

aim and object, was nevertheless in due time earning twice as much money every week as the prudent one could get in a whole year by clipping the coupons from his Government bonds.

This fragment of biography—or this parable, if you please—leads on to several other considerations that I should like to present. One of these is that, generally speaking, it is fortunate for a man if he can choose a pursuit in life in which the pecuniary returns come as an indirect rather than a direct result of his efforts. It was my pleasure a year or more ago to publish an article written for me by Mr. Hezekiah Butterworth, entitled "The Old Age of New England Authors." Mr. Butterworth pointed out the remarkably long period through which New England writers have on the average been enabled to continue their useful and valuable labors, and he attributed this largely to the fact that cheerfulness and serenity promote long life and the retention of the mental powers and faculties in old age. And all this is undoubtedly true.

But it was also true in a very important sense that this class of workers owed much of that cheerfulness of spirit to the fact that the day's work did not take them into the competitive struggle and clash of the marketplace, nor compel them to give much anxious thought for the morrow. It is not that one should aspire to mere quiet or aloofness, in order to cultivate serenity and live to be ninety years old. My point simply is that there are great compensations in any kind of active life, however

intense and severe its labors may be, if only the work itself absorb the mind, and the pay comes as a secondary consideration.

My friend, a physician, striving to save the life of a little child, lost much sleep, and labored incessantly; but I do not suppose that he gave the smallest fraction of one minute to a thought about the amount of his fee. Now an equal amount of effort, strain, and loss of sleep expended upon a money-making transaction, with nothing in mind except the dollars to be gained, would have a wholly different result, both immediate and permanent. It would break a man down, and that ingloriously.

Clergymen, professors, lawyers of the better class, physicians, engineers, architects, and even journalists and newspaper men who do work of a professional grade—all persons, moreover, engaged worthily and usefully in any sphere of education, philanthropy, or public service—and in the term public service I include not only the non-official classes, but also the better class of civil servants and also the army and navy—the people who choose to spend their lives in these and kindred callings may be said to form the advance guards of the social order that is yet to be.

Taking them on the average, they have neither wealth nor poverty, and they give their best efforts to kinds of work which are satisfactory in themselves. Such kinds of work to a very large extent have attached to them fixed or customary livelihoods that come of themselves where intelligent and faithful service is rendered to the community. I am confident