

of progression which was our aim? No, it was only an error, and out of such we gain our most valuable experiences, those which urge us on with stronger determination and higher hopes to conquer. Surely out of all evil comes a needed lesson, else it wouldn't have been so.

"It is truth's own ray and will find its way
Back into the path of right."

But whether your spirit is pure and white, left uncontaminated by the act or not, depends much upon the nature of the error; for through willful or indifferent sinning, is cast a cloud or shadow of grossness or impurity over the spirit, which retards the outgrowth of the beautiful Christian principle, which is very sensitive to the condition of its physical instrument. But if the false step was unintentional, or committed through blindness or ignorance, with the earnest, holy desire for keeping uppermost the good, then the spirit must remain pure and white, although the inevitable consequences of the error committed must be endured; and this is wherein ignorance is the great curse and hindrance to the more rapid outgrowth in society of the good, natural to man.

"Have you failed? It is only in seeming—
The triumph will come at length,"

for this vast exhibition of life, with its various changes and scenes, is but the established means of God to bring uppermost the best, gleaned from the lowest through to the highest; and what seeming obstacle could thwart the intentions of the Most High. Thus:

"You are born to succeed—you will have what
you need—
If you will but believe in your strength."

This inward monitor, which is ever ready to lead in paths of virtue and purity with its lamp of wisdom and "still, small voice."

"No matter how poor your record,—"

but don't let that mislead you into the idea that you are just as acceptable in the great movement and work of life as

though you had builded a noble record. No! for we cannot expect to achieve good results that we do not deserve, and have not earned; and if we would pillow our heads on beds of down in the great future, we must build them of good intentions which lead to good works; by making a good record in the Book of Life, filling each page with thoughts, deeds and words which carry out the demand, "do unto others as you would they should do unto you." Therefore, make a good record; nevertheless, if you should fail now and then,

"Christ lives in the heart of you,
And the shadows will roll up and off from
your soul,
If you will let it own this truth."

For "Christ" means the "spirit of goodness," and truly each has a portion, though sometimes so choked down and smothered by surrounding conditions and circumstances as to appear long since extinguished by evil deeds. But

"All men are good at the core,
Look searchingly in through the coating of
sin,
And lo! there is truth to adore.
Believe in yourself and your motives,
Believe in your strength and your worth,
Believe you were sent from God's fair hma-
ment
To aid and enoble the earth.
Believe in the Saviour within you—
Know Christ and your spirit are one—"

and if, with all your knowledge, you get the understanding of this great truth, how truly we may exclaim, "How self-sufficient! for I am a part of this infinite power. 'God,' who dwells in my very being in his Kingdom of Heaven, which is within;" the immortal part that surviveth all change; the great sustaining help and Saviour. "Christ," which in vain we search for outside our own temple. Open the door and let him come forth to serve you, and enable you to

"Stand forth deified by your own noble pride,
And whatever you ask shall be done,"

for hath he not promised to answer the prayer of his children? IONE.

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