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What We Do, Counts.—The papers chronicled the other day the death of a man who had reached the age of one hundred and three. But, except that he had lived so long, there seemed to be no reason whatever for mentioning that he had lived at all. On the other hand, Mozart, dying at thirty-five, Keats at twenty-six, Joan of Arc at nineteen, have left names never to be forgotten. Mere living is worthless; it is what we do while we live that counts, now and forever.

Cheeriness.—A blessing to all about him is a cheery man. The *Boston Herald* once said of Phillips Brooks that he "walked down Newspaper Row yesterday at lunch time, nodding to acquaintances here and there, and though the heavens and the pavement were moist, the street seemed filled with sunshine." There are people who are atmospheres—they carry a sunny climate with them. It is impossible to be sad, or at any rate to be despairing, in their company. Blessed be the man whose very bearing converts shadow into sunshine!

What an Improvement!—*The Westminster*, of Philadelphia, thus comments on Mr. Carnegie's proposal to encourage spelling reform: "And now English is to be spelled "as she is spoke." Andru Carnagy will give the munny to make English a universal tung becos spellable by any hearer. There is to be a "Spelling Bord" of scientific men. The lang gwij will look strangely to one of us old-time lovers of English. The method of proseedjer iz to b simpul. Peepal ar to b asked to spel az the pleaz, ecch one for himself, without regard to reel orthograpy. What a pretty lang-gwij it will be. And "nunky pays for all."

Work for Young Men.—There are in the city of Toronto about a dozen young men's associations or clubs, in connection with the Methodist churches. For some time past they have conducted literary, social and athletic features, which have proved quite successful, and the various organizations have been united in a city union, which has exercised a stimulating and restraining influence. For some time past, however, the leaders of this movement have felt that there was a great defect in these organizations in that the young men had nothing definite in the form of Christian work placed before them. To remedy this it has been proposed that they should undertake the support of the Italian mission, which has been started in the old Agnes

street church. The young fellows are responding nobly to this call, and interesting themselves wonderfully in this important enterprise.

A Clever Young Canadian.—We have pleasure in presenting on our front page this month a fine picture of Mr. H. J. Rose, son of Rev. Dr. Rose-Hamilton, one of the Rhodes scholars at Oxford, who has distinguished himself by winning two of the most important scholarships in that great educational centre. When a young Canadian comes out ahead in some form of athletic sport abroad, or shows remarkable courage on the field of battle, honors are showered upon him by his fellow-countrymen. The one who excels in the higher realm of education is still more deserving of recognition.

The Twentieth Century.—Bishop Thoburn told recently how he was asked by one of his grandsons to help him with his college tasks. The bishop requested to be shown the books. "Are these in the course for the Freshman year?" he asked in amazement. "Why, that was the graduating course when I went to college!" He used the incident to show how there was a general advance all along the line since fifty years ago—in missionary conceptions and in education. It is probable that the best high schools to-day are doing better work and furnishing a wider education than the colleges of a half-century ago.

Encouragement.—"He was a great encourager" was a fine eulogy on a man of influence who passed away. We fail to evoke the best service from our fellow-men for want of appreciation and encouragement. A kindly recognition of good work encourages—"puts courage into him," literally—and leads to still better achievements. We are so afraid of saying these kind words which cost us so little, and mean so much to others. Few men or women get over-thanked. The money and sentiment which go in the expenditure of guineas on mourning wreaths would have done much to have lightened the burdens of life's struggles. Let us encourage.

No Respector of Persons.—David Starr Jordan, president of Leland Stanford, Jr., University, in an article on "Drugs and Intoxicants," which appeared in *The Independent* some time ago, appropriately speaks of stimulants and narcotics as white lies of physiology; "they tend to give the impression of a power or pleasure, or an activity which we do not possess. Their

function is to force the nervous system to lie." In their evil effects spirituous liquors are no respecter of persons. A London scientific society has a tabulated list of eight principal causes of insanity, at the head of which stands liquor. It directly accounts for about one-third of all the cases. Indirectly it probably accounts for as many more.

Nothing Can Soil.—"Nothing that your hands have to do can soil them," said the late Dr. Draper, of New York, to the first class of trained nurses graduated from the Presbyterian Hospital in New York; "and no service to which you have to give your personal attention can detract from the dignity of your office." It is not dirt on our hands that soils them; it is the motive back of the deed that brought the dirt there. The mechanic's hands never are soiled. The safe breaker's, the pickpocket's hands are soiled, even when they are spotless. A man may be physically dirty, when he is morally clean. "The heart," said Jesus. That is the test. It is soiled!

The Pincers and Hammer.—In an address, delivered recently in New York, Mr. John Wanamaker thus refers to Wesley's great work of organizing: "Whitefield and Wesley were great preachers, and the hardest iron softened into coals which kindled and burned under the breath of their preaching; but John Wesley did more than preach, he took the pincers and the hammer of the weekly class meeting, monthly love feast, and Quarterly Conference; he systematically screwed up the churches in methods of training and maintaining. He recognized the worth of the Sunday school agency, and immediately incorporated it into the policy of his undertakings."

Irrigation.—The Canadian Pacific Railway has in hand the greatest irrigation scheme in the world. By the end of the next three years 1,500,000 acres of land in the vicinity of Calgary, Alberta, hitherto arid, will be divided into 20,000 farms, watered from Bow River. This irrigation plan, when completed, will be sixty per cent. larger than the next largest on the American continent, which is in the Pecos Valley, Arizona. The water utilized in this vast scheme will take two-thirds of the supply of the Bow River at low water. The superintendent of the work states that when it was first started there were practically no settlers in that particular section, but since then the flow of immigration, which has included many Americans, has been rapid.