

Saying and Doing.

We find very many today who are always ready and willing to give advice on all subjects whether asked for it or not, and even if it is not wanted. No matter what you think about it they always know a better plan, and are offended if you do not take their advice. This is illustrated especially in case of sickness. There are a dozen or more perhaps who know just what will cure that disease, because they know of some one whom it has helped or who has tried it, and you are entreated to try their remedy.

Many are always ready to advise, but there are very few who would follow such advice as they themselves give. Then too, many speak on subjects which they know nothing about or which are really contrary to their own thoughts as is seen by the lives they lead. For instance; there are so many who write of the dignity of labor; the high position it should occupy in the minds of all and the reverence with which it should be looked upon. Although labor is man's great function, his peculiar distinction, how many of those who are continually singing its praises, really think this is true? It is said frequently that the laborer should be honored but do all honor him? do any honor him? Labor is not a disgrace, it is elevating they will tell you, but they

do not care to place the laborer on an equal footing with themselves - or even to place him on a higher level than he is - at present.

The farmer is said to be the most independent man on earth, and is spoken of in glowing terms; but - only those who have plenty of money are made much over in reality. Another class of laborers, the Chinamen - are said to be the neatest, cleanest and best workers, but are they honored among men? Do the laboring class these "honorable" men move in the best of society and share their privileges as members of such? Oh no.

It may be all right to speak or write with words that sound well about the "grandeur of labor," but when it comes to associating with the laborer an entirely different point seems to have been brought up. Oh yes he is doing something great when he builds fine houses, - does anything which adds to the conveniences of life, and earns an honest living - thereby but he must be left here that is all the acquaintance that is desired with him.

It is true that there is no system of caste in these United States but there are grades of society for which certain qualifications are required and generally a sufficiency of currency admits anyone into the best of society. Sometimes a question of nationality is raised and although "all men are born free and equal," in this land of ours, yet many acknowledge that the negro citizen does not come up to so high a standard

as does the white swan and they do not care to associate with him even if his educational qualifications are good.

Even in our public schools, where all have a common beginning and the same chance to gain an education, where there should be less inequality, we find many who will snub and "look down" upon those who are working their way through or who do not dress just as fashion demands they should. We are often told to "lift up the fallen," to encourage the weak, and lend a hand so as to help all to make progress. Who does this? I am afraid that many make great resolves to do this or that, or at least entreat others to do so - and yet they do not realize that they themselves are the ones who should set the good example instead of laughing at those who make mistakes or become confused; thus instead of helping, they put a stumbling block in the way, instead of lifting up, pushing them down a little further.

In our churches today we find conditions which are somewhat similar. When we hear of the many evils and frauds which are being perpetrated continually under the cloak of religion, we cannot wonder that there is a hesitation on the part of would-be Christians, to make a profession of their faith. They hear so much said and see so little done, so many good resolves made and so few carried out, that it becomes hard to convince anyone of what is really right, and that the majority are really in earnest and are not using religion merely as a shield to cover wicked schemes. Can the church too

they find that some make a distinction between the rich and the poor. They teach that all should be treated alike and with kindness, but when it comes to putting their teaching into practice they fail. Of all persons, those who profess to be religious, should not say for others to do what they themselves do not care to. It has been asked "which is worse, to say you will do a certain favor and then not do it, or to refuse at the start." Certainly the former is, for it is worse to tell a lie than it is to refuse a favor. No one seems to think of how much he has said and how little he has done until his attention is called to some broken promise or unkept resolve. Why is it that we find so many who keep putting off their promises from time to time? They are going to do this and that they say but they "never get around to it." They do not consider the convenience of others and lead us to think that there are very few people who "practice what they preach."

Whenever there is anything to do, do it and do not keep putting it off for the future. If you cannot keep a promise you have no business to make one. Mean what you say and do not use certain expressions to beautify or give force unless you really mean it for you surely will be made to account for all that you say.

It is of no use for anyone to pretend that he owns the whole world when he has barely enough to meet his everyday expenses. There are too many who think they must do as others do, they must keep up appearances. Many of the failures

to act as is spoken come from the two-sidedness of some persons, they appear to be what they are not. They have a fine polished appearance, can say pretty things and write excellently about the "equality of all," but when the life history of the writer is all known a different view of the subject is to be seen.

We often find that the purpose, the desire to act right is present but carelessness gains control and the actions do not agree with the sayings of that person. It is not only in printed material that we find contradictions, we can see them everyday in what happens around us. So many plans are adopted and so few carried out.

Those who would achieve greatness in this world must not only talk but must act also and the actions must correspond with the words. Talk is cheap. But when it comes to giving good sound advice leave it to those who know; to those whose actions tell that they have learned by experience what is best. Above all we should not make promises which we cannot keep for the world will grade us according to what we can do, not according to what we say.

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