward the light. Turn it as often as you will, it always turns away from the darkness and lifts its face upward toward the sun.

So we instinctively shrink from cold, melancholy, inky natures, and turn our faces toward the bright, the cheerful, and the sunshiny. There is more virtue in one sunbeam than in a whole atmosphere of cloud and gloom.

As the Gulf Stream leaves a warm, soft climate in its wake as it flows through the colder waters of the ocean on its way from the Gulf to the North Pole, so a happy, joyous, sunshiny nature leaves a warm trail of sunshine wherever it goes through the cold, practical, selfish world.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

HE that lives well in the world is better than he who lives well in a monastery.

— *Dr. Samuel Johnson.*

A FIRM resolution can make realities out of possibilities.

— *Napoleon.*

SOME people have not the moral courage, the persistence, the force of character to get the things out of the way which stand between them

and their ambition. They allow themselves to be pushed this way and that way into things for which they have no fitness or taste. Their will power is not strong enough to enable them to fight their way to their goal. They are pushed aside by the pressure about them, and do the things for which they have little or no liking or adaptation.

If there is anything in the world a person should fight for, it is freedom to pursue his ideal, because in that is his great opportunity for self-expression, for the unfoldment of the greatest thing possible to him. It is his great chance to make his life tell in the largest, completest way, to do the most original, distinctive thing possible to him.

If he does not pursue his ideal, does not carry out his supreme aim, his life will be more or less of a failure, no matter how much he may be actuated by a sense of duty, or how much he may exert his will power to overcome his handicap.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

FOLLOW the Light, and do the right— for
man can half control his doom —

Till you find the deathless angel seated in the
vacant tomb. — *Alfred Tennyson.*

THE value of a thing depends largely upon who says it. Words may be bullets, but character must be the powder back of them to give them projectile force. The man behind the message is as important as the man behind the gun.

— *Charles Bayard Mitchell.*

A GREAT aim is a powerful protection to a youth. It frees him from multitudes of temptations which otherwise would be likely to sweep him into the vice current.

A man with an overmastering purpose is a great elevating, energizing power in a community. People know better than to waste his time or trifle with him. His projectile force shows them that he is dead in earnest, that he has an object in life, and that he proposes to gain it. His face is set like a flint toward his aim. Obstacles melt before such a purpose.

The power of a mighty purpose to clear up a cloudy, misty life, to scatter the fogs, and to open up a way when there seems to be none, is a daily miracle. We see it illustrated everywhere.

There is something about steadiness of purpose, about sticking to one's aim, and working by a fixed

programme, that steadies all the forces of one's character and buttresses the power to achieve.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

WHAT makes a hero? An heroic mind —
Expressed in action, in endurance proved.

— *Sir Henry Taylor.*

FROM my grandfather Verus, I learned good morals and the government of my temper; from the reputation and the remembrance of my father, modesty and manly character. I observed in him mildness of temper, and unchangeable resolution in the things which he determined after due deliberation; from my mother, piety and beneficence, and abstinence not only from evil deeds, but even from evil thoughts; from my governor, to love my kin, to love the truth and justice.

— *Marcus Aurelius.*

HOWEVER things may seem, no evil thing is success, and no good thing is failure.

— *Samuel Longfellow.*

THERE is no Chance, no Destiny, no fate
Can circumvent or hinder or control
The firm resolve of a determined soul.

Gifts count but little ; Will alone is great,
All things give way before it soon or late.

— *Ella Wheeler Wilcox.*

WHOEVER may
Discern true ends, shall grow pure enough
To love them, brave enough to strive for them,
And strong enough to reach them, though the
road be rough.

— *Elizabeth Barrett Browning.*

TRUEST success can be attained through con-
secrated determination. — *Epworth Herald.*

WE must insist upon courage and resolution,
upon hardihood, tenacity, and fertility in
resource ; we must insist on the strong, virile
virtues.

— *Theodore Roosevelt.*

HUNGERING and striving after knowledge is
what makes a scholar ; hungering and striv-
ing after virtue is what makes a saint ; hungering
and striving after noble action is what makes a
hero and a man. The great successes we see
everywhere are but the realization of an intense
longing, a concentrated effort. Everybody is gravi-

tating toward his aim just in proportion to the power and intensity of his desire and his struggle to realize it.

