

MY RESOLUTION

I may not reach the heights I dream. My untried strength may fail me. Or half way up the mountain peak there may be a steep decline. But, though the place I never gain, Heaven has comfort for my pain—I will be worthy of it.

It may not triumph in success, though my efforts make results that bleed. The efforts of my neighbor, though my goal is no more new, This life is not all joy, nor is it new. There lies a nameless strength in this—I will be worthy of it.

The golden glory of love's light May never fall on my way; My path may lead through darkness night Like the path of my way. But though life's deepest joys I miss, There lies a nameless strength in this—I will be worthy of it.

Using Our "Little Snatches" Of Time

A successful physician—who was known to be a very busy man, always in a hurry, so it seemed, on his way from the house—was sick patient to another, who had come to town to practice music, and to do other things of a recreational nature. "For this doctor could require more time than any other member of the community," he might play the violin and was expert at the game of tennis. "I get these extra things done," he smilingly informed his questioner. "By taking the little snatches of time that come to us at odd moments through the day." Then he pulled out a worn notebook, to which a bit of pencil was attached. "I always carry this book with me, and have little snippets of poems that I want to commit, and I find I can get a line or a paragraph committed during a car ride between calls, or while waiting in a sick room. It may seem a bit queer for a doctor to be committing poetry at such times, but I do it for my own good. It improves my memory, keeps me interested and refreshed."

"A good doctor can make such use of the 'little snatches of time' that comes to him, and thereby improve his mind—keep him more alert and refreshed, by which more easily able to do it. Committing poetry might not be our particular chisel, but we could read books, study some old records of instruction, put down words, write stories, whatever they were, in a handy notebook. Peculiarly enough, it seems to be only the real busy people who have the time to do this. In fact, it is said, and no doubt with truth, that if you give a busy man ten minutes in which to write a letter, he will get it done at once. But if you give an hour, and a day, he will spend that time collecting odds and ends of information, and will not get the same task done until it's too late to-morrow and probably not get it done at all. Those who have leisure in abundance, make the sorriest use of their time."

We do not need to be students of psychology to understand that the mind "needs exercise." If it is to do its best work for us. To give it exercise we must use it—by writing, by reading, thinking, by the accumulation of opinion, by the collecting of worth-while ideas. The excuse that we are "too busy" to read good books, to commit good poetry, or to study mind or art, is not excuse at all. We can always leave our little snatches of time." This is the method that great and busy people have followed from the dawn of civilization. It is quite certain that these men, who have been years of quiet contemplation in the wilderness, later found himself so busy that he had to make use of his "little snatches of time" when he was least likely to do so.

With David and Solomon, with the Disciples and with Paul.

Speaking of doctors—the busy physicians of the present day are not the only ones who have time for "little snatches of time" for committing classical Dr. Mason Good, a celebrated English physician of a hundred years ago, translated into English verse the whole of Lucifer's speech in "Paradise Lost" on his long walk from one patient to another in London.

Matthew Hale's "Contemplations" were originally composed while he was travelling about as a country judge. Franklin's hours of study from meals and sleep, and for years, with inflexible resolution strove to save for his own instruction every hour he could be won over. Kirk White, a black lawyer, became a famous Greek scholar by studying the classics while on his way back and forth between his home and his office. He did not care for any of our American lawyers, but more than John Quincy Adams, busy in the sense that they find time to take care of their regular duties and yet find time for reading and study, could be won over. Hale, Kirk White, and many others, spent forty-eight hours long instead of twenty-four," he once said. "I still could use all of it, and also contrive to do something for the betterment of my profession."

And, inexplicably, right at six, and get much better writing before breakfast."

No young person should neglect the all-important matter of saving time in the belief that he has no time. And the time he has, if he is absolutely determined to accomplish the most for himself! We have heard over and over again, "After a million hours of research, I am reading and studying, will make scholars of us all." There is more to it than that. We ought to know what form of study will best be beat, and some definite course mapped out—Dennis H. Stovall.

ANCIENT BUILDING MATERIAL

Gypsum is one of the most ancient of building materials. The Greeks used gypsum in Pliny's time (35 A.D.) in their fortifications, the temple of Apollo at Bassae, built 470 years before Christ, affords an excellent example of the use and permanent structural qualities of gypsum. The great pyramid of Cheops, a stupendous piece of work of gypsum executed at least 4,000 years. The common name plaster of Paris, is often applied to all cementitious gypsum because it was first used in France. In France and Germany gypsum is used for many building purposes, including inside and outside. In the United States and Canada gypsum has for years been the predominating interior plastering material. In proper form gypsum is also used structurally for floors, roofs and outer walls.

KEEP YOUR VOICE LOW

An important factor in the control of your temper is to keep your voice down. When you get angry, the natural thing to do is to shout, and the more you shout, the angrier you grow. No one likes to hear a voice more upsetting to the temper than to be shouted at, and the person you are addressing gets angry too, and a bad matter is made worse. You can restrain your anger on your voice. Force yourself to speak softly, even. And if shouting has the same effect on the temper that a draught has on a furnace fire, a low voice has the opposite. Control your voice, and the result will be happy.

The Free Press Short Story

In Quest of the Hardware Twins

MABEL R. MORRILL

CHARLES and Ella Nelson stood gazing about the turnpike road, the old hardware store at the foot of the hill. The hill had been well-trimmed by the men who had cleared the land, and the trees, mostly young children, had taken refuge there. The light was dim, and the road was dark, but the stars shone brightly above. The hillsides were covered with snow, but it was plain that Nanette and her little brother, the Hardware Twins, had been warming themselves by the fire, for the smoke poured in clouds.

"Well, 'Ellie,' it's surely looks as though we're getting along," said Charles, looking around him.

"I'm not so much as comfortable," said Charles as he turned to his sister.

"I'll go and see if Major Hollister will give us some boards and think of a little lumber to get us a shelter," said Charles.

"Don't let us waste time," said Charles, "but I'll get us a shelter."

"Well, that's all right," said Ella.

"Of course we would make everybody welcome," said Charles.

"Well, that's all right," said Ella.

"We could contribute for the Ketuba," said Charles.

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