

chief place would be of little use as an instrument of reform, or an incentive to virtue. The forbearance to gratify one's own appetites and passions is not simply the accepted tenet of a religious faith, but it lies at the foundation of all that is essential to proper manhood. Self-denial is the one irrepensible law of all true greatness. To rise early or to sit up late, to eat the bread of carefulness, to pore over hard and laborious studies until the back aches and the eyes grow weary, is not merely a part of the discipline of life, but the laying of a corner-stone in the upbuilding of character.

There is no royal road to the hill of knowledge or any other advancement. The path runs up a steep and rugged acclivity, and they must climb amid sore travail and anxiety who would go above the common level. Self demands the couch of ease and shrinks from the toilsome ascent. Every muscle and sinew must be strained, and the beaded sweat stand in thick drops on the bare brow of the climber in his struggle upward. Each step is gained only at a sacrifice of present comfort and a surrender of present enjoyment. He who will be great in any calling or profession must break through all the silken ties which bind him to sensual pleasures and common delights, and address himself to the stern conflicts of the mountain crags. No railway has been run along those heights. No gentle hand can bear the spoiled child of fortune to the altitudes he covets. Each foot must climb for itself, each shoulder must carry its own provisions for the way, and save a few words of passing cheer, none can help his fellows up that hard and flinty track. How many there are who would fain be at the top, but are unwilling to undergo the painful self denial required for that attainment! But it is not to be had without the sacrifice.

We do not say that all who are willing to pay the price will reach the coveted prize, for the upward pathway is strewn with the wrecks of adventurers who essayed the ascent and missed the object of their ambition. We simply design to show that none can enter the contest for greatness in any field who is not willing to lay aside all selfish ease and present indulgence. A man may be great in the ordinary sense of that word without being good. Self-denial is also the law of good. The natural appetites and passions clamor for self indulgence, and when gratified without restraint they soon defile the life. This is why He who came to save the race from their sins and degradation insisted that none could follow in the narrow way who could not deny himself and take up the cross. It is not an arbitrary requirement, but an essential to a righteous life. It needs no divine revelation to teach us this truth.

A life of self-denial is not exacted because some one has made it the prominent dogma of a religious system. Every man knows that he indulges his own passions at the expense of virtue, and this is one reason why self-gratification has in it always the hidden sting of an inevitable remorse.

No man living is as good as his creed. It matters not, as an illustration of his truth, how low is that standard, every one comes short of his own ideal of what a man ought to be. And there is something in each human breast that accuses its owner whenever he falls below the line of perfectness and denounces him for the lapse he has suffered. To say that it needs a constant grip on the desires, a daily and hourly denial of their cravings to live up to the demands of that inner monitor, is but to echo what every man must say to himself. There is no ear so deaf to the voice of admonition but it must hear this tone of remonstrance when bent on self indulgence, and if the man yields to the demands of appetite it is in the face of the "deny thyself," which sounds athwart every plea of the tempter.

If it is said that self-indulgence is natural and easy, and self-denial is hard and to many impossible, we would answer, if we were filling the role of the preacher, that there is a hand of help for every one who will make an earnest effort to overcome evil with good. The great bane of the poor, by which we mean those who live from hand to mouth, is their want of a resolute self-denial in the use of their daily or weekly earnings. And this runs all the way up to the man of business who wastes his thousands a year through self indulgence on the part of himself or his household, and finally goes down in credit and pocket for want of the capital which might have been gathered in the exercise of a proper restraint.

If this article were not already too long we would append a plea for self denial as a source of absolute pleasure and satisfaction. This is one of those great paradoxes whose truth can only be tested by actual experience. It is the solution of the problem that to save the life is to lose it, and to make the surrender is to find in it a blessedness full of cheer for the present hour and of hope for the great hereafter.—*New York Journal of Commerce.*