One merely "desires" to do this or that, or "wishes" he could, or "would be glad" if he could. Another knows perfectly well that, if he lives, he is going to do the thing he sets his heart on, if it is within the limits of human possibility. We do not hear him whining because nobody will pay his way to college. He does not say he "*wishes*" he could go. He says: "I am going to prepare myself for a great life-work. I have faith in my future. I have made a vow to myself to succeed, and I am going to do so on a broad-gauge plan. I am not going to start out half equipped, half fitted."

When you find a boy who resolves within himself that, come what will, he is going to do the thing he sets his heart on, and that there are no "ifs" or "buts" or "ands" about it, you may be sure he is made of winning stuff.

How do you approach a difficulty? Do you hesitate before it, dread it, postpone it, dawdle over it? Are you afraid of it? Do you go to it with an apologetic, doubtful, "Will do it if I

can," or "Will try" attitude? Or do you approach it with an unflinching determination, and the consciousness of mastery?

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

DECISION never becomes easier by postponement, while habit grows stronger every day. Common sense as well as conscience, says, "Choose this day." — *Young People's Weekly.*

IN our flowing affairs a decision must be made, — the best, if you can; but any is better than none. There are twenty ways of going to a point, and one is the shortest; but set out at once on one. — *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

WHY wait for New Year's Day to come — and disappear?

Whene'er the spirit moves to nobler creeds,
When conscience disapproves, or duty pleads,
Then make resolves, and of resolves make deeds,
And make each day begin a New and Happy Year.
G. K.

THE secret of success in life is for a man to be ready for his opportunity when it comes.

— *Disraeli.*

WHEN burdens are given us to bear, it is well that we search diligently to find the best way of bearing them. A log of wood carried at arm's length will soon prove too much for us — we must sink under its weight ; we cannot go on with it. But grasped firmly, and carried upon the shoulder, we walk easily, and may bear it a long way without even staggering. There are those who carry their burdens in such a way that all the harsh surfaces, rough edges, and sharp corners seem to protrude themselves beyond the province of the bearer, and to be always hurting his neighbors. Beware lest the burden which we might have kept to ourselves mar the happiness of another's life ! Our neighbor has his own load — let us not add to it the weight of our own. Of hard things in this life there are many, and each one of us must have his share of them. We should walk under them bravely, manfully, but never alone. One Arm is ever stretched out to help, which we need not fear to weary — one Ear is ever listening to hear our tale of woe. Where the telling of it will do no harm, but good, one blessed Voice is ever saying to us, if we will but hear it : “ Fear not, for I am with thee.”

— *Helpful Thoughts.*

BUILD up heroic lives, and all
Be like a sheathen sabre,
Ready to flash out at God's call,
O chivalry of labor!
Triumph and toil are twins; and aye
Joy suns the cloud of sorrow;
And 'tis the martyrdom to-day
Brings victory to-morrow.

— *Gerald Massey.*

GO not so far out of your path for a truer life;
keep strictly onward in that path alone which
your genius points out; do the things which lie
nearest to you, but which are difficult to do; live
a purer, a more thoughtful and laborious life, more
true to your friends and neighbors, more noble and
magnanimous.

— *Henry D. Thoreau.*

THE world is what we make it. Forward,
then! Forward in the power of faith, for-
ward in the power of truth, forward in the power
of friendship, forward in the power of freedom,
forward in the power of hope, forward in the power
of God!

— *Henry Vincent.*

THOSE who have a heart to do good never
need complain for lack of opportunity.

— *M. Henry.*

DO your best, your very best, and do it every
day. — *Alice Cary.*

LET us be content to work
To do the thing we can, and not presume
To fret because it's little.

— *Elizabeth Barrett Browning.*

OH, for faith and strength to win
Every battle we begin !
Oh, for patience to put through
Every task we plan to do !

— *James Buckman.*

HEAVEN is not reached at a single bound ;
But we build the ladder by which we rise,
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,
And we mount to its summit round by round.

— *J. G. Holland.*

THEY who have conquered self, and won
Love's pathway to the heart of things,
Have spread their new-found spirit wings
And soared beyond earth's twilight sun.

