

quirements of an overtaxed mind were met in this way, and the balance and elasticity of the system restored. In other conditions a change in activities is better than rest. Some vacations have yielded never-to-be-forgotten benefits in the opportunities afforded for reading books, which could not be examined during the pressure of regular pastoral and preaching service. The Concord Philosopher says, "In the common experience of the scholar the weather fits his moods. A thousand tunes the variable wind plays, a thousand spectacles it brings, and each is the frame or dwelling of a new spirit. I used formerly to choose my time with some nicety for each favorite book. There are days when the great are near us, when there is no frown on their brow, no condescension even; when they take us by the hand and we share their thoughts. There are days which are the carnival of the year. The angels assume flesh, and repeatedly become visible." Then there are other favored intervals when the purse permits travel, and other circumstances conspire to make it feasible. The writer has twice visited Europe, the first time to see old places, rich in historical associations and their venerable structures; the second time to see living men, trained under disciplines, sharply in contrast with our own. How affluent in enduring results, and how perennially fruitful in material for his work, has he found both these select and happy tours over sea! Last year brought another opportunity. Two weeks were added to the vacation month and six weeks occupied in a visit to the "Wonderland" of the world, the Yellowstone National Park. The great wheat belt of Dakota was traversed, then came the ranch country with the "cowboys" and the "Bad Lands," and the Crow Indian reservation, all en route, and each one furnishing interest enough for an ordinary respite from labor.

Finally came the Park itself, with its lakes of fire, its marvelous geysers, and, crowning all, the unique and majestic cañon of the Yellowstone River, with its miles of rainbows set in the everlasting rock. Such experiences as were crowded into the six weeks of last mid-summer must, we think, last a lifetime in their refreshing and stimulating results. It was simply re-juvenescence, re-creation in the highest import yielded by these terms.

And all this in our own country, the scene within easy reach, and not of necessity requiring great outlay of money. Besides the uplifting effect of contact with the noblest natural scenery, there were opportunities to study specific phases of our natural life, to enter the settler's cabin on the prairie's edge and to get some just impressions of the extent of our national domain.

The breath of those great uplands stretching toward the setting sun is an inspiration still, and will remain so in years to come. If some reader should say this journey is simply impracticable in my case, it remains for him to find new fields for exploration nearer.