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

A GREAT NOVA SCOTIA INDUSTRY.—In point of dimensions, amount and value of annual product and capital represented, the Nova Scotia Steel and Forge Company, of New Glasgow, N. S., ranks amongst the largest and most important industrial interests of the Dominion. The works cover fifteen acres along the East River, about a mile distant from New Glasgow. They were established in 1882, with a then paid up capital of \$280,000, now amounting to \$400,000 paid up, two-thirds of which stock is represented by the citizens of New Glasgow. On Jan. 1, 1889, the Nova Scotia Steel Works absorbed the Nova Scotia Forge Company, with all its franchises, lands, buildings and equipment, when the *nom de commerce* of the enlarged and new arrangement became the Nova Scotia Steel & Forge Company. Since July, 1888, they have expended \$50,000 in improvements, enlargements, and for the obtaining of other facilities whereby they have increased their product and perfected their methods and systems. The bulk of the output passes over the I. C. R. for consumption in the Upper Provinces. In 1884 the shipments from the establishment were only 2,270 tons; in 1887 they amounted to about 6,000 tons; in 1888, 12,000 tons. At present there are 375 men on the pay list, and the monthly pay roll amounts to \$15,000.—*Yarmouth Times.*

LOWER STEWIAKKE ITEMS.—This has become a very lively town. Five stores all doing a good business, two hotels that seem to have all the trade they can attend to; W. H. Guild's Foundry, that gives employment to about twenty men; A. D. Fulton's Carriage Shop running in full blast; J. C. Smith and James Ervin, Blacksmiths, and so on. H. C. Bigelow and J. F. Crowe have both moved into new houses, they are certainly two fine buildings and add very much to the looks of the village.

J. Harvey, of Brookfield, is making preparations to do a large business in the woods this winter. A. Bigelow & Sons, we understand, have purchased some three or four thousand acres of good timber land, and are preparing to cut a large quantity of deals and framing timber. D. Langillo, of New Annan, has the contract of sawing for them at Wittenburg; they expect to build a new mill near the St. Andrews River, as they have a large quantity of timber coming down that river, altogether they will give employment to over one hundred men this winter, besides which there will be teams wanted for logging and hauling the deals.

Dickie & Black have their large mill nearly complete, they are now putting in new machinery. It is a fine mill of about seventy horse power, and fitted up with the latest improvements.

Taylor & Fisher are doing a rushing business in lumber and shingles, they cut this season over three millions of shingles alone, and they say that they have contracted with A. Bigelow & Sons to get them about nine hundred thousand shingles by March.

We observe by the *Bridgewater Enterprise* that a meeting was held there a few days since "to discuss Electric Light for the town, and to consider the advisability of forming a company for the purpose." A gentleman representing the Edison Electric Light system was present and furnished information on various points, and a committee was appointed to select a provisional directorate, to canvass the stock, and to solicit subscribers for the light. It was decided to fix the stock at \$21,000 in shares of \$10 each.

An Ottawa despatch to the *Toronto Empire* says:—"Messrs. John F. Stairs, ex-M.P., and Graham Fraser, manager of the Nova Scotia Steel Company, are in town in connection with the erection of blast furnaces in the county of Pictou and the development of the iron industry there. Mr. Fraser during the past summer has visited the different iron centres in England and Scotland with the object of examining the latest improved methods for blasting, and also to secure necessary capital. If satisfactory arrangements are made the works will be established in New Glasgow, N. S."

Judging from the movements of the men in the factory of Alfred Hogg, Esq., business is with him "on the boom." The buzz of his circulars and gig-saws may be heard both before and after hours, and we hope soon to see him enlarging his stand for business as rapidly as we perceived the timbers of the new bridge passing through his plane last week. In this building all kinds of work are done, wagons from the finest piano box or corning body to the heaviest farm trucks are turned out with neatness and despatch; the durability of, and satisfaction given, by work sent out from under the critical eye of Mr. Hogg is spoken for by the increased and continued patronage of those who have seen or had repairing done or purchased one of his large stock of vehicles.—*Pictou News.*

The Cumberland and Colchester County papers report great activity in lumbering in those two counties, and in the *Herald* of the 29th inst. the following item appeared:—"A prominent lumberman estimated that there are 5,000 men and 1,000 horses working in the woods along the shore from River Hebert to Five Islands."

The Amherst Boot & Shoe Co. has completed its fall samples, and judges who have inspected them pronounce them even ahead of its usual high-class work, and of the best value that can be shown in Canada. The shapes and designs are all got up under the personal direction of Manager Pride, whose