

lows till from their higher eminence they point to grander triumphs beyond! True, some may rise far above us. The Poet and the Prophet may be wafted in their fire-chariot above the clouds, and we not able to follow them in their heavenward flight, but even while we gaze after them their mantle may fall upon us and we may prophesy in the same spirit, or we may catch some spark of the fire which glowed in their bosoms and go out into the world to shed its light and heat. Are there difficulties in the way, and must we yield to unfavorable circumstances? No! he who rises in conscious strength above circumstances is himself master of the situation. So shall it be with every true hearted soul that moves steadily onward. Discouragements may gather about him; they were made but to be overcome. There may be huge stumbling stones in his path, but he makes them stepping stones along which he hastens on his upward course. The Hills of Difficulty may rise, rugged and steep before him, but they shall be changed by the touch of his feet to the Mountains of Delight, where the breezes fresh from the fields of the blessed shall fan his brow, and from whose summit he may look over all intervening difficulties into the Celestial City itself.

But he who by noble strength of purpose would accomplish this, must make use of every means at his disposal to aid him. Just as Michael Angelo made his finest models out of lumps of mortar with which he was working; just as James Ferguson measured the heavens and mapped out the universe with a string of beads stretched between his eye and the firmament; just as rare Ben Johnson worked on Lincoln Inn with a trowel in his hand and a book in his pocket, and when not using the one, read the other; just as Benjamin West drew his pictures upon a piece of old board with a lump of chalk or charcoal, so must the man who would rise to the height of the possible

seize upon even the meanest appliances and compel them to serve his noble purpose. Such an one will never want for instruments. If he has not the best he will use those which are at hand and turn them to some account. With a dauntless perseverance he will hew for himself if need be a path straight through the forest, regardless of the way-marks blazed upon the trees by those who have sought an easier route.

Never was a man known to attain to anything worth attaining without self-denial, and he who would succeed in life must seek for it. Self-indulgence ruins men, she is the Delilah upon whose lap many a noble head has been shorn of its strength and manhood forever. Self-denial makes men; she is the angel who leads them ever forward over a thorny and stony path it may be, but puts at last the crown of eternal joy upon their brows. There is self-indulgence in the terror-stricken ruined Belshazzar, there is self-denial in the Prophet who stands erect before him and pronounces his doom. He who would scale the heights of the possible must learn this other lesson of self-consecration. He may gather in from the rich stores about him all that he can to bless his bodily existence, enrich his mind, or elevate his soul, all that can prosper him in his temporal circumstances or win for him the honor of the truly wise.

The Masons of Indiana will be pleased to learn that since the last meeting of the Grand Lodge there has been a reduction of \$12,000 in the debt on the Masonic Temple. This leaves but \$50,000 in bonds outstanding, and these do not mature until 1887. If the parties holding these bonds will consent they will be all taken up before maturity, and the Grand Lodge will own her Temple and other property free from debt. That will be a happy day for the Craft in Indiana.