

There is a time in the life of a young man when he knows more than his father knows. At that particular period he is a dictionary of incident and event, a sort of compendium of universal knowledge, a kind of walking encyclopedia, a sort of Encyclopedia Britannica, in twenty-four volumes, "with six additional volumes on American subjects"—the whole thing "bound in calf." You cannot tell him anything, and, if you could, it would do him little good—he is not in a receptive mood. He is in the mental condition of the young man who proposed marriage to a prepossessing Canadian girl and informed her that if she did not at once accept his proposal he would immediately "blow his brains out." With a reassuring smile she blandly remarked: "Sir, you had better have a few brains 'blown in' first."

VII. Stability. Stability is the best kind of ability. Go on and hold on, make a great team. To be able to do and to endure are the two seals on the package of life. The man of iron will, shall, if need be, reach up and pluck the shining stars from their bed of heavenly blue and dash them like glittering dust at his feet. All things are possible to the man of purpose. When they told Napoleon that he could not cross the Alps, he exclaimed: "There shall be no Alps!" The enemies of Disraeli affirmed that his first speech in the British House of Commons was a fizzle and a failure, but his closing words were uttered in a determined undertone: "The day will come when you will hear me!" William Lloyd Garrison was prone to close every anti-slavery speech with the words: "I will not excuse, I will not equivocate, I will