

The Attainment of our Desires.

Every human life has its purpose as every thing in nature its uses, and, however much we may desire to evade the responsibilities which rest on each individual, or absorb them in the general application to the race, or to whatever extent we may throw ourselves on the soothing thought—
 "There is a Divinity that shapes our ends,

"Rough-hew them how we will;" still ever within us there is a consciousness which tells us that in the duties of life, every one must answer for himself and not for another. This very consciousness is the key-note of existence, lending to life its charms and to society its surest safeguards. The possession of a clear pure conscience is held dear by each and every one of us. We are constantly striving to follow such occupations and pursuits as will best afford us this quality.

It is our wish to call your attention to a few, of the many, pursuits or rather desires that we have and are continually looking forward to see gratified.

Do we desire riches? It is folly to contend against this desire even on moral grounds, as he who would be able to make the clearest case, would still fail in convincing himself that a "reasonable" portion of this world's goods, would necessarily disqualify him for the highest state of human enjoyment. Even the Bible - that Book of all books - does not denounce riches per se. It is not money, but the love of it that is called "the root of all evil." To desire riches is no evil. On the other hand we consider it not only legitimate, morally speaking, but commendable. The honest earning and the frugal use of money are of the greatest importance.

Rightly earned it is the representative of patient industry and untiring

effort, of temptation resisted and hopes rewarded; and rightly used it affords indications of prudence, forethought and self-denial — the true basis of manly character.

The possession of wealth, not only adds to one's importance in the community; but also affords him such great opportunities to do good. To lift up a fallen brother, to relieve the destitute, to befriend the friendless and give a home to the homeless. There is not an enterprise, for the elevation of humanity, but that depends to a great extent upon money.

Through its potency states are inhabited, churches erected, knowledge diffused, industry rewarded, genius fostered and the refining influences of civilization strengthened and perpetuated. The desire to obtain riches for the good they may do is a worthy purpose. How shall it be accomplished?

It has been said — "To become suddenly rich, is the passion of the age; and if come out of every ten thousand

who run the gauntlet of this mad ambition succeeds, the nine thousand nine hundred and ninety nine disastrous failures are lost sight of in the dazzling effulgence of that one success.

It is not thus that sensible people seek to grow rich, nor thus that we would prescribe the means.

The four prerequisites of this enviable possession are honesty, industry, frugality and temperance — four homely virtues, whose names are as familiar in our mouths as house hold words.

This life is ours to make of it what we will. There is indeed a wonderful potency in the human mind and an efficiency in the human hands scarce dreamed of by the brightest visionary. It is not only the duty but the privilege of every one to aspire to the highest position, for not only will the coveted prize repay all his efforts, but every exertion will bring its rewards, in raising the standard of self respect, in enlarging the

capacity of enjoyment - and giving one the self-consciousness of having performed, to his best ability, his part in the world. Faithfully performing one's part in the world will add to its rewards honor, that, which next to riches, is more earnestly sought after than any prize attainable.

It is, in fact to this end that most men desire riches; but to be truly esteemed by men requires qualities money cannot buy. To possess these qualities, and be worthy of that esteem is the highest social position attainable in this life. How shall it be reached?

We have all heard that, "Honesty is the best policy"; the truth of this maxim is substantiated in all human history. Honesty for the mere sake of policy deserves not the name. To be truly honorable all actions must be based upon pure motives and correct principles. Honesty is the best policy, and better than that it is as the right hand of God "a present help in every time of need."

It is a grand thing to possess riches and honor, with these prerequisites friends will come of their own accord.

Sentimentalists talk of friendship as self created, connoisseurs in art point out the beauties of an Italian landscape. A common opinion and one freely expressed is that, "friendship is but a name." We are not willing to accept this conclusion for good reasons. First, history proves its fallacy. next, to yield this point would be to strike from this world every living virtue, for if true unselfish friendship does not exist then truth has no abiding place and love, the sum of all virtues, is without a foundation. A friend has been described as not those summer birds that twitter about the opening petals of our joy, and sing in the branches of our prosperity, while the warm sun gives life and the soft breezes stir the gentle foliage. Flatterers are not friends how musical soever

may be the sweet cadences of their
 adulations. Those and those
 only are our friends in the mirror
 of whose hearts the angles of
 incidence and reflection are rendered
 equal from a surface unruffled
 by pride or any selfish quality—
 who can tell us of our faults as
 they would a malady which was
 about to imperil our health, not
 to mortify us nor gratify them, but
 that efficient means may be
 taken for its eradication. The best
 way to obtain such friends is but
 to deserve by a life and character
 which must force them into the ranks.

One friend thus secured is worth
 a thousand flatterers who live in the
 sunshine and die in the storm.

We would say to all, and
 particularly to those who are about
 to enter upon the busy life: Be in
 earnest. Whatever is worthy of
 your attention at all is entitled to
 your best energies of thought and
 action. Do not despise the day

of small things. If you would be sure of success in any department of life, earn it. Never ~~the~~ spare of obtaining what you desire, and have a right to possess. Seek to rise on your own merits rather than through the favor of friends.

In whatever you do, act from principle, appealing to your own conscience, and the revealed Word for decision in every doubtful case.

By adhering to all these requirements you can not fail in obtaining your proper portion of riches, honor and friends. So long as you keep the eternal law of truth and express your earnest desires in forward action you will not fail in having whatever is necessary for your highest development by the same law that moulds the crystal.

"What ere in nature is thine own,
 Floating in air or pent in stone
 Will rise the hills, and swim the sea
 And like thy shadow follow thee."
 Callie Cornwell