

silver (ver. 14), of brass, or bronze; he had even thought of the nails that would be needed in the work, and prepared "iron in abundance." Ver. 3. And he had searched out the most skillful workmen to use these materials. He had done all this at considerable cost and toil (ver. 14), for this is said to be the meaning of the expression, "in my trouble," which is wrongly interpreted in the margin.

One might have thought there was little left for Solomon to do. He might have said, "My father! as got everything ready; I can take my ease; there is no need for me to toil or to save; I have only to use what he has prepared."

But he had no chance to say this. Look at David's charge to him. After enumerating all that he had prepared, he tells Solomon, "Thou mayest add thereto" (ver. 14), and bids him "arise and be doing." There was much more to do. His father had begun, but he must finish; his father had set the example, he must follow.

There is a very distinct and important lesson here for young people. They may be no greater than their parents, just as Solomon was never in the highest sense superior to his father David. But they have a work before them which their parents cannot do. The future lies open to them. The fight to be fought in the future, the evil to be resisted in the future, the good to be done in the future is their task. The question is, Will they do it? Will the young, will the children, carry out the work destined for them?

If they are to do it they must prepare for it now. Here is a boy whose father has toiled to give him a good education, and to start him in life with every advantage. And the boy is well satisfied. He has been taught, and cared for, and provided for; he thinks it is all right; no need for him to toil, no occasion for him to put his shoulder to the wheel; for has not his father made good provision for him? That boy will never do the work unless he changes his mind. Unless he is himself "up and doing," his life will be a failure. His country will never be saved or benefited by him.

But Solomon's work was for the Lord. And every boy and every girl is called to the same high destiny—to do the work of the Lord. And let them mark how great preparation has been made for this work. God has given them his own word. They have it in their hands. There are teachers and pastors willing to give all the help in their power. They are prayed for, planned for, taught, warned, encouraged, directed. But the Father's charge comes to them distinct and clear: "Thou mayest add thereto; arise

and be doing." Those boys and girls will never do God's work unless they set themselves to prepare for it. Let them study for the Lord's sake; let them use every opportunity of gaining knowledge, of acquiring skill, of getting experience, so that they may be ready when the call comes to actual work. And, above all, let them bear in mind, and carry out, the charge given by David to the princes of Israel, who were to share with Solomon the burden of the work: "Now set your heart and your soul to seek the Lord your God." Ver. 19.

### BLACKBOARD.

BY J. B. PHIPPS, ESQ.



On one side of the board the pillars represent Solomon's Temple. Straight lines will do, made with white chalk. On the other side of the board is the heart. The lesson taught is this: Every one has a mission to perform. Solomon had to build the grand temple of stone and precious metal. I must build a temple for God in my heart. "Now set your heart and your soul to seek the Lord your God; arise, therefore, and build ye the sanctuary of the Lord God."

I  
MUST  
BE

BRAVE  
USEFUL  
IN EARNEST  
LIVING  
DEVOTED  
INDUSTRIOUS  
NOW  
GIVING AND  
GUIDING

FOR  
CHRIST.

### BEREAN METHODS.

Hints for the Teachers' Meeting and the Class.

The theme of this lesson in teaching may be, *The Preparation for Building God's House*. . . . Note that God's temple now is the Christian Church, not the external house of worship, nor the organized body, but the