

puts one in touch with them without condescension. The girl who has been away to study music, and comes home with just enough education to despise the home choir in which she formerly sang, or the rickety little church organ which she formerly played, the hymns which her parents love and which she formerly sang, has not had too much culture, but too little, and that of too shallow a sort. The noted organist and popular teacher taught his pupils many lessons, but the best of all his teaching was that which he imparted to Phil.

—A Christian man's life is laid in the loom of time to a pattern which he does not see, but God does; and His heart is a shuttle. On one side of the loom is sorrow, on the other is joy; and the shuttle, struck alternately by each, flies back and forth, carrying the thread, which is white or black as the pattern needs. And in the end when God shall lift up the finished garment, and all its changing hues shall glance out, it will appear that the deep and dark colours were as needful to beauty as the bright and high colours.—Henry Ward Beecher.

**KNOTTY BOARDS.**

What makes a board knotty, cross-grained, and shaky? It is because that is the way the tree grew from which the board was cut. Such a board makes cheap lumber. It is sorted out, and thrown among the "culls." It is never planed and made smooth and beautiful, but is sold to build some rough shed, or to be split up for kindling-wood. Boys, don't let yourselves grow up knotty, cross-grained, and shaky? If you do, you will never be anything but cheap and worthless stuff, unfit for the uses of life.

**LIFE'S BUILDING.**

Life is a building. It rises slowly day by day, through the years. Every new lesson we learn lays a block on the edifice which is rising silently within us. Every experience every touch of another life on ours, every influence that impresses, every book that we read, every conversation that we have, every act of our commonest days, adds something to the invisible building.

"Guard within yourself that treasure kindness. Know how to give without hesitation, how to acquire without meanness. Know how to replace in your heart, by the happiness of those you love, the happiness that may be wanting in yourself."

It is a grand thing to find joy in one's work. If you have found that, you have found the heart of life. Glad service is better than great service, unless that be glad, too.

If we can live without God in this world, we must live without him in the next.

There is no mystery whatever about happiness. Put in the right ingredients and it must come out. "He that abideth in Me \*\*\* bringeth forth much fruit"; and bringing forth much fruit is happiness. The infallible recipe for happiness, then, is to do good; and the infallible recipe for doing good is to abide in Christ.

**JUDGE NOT.**

What matter if your brother man  
Does not the things he ought to do,  
Or that you think he ought? He may  
Be thinking just the same of you.  
Judge not.

What if a friend has fallen low  
Beneath a load of sin and shame;  
Should you the sinner's crime proclaim,  
And blacken thus a brother's name?  
Judge not.

You cannot read your brother's mind  
You cannot know the why and where;  
But there is one that knoweth all,  
So leave it to his love and care.  
Judge not.

Judge not, my friend, the time will come;  
For God is just, and if you do  
As you have meted out to them,  
You'll find it meted back to you.  
Judge not.

There is no good in praying for anything unless you also try for it. All sighs and supplications in the world will not bring wisdom to the heart that fills itself with folly every day, or mercy to the soul that sinks itself in sin, or usefulness and honor to the life that wastes itself in vanity and inanity.

Are you richer to-day than you were yesterday? No? Then you are a little poorer.

Are you better to-day than you were yesterday? No? Then you are a little worse.

Are you nearer to your port to-day than you were yesterday? Yes; you must be a little nearer to some port or other; for since your ship was first launched upon the sea of life, you have never been still for a single moment; the sea is too deep, you could not find an anchorage if you would; there can be no pause until you come into port."

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