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## "I WANT A DOLLAR."

Story of a dying miser.
How many are making it the first business of their lives to get rich. Measuring their purposes by the length and breadth and height of this earth alone, and by a sufficiently small atom of a fragment of time as to be unnoticeable in measurement with the thousands of years. Think of a soul which has become sufficiently narrowed down, which has become sufficiently degraded, which has become sufficiently infinitesimal as to make it its first business to get rich in the accumulated dirt of a perishable world.

What most naturally will be the last words of those dying? That which has ever been uppermost in their minds through life. A miser lay dying who had been a professed follower of Jesus all his life, but whose supreme purpose had been to get rich. My father was the attending physician. The old man lay upon the bed, his white locks, whitened by the frosts of over eighty winters, pushed back from a noble brow, his hands bleached by sickness clasped over his breast, and above the coverlid, the firm lips slightly parted, the eyelids closed, as slowly but surely he was breathing his last. Weeping loved ones had gathered round to catsh the last words if such there should be, or obtain once more some faint recognition. My father knelt by the bedside, and taking one of his hands in his asked him if he should pray. A slight pressure was the only response. The prayer was offered, and then $f$ thersang a hymn which had been the old man's tavorite.

As he crosed the song, the eyes of the dying opened, the friends pressed closely to the bedside, his lips moved, and father beading over
him asked him if there was anything he wanted. He spoke one short sentence, then his chin dropped, the eyes open wider, the breath stopped, and he was dead. What was that last sentence? It was this-"I want a dollar." Strange consolation for loved ones. Yet that sentence was the very incarnation of the supreme object of his life. It is not possible to press within a smaller compass the very pith of the merce:ary spirit. A wonderful sentence for a dying man face to face with eternity. What an epitaph for a tombstone! Is that to be your last sentence? Thy money perish with thee!
But is it not right to get rich? That is not the question. That man is a sinner against himself, against a commuuity, and against God, whose only object in life is to getrich. But if his object be to do his RIaster's will, to be about his Father's business, and he make money to enable him to carry on his Father's business, then he has consecrated his talents to the King, absorbed his wealth in the lofty purposes of heaven, and is turning money of earth into the bank-stock of eternity. Such is of heaven-heavenly.-Frank H. Hinman.

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