

Moved earth and heaven : that which
we are, we are ;
One equal temper of heroic hearts,

Made weak by time and fate, but
strong in will [yield."
To strive, to seek, to find, and not to

THE NEUHOF EXPERIENCE.

DR. J. M. HARPER, M.A.

THE first period of Pestalozzi's active life opens with sunshine—the sunshine of courtship and marriage. Turning over in his mind the knowledge he had acquired during his sojourn in the country, with a mind brimming over with new ideas on the subject of farming, his eye at length fell upon a parcel of ground not far from the village of Birr, whereon he might begin operations. The land was as poor as any that had ever been turned with a Swiss plow. But this in Pestalozzi's eyes was only something in its favor. It could be had at a very low figure, and was capable of being improved. Besides, under a process of which he had certain knowledge, madder could be grown on land of this character as well as on the most fertile soil. At length he succeeded in inducing a Zurich firm to advance the money for the purchase of the place, and not long after, in his twenty-first year, he is found at work building a home for himself and her whom he proposed to take home as his wife. There is one of his letters still extant, in which the manner of his wooing is set forth in terms which would hardly be considered warm enough, perhaps, by the maidens of our times ; yet it gives an insight into his early character and the honesty with which he understood it. But space forbids its publication here. Suffice it to say that two years after this philosophic wooer had settled at NeuhoF, the courtship thus begun culminated in marriage,—an unequal match, as many of his neighbors

said, she having money and personal attractions, he being notably deficient in both. For fifty years they lived together as man and wife, nor is there a hint in any of Pestalozzi's autobiographical notes which leads us to think that Madame Pestalozzi ever rued her bargain, notwithstanding the clouds that began to press closer and closer around their married life as the months lengthened into years.

"Let a man take up his cross and follow me," are the words of One, whose cross, notwithstanding the Divine strength that stayed it, was, at times, almost more than He could bear. *Take up and follow!* But what agony is there to the man who takes the cross up, bears it with all his strength of body, soul and spirit, bows beneath its weight, and finds that for the time being there is for him no following of the good that is within him. Hemmed in on all sides by a relentless environment, he has taken up, but cannot follow. The light is on his path, he sees the way wherein he should walk, he sees far ahead the regeneration of society, which he thinks he might work out in part at least ; but around him, near him, there are the human besettings that make his cross an all but unbearable weight. Such was Pestalozzi's case, as the clouds grew darker and darker around his NeuhoF fireside. The farm was a failure, as many of his patiently wise friends had prophesied. The crop of madder was not the golden harvest the Zurich firm had expected, and, as is usual in the case