— *Winfred Borlee.*

WE make an unfortunate mistake if we let the failures and disappointments of the past cloud our horizon. Many lives are like century plants : they burst into bloom only after a long and tedious interval. The hard work, the patient endurance, the courage in bearing losses and trials, at length on some favored day bring forth their result, and the man is suddenly overwhelmed at the transformation of his life in the fruition of long-cherished hopes. No one of us can tell when we are standing on the verge of such a crisis. Many a man, like Saul at Gilgal, has become discouraged just too soon, and, lo ! a little after he has committed himself to a false and weak policy the prophet has come, and he finds that he has missed the prize that was almost within his grasp. No matter how dark and discouraging the outlook may be, have faith in yourselves and in the good providence of God ; and may this year bring you the fruitage of your hopes, the transformation of life, which is as wonderful, and yet as possible, as the change which comes to the earth in May, when the warm rains and the mounting sun suddenly work the miracle of the springtime, when the cold and barren earth blooms with verdure. — *Watchman.*

DIFFICULTIES are absolutely nothing to the man who knows that he is on the mission on which God has sent him. They are only opportunities for him to show His power; problems to manifest His skill in their solution; thunder-clouds on which to paint the frescoes of His unrealized tenderness.

— *F. B. Meyer.*

WHAT is success? To gain a share of gold?
To have one's wealth in envious accents
told?

To see one's picture flaunted in the press?
Ah, there be those who label this "success."

* * * * *

But have we not another standard still
To judge a man of character and will?
Are gold and fame the only measures tried?
In all the world is there no test beside?

Ah, yes; the man who meets with courage grim
The daily duties that devolve on him,
The petty, mean, heart-breaking cares that tire
The patient soul that never may aspire —

How'er so cramped the field wherein he works,
He has not failed — the man who never shirks,

The man who toils for years without a break,
And treads the path of pain for others' sake.

— *L. A. McCarthy.*

TH**ERE** are but the two classes, after all,— those who bear their own part in the world's work bravely, sensibly, and fairly, helping others to do the same, and this other class who must be "got along with." Wherever these latter are, in the home, in business, in social affairs, somebody must bear an extra burden on account of them; somebody must watch and "manage" that their peculiarities do not work wreck and failure. It seems a pitiful thing — does it not? — for a human being, endowed with all the ordinary gifts and attributes, to make of himself a lifelong pensioner on the patience and forbearance of those round him, instead of a power for good. Yet the choice, consciously or unconsciously, each makes for himself. Moods and prejudices uncontrolled bias the whole nature; temper and irritability allowed to flame at every trifle, and given full license whenever the wind is in the east, become, before one is aware, the dominant habit of the mind.

A silver-haired grandfather, growing more genial, sunny, and serene in his beautiful old age,

was the blessing of the household that claimed him. Some one questioned him concerning his happiness and content, and he answered with his twinkling smile : “ Oh, well, my disposition has its full share of twists and corners, I suppose, but I had seen so many old people so cross, cranky, and generally uncomfortable to live with that I made up my mind I’d watch against being one of that kind. I’ve sort of been practising the other way ever since.”

It is the practising that counts. The blessed “ other way ”— the strong, helpful, reliable manhood and womanhood which are a comfort and strength to others, and the beautiful old age that is like a benediction — must be won by endeavor. Whoever will not battle for the victory of the higher self sinks, sooner or later, under the permanent dominion of the lower, and the crooked growths, the knots and gnarls are all that are left for the world to see. — *Forward.*

WE beseech thee, Lord, to behold us with favor, folk of many families and nations, gathered together in the peace of this roof : weak men and women subsisting under the covert of patience. Be patient still ; suffer us yet a while longer —

with our broken promises of good, with our idle endeavors against evil—suffer us a while longer to endure, and help us to do better. Help us to play the man under affliction. Be with our friends, be with ourselves. Go with each of us to rest; if any awake, temper to them the dark hours of watching; and when the day returns to us—our Sun and Comforter—call us with morning faces, eager to labor, eager to be happy, if happiness shall be our portion, and, if the day be marked with sorrow, strong to endure it. We thank Thee and praise Thee; and, in the words of Him to whom this day is sacred, close our oblation.

— *Robert Louis Stevenson.*

PUT forth thy hand, in God's name; know that "impossible" has no place in the brave man's dictionary. That when all men have said "impossible," and tumbled noisily elsewhither, and thou art left, then first thy time and possibility have come. It is for thee now; do thou that, and ask no man's counsel but thy own only, and God's. Brother, thou hast possibility in thee for much; the possibility of writing on the eternal skies the record of a heroic life.

— *Thomas Carlyle.*

A gainst Heaven's hand or will, nor bate a
jot
Of heart or hope; but still bear up and steer
Right onward. — *John Milton.*

ONE way to spell success is W-O-R-K.

