

echo the wish of the philosopher. They say, "Give me a place suitable to my ability, and I will exert an influence." Goethe says to all such, "Make good thy standing place and move the world." You must be rooted firmly in your own strength before you move or influence anybody. Only a weakling has to be *lifted* into any position. The youth who is industrious, intelligent, temperate, and persevering, holds the keys to all positions. He it is—

"Who makes by force his merit known,
And lives to clutch the golden keys,
To mould a mighty State's decrees,
And shape the whispers of the Throne.

And moving up from high to higher,
Becomes on fortunes' frowning slope,
The Pillar of a people's hope,
The centre of a world's desire."

Who is it that "shapes the whispers" of the English throne at the present day? Is it not Benjamin Disraeli? Well, at the age when young men of fortune are sent to college, he was apprenticed to a Solicitor, to fit him for a government clerkship. In due time he won reputation by his pen, and at thirty-two, a seat in the House of Commons. The first time he spoke he excited so much laughter by an *outré* manner and extravagant gestures, that he became disconcerted and abruptly sat down, but not before he had uttered the remarkable prophecy, "I have begun many things seven times, and have succeeded at last. I shall sit down now, but the time will come when you will hear me." He knew the power was in him and he resolved to make it felt. And the other day, after dictating

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