

Will Power.

The will is a mighty ruler, the king of kings, ruling each individual, and consequently holding dominion aggregately, over the entire universe. It is the moving factor of the world. On each depends the richest endowment a man can possess—character. The formation of character, you might say, is entirely dependent on the strength and tenacity of the will. We acknowledge each day the extreme frailty of our natures, by allowing every impulse to dominate over the will, instead of being subservient to it. We admit in a manner more forcible than words, that we are a mere mechanism over which fancy has full sway. Instead of being conquerors, girded with strength, we are but weak captives. We are daily brought face to face with the stern reality that there is a lack of control of the will, by the number of effervescent and vacillating minds with which we come in contact, and their detrimental influence cannot help being felt. All glory to the man who is so inflexible that nothing can intervene which will make him swerve from the path of duty. All hail to the man who has fortitude enough to say "yes" and "no," periling any opinion or criticism which his action may stimulate. He will be amply remunerated by the calm which the consciousness of a duty performed will be sure to bring. We feel elevated and awed by such characters. They seem to unconsciously ingratiate themselves into our hearts, and incite feelings of inspiration and reverence. We should not be the plaything of every whim, driven about like a cork on the water, knowing not in what direction or how far the next wave may take us, but let the will, carefully and properly guided, be the ballast, which will steer for us a direct course, not leaning backward or forward, but with such decisiveness and firmness that it will impart to our life an outline which will make it stand out distinct and alone from every other individual's, adding to it an imposing dignity, and we will be found examples worthy of imitation, and will thereby open before us a path into which others will be magnetically drawn.

Being possessor of this power of will we will have a weapon with which we can face with intrepidity the severest trials, and overcome what may seem to those who lack it, unsurmountable difficulties. And if at the surrender of our souls into the hands of our Creator, we find that we have gained this dominion over ourselves, we may sink to rest peacefully with the assurance that we have won a victory, which the most glorious of monarchs might well envy.

THE HOLY SEAT.

Foreign embassies are accredited not to the court of the Vatican, but to the Holy Seat. The Holy Seat is a wooden chair used by the Apostle St. Peter as first Bishop of Rome. The ancient framework of yellow oak, all worn eaten and decayed, is preserved behind the tribune of the Basilica of St. Peter in the gigantic gilded bronze chair designed by Bernini.

NEW DIRECTOR OF SISTINE CHOIR

Mgr. Domenico Mustafa, director of the Sistine choir, has resigned after 55 years' service, and Don Lorenzo Perosi will henceforth have sole charge of the Papal music which will be "reformed." Mgr. Mustafa, who is 74 years of age, resigned in 1885 on account of changes made by the Pope, but took up his place again on the occasion of the Pope's sacerdotal jubilee.

Say not always what you know, but always know what you say.

Reputation is what men and women think of us. Character is what God and the angels know of us.

Self-love is at once the most delicate and the most vigorous of our effects; anything wounds it, but nothing kills it.

I am sure that no man can know peace who has not come through storm. Peace follows battle. It draws its meaning from contest. And, oh, how inestimable the light when the clouds break and the sunshine gleams forth!