HE who would win must work! The prize
Is for the faithful one who tries
With loyal hand and heart.
— *Nixon Waterman.*

BLESSED is he who has found his work; let
him ask no other blessedness. He has a work,
a life purpose; he has found it and will follow it!
— *Thomas Carlyle.*

LIFE is a burden imposed upon you by God.
What you make of it, that it will be to you.
Either a millstone around your neck or a diadem
on your brow. Take it up bravely, bear it on
joyfully, lay it down triumphantly.
— *Gail Hamilton.*

THE faithful performance of the commonplaces
of daily life is the best preparation for any
great demand that may suddenly break in upon
our lives. — *F. B. Meyer.*

THIS one thing I do. — *St. Paul.*
He did it with all his heart and prospered.
— *2 Chronicles.*

DO the best you can where you are, and when
that is accomplished, God will open a door
to a higher sphere. — *Henry Ward Beecher.*

WHEN I hear a young man spoken of as a
great genius, the first question I ask about
him is, always, *Does he work?*
— *John Ruskin.*

AT best, life is, and ever must be, to our finite
grasp, largely a mystery, yet amid all that is
uncertain and mysterious, mankind has ever held
that, however worthy may be the achievement of
place or fortune, the greatest and noblest soul of
earth is he who stands resolutely and unflinching
at the post assigned him in the Divine Order; and
who, until called hence, with brave and cheerful
heart seeks to achieve the uttermost of good for
himself and his fellow-men.

— *Lafayette Charles Loomis.*

WE shall be glad — really glad — of everything that has come to us, no matter if it is sorrow or pain, when we find that our experience fits some one else's need, that some one else can build on our lives.

— *Maltbie D. Babcock.*

I B'LVIEVE in havin' a good time when you start out to have it. If you git knocked out of one plan, you want to git yerself another right quick, before your sperrits has a chance to fall.

— "*Mrs. Wiggs.*"

OPTIMISM — how much the world needs it, now and always! More cheer, more hope, more faith, more courage, more far-seeing patience! Above all things else, the world needs the grace of the sunny side.

— *Zion's Herald.*

"BLUES" are the soggy calms that come
To make our spirits mope,
And steal the breeze of promise from
The shining sails of hope.

— *Nixon Waterman.*

EVERY resolute person has found that, when some great trouble seems to stand in the way, if he goes forward courageously, it either proves not to be there, or it is far less serious than he anticipated. Bunyan's Pilgrim thought his end had come when he saw two lions in his pathway before him ; but when he pressed forward, in spite of his fears, he found that the beasts were chained, and powerless to do him harm.

— *Theodore F. Seward.*

A MAN of principle plants himself on his convictions, and there stands like a rock. If he is right, the world comes to him — if he lives long enough ; and if he does not, the world comes to the spot where he stood and builds a monument to his memory.

— *Josiah Strong.*

MY rule is to go straight forward in doing what appears to be right, leaving the consequences to Providence.

— *Benjamin Franklin.*

LIFE is probation, and the earth no goal,
But starting-point of man . . .
To have to do with nothing but the true,

The good, the eternal, and these not alone.
To the main current of the general life
But small experience of every day,
Concerns of the particular hearth and home :
To learn not only by a comet's rush
But by a rose's birth—not by the grandeur,
God—
But by the comfort, Christ.

— *Robert Browning.*

ONE resolution I have made is: To cultivate
the beneficent spirit, and the example of a
beloved father, who resolved to be every day, by
word or deed, a blessing to others; but, if having
any personal thorn, to so wear it as not to wound
another.

— *Faith Latimer.*

AWAY with the flimsy idea that life with a
past is attended,
There's now — only now — and no past.
There's never a past; it has ended.
Away with the obsolete story and all of its yester-
day sorrow.
There's only To-day, almost gone, and in front of
To-day stands to-morrow.

— *Eugene Ware.*

HAPPY the man and happy he alone,
Who can call to-day his own —
He who, secure within, can say :
“To-morrow do thy worst, for I have lived
to-day.”
Be foul or fair, be rain or shine,
The joys I have possessed
In spite of fate are mine !
Not heaven itself upon the past has power,
And what's been — has been, and I've had my
hour. — *Horace.*

OUR cares are all To-day, our joys are all
To-day ;
And in one little word, our life, what is it but
— To-day? — *Tupper.*

WASHINGTON

AS, 'mid the giant peaks that round me rise,
One stands supreme to draw the gazer's eyes,
With naked brow serenely towering high
To rest his shoulders 'gainst the bending sky;
Friend of the clouds, unmoved in stress of storm,
Whose beauty, time nor tempest can deform,
The earliest signal of the day begun,
The last to hold the beams of setting sun.

So he whose name this monarch bears, doth stand
First as the saviour of his native land.

Dear to each loyal heart his honored name,
Unshadowed by the lengthening years his fame.
Strong in the strength of victory nobly won,
Pure patriot, statesman wise — our Washington.

— *Luella Clark.*

STAND firm like a rock, against which, though
the waves battle, yet it stands unmoved, and
they fall to rest at last. — *Marcus Aurelius.*

SO are great deeds as natural to great men
As mean things are to small ones,
By his work we know the master.

— *Henry W. Longfellow.*

SOME one has said, “When God wants to
educate a man, He does not send him to
school to the graces, but to the necessities.”

It has not been the men favored by fortune, but,
as a rule, the poor boys with no chance, who have
done great things. It is a Fulton with a paddle
wheel; a Michael Faraday with old bottles and
tin pans in the attic of an apothecary’s store; a
Whitney with few tools in a Southern cellar; a

Howe with crude needles and shuttles making the sewing machine ; a Professor Bell, poor, experimenting with the simplest apparatus, who have given an uplift to civilization.

— *Orison Swett Marden.*

NEVER be discouraged ; never be a discourager ;
Don't cross your bridge until you come to it !

— *Annie Fellows Johnston.*

OUR own happiness ought not, of course, to be our main object, nor indeed will it ever be secured if selfishly sought. . . . I cannot, however, but think that the world would be better and brighter if the teachers would dwell on the Duty of Happiness as well as on the Happiness of Duty ; for we ought to be as cheerful as we can, if only to be happy ourselves is a most effectual contribution to the happiness of others. Every one must have felt that a cheerful friend is like a sunny day, shedding brightness on all around ; and most of us can, if we choose, make of the world a palace or a prison. There is no doubt some selfish satisfaction in being melancholy, and fancying that we are victims of fate ; in brooding, if we are more or less imaginary. To be bright and cheerful

often requires an effort; there is a certain art in keeping ourselves happy; and in this respect, as in others, we require to watch over and manage ourselves, almost as if we were somebody else. Sorrow and joy indeed are strongly interwoven.

— *Sir John Lubbock.*

I CAN'T worry and be glad at the same time, so I'm just going to be glad.

— *Christian Endeavor World.*

DEAR heart,

That wearied art with long, long suffering,
And seest only more to take its place,
And sharper as the nerves grow tenderer,
Drink deeper at the fount of patience, let
Its cool draughts calm unrest that flows, a mad
And feverish current, in thy veins,
The soul that dwells within the fount —
Will soothe thy life.

And whisper revelation's truth to come;
For heart, in this is paradox complete —
That he who waits in perfect ignorance
Awakes in perfect knowledge.

Does some voice tell thee
That the time is long ?

Wait, wait, brave heart, enduring 'till
The throbbing life of pain is done. . . .
Then falter not, but bear,
Beloved, bear on to the hidden end —
The end whose unapparence gives to faith
Its golden glow — nor pray the Father that
He send to thy side the angel of Ease,
But the angel of Strength.

— *Rosa Pendleton Chiles.*

BRAVE, good, and true,
I see him stand before me now,
And read again on that young brow,
Where every hope was new,
How sweet were life! Yet, by the mouth firm-
set,
And look made up for Duty's utmost debt,
I could divine he knew
That death within the sulphurous hostile lines,
In the mere wreck of nobly pitched designs,
Plucks heart's-ease, and not rue. . . .
But the high soul burns on to light men's feet
Where death for noble ends makes dying sweet.

— *Memoriæ Positum.* R. G. S.

MY good blade carves the casques of men,
My tough lance thrusteth sure ;
My strength is as the strength of ten,
Because my heart is pure.

— *Alfred Tennyson.*

O God, we thank thee for the new day, for another opportunity to redeem ourselves. O thou who art infinite wisdom and the source of all strength, grant that whatever it brings of good fortune or disappointment, pain or pleasure, we may meet it with a brave heart and a cheerful face and use it to thy glory and the good of our fellow-men. Help us to keep so interested in the welfare of others that we shall not think of ourselves ; so intent on winning thy approval that we shall not be unduly concerned over the opinions of men. When the strength and time thou has allotted for this day's struggle are spent, grant, O Lord, we ask, that we may find ourselves a little nearer to the goal thou hast set for us in the Christ-life. Amen.

— *A. M. M.*

