

fully, then determinedly carry out that decision and you have grasped two of the fundamental principles of a truly successful life, as far as this world is concerned.

Again, whatever it may be that you have chosen let all your energies go out in that direction, and whatever these duties may be, be earnest and faithful in their discharge. The men who have been successful in this life have not been men who trifled with their duties, or tried to do two or three things at once: they have been men who have given themselves heart and soul to the duties of the hour. Then let there be honest downright hard work. Nothing can be accomplished without a lot of plodding. What is known as "genius" is a grand thing, but the genius of plodding is better. Who are the men that are taking the prizes and medals in our colleges to-day? Are they always the cleverest men in the class? By no means. Very often the plodder will come out far ahead of the "genius."

"Of the wise and holy Maker

Of the good and gracious God

Men can ask few higher blessings.

Than the gift and power to plod."

Young man, do you want to live a successful life? Do you want to make the most of the period that God

has given you upon this earth? Do you wish to rise to the highest position of which you are capable? Then carefully choose your life-work. When once chosen, determinedly and doggedly stick to that decision, then back these up by earnest attention, and faithful plodding, and if you do so, even if your talents be limited in number, though you may not have the genius with which some are endowed, though you may never make a very great name in the world still in the truest and noblest sense of the term your life, as far as worldly prosperity is concerned, will be a success, and as far as this world's goods are concerned, men will be able to pronounce of you "The young man is safe."

II. But I turn to another side of the subject and ask, "is the young man safe" morally. The Scriptures and experience both answer that the young man who has sin in himself and has no other strength but his own with which to fight it, is not safe. The young man who thinks evil impure thoughts is morally unsafe. Here lies the root of the whole matter. Often our pulpits denounce in scathing language the young profligate who has gone far astray but very seldom do they attack the place where the whole trouble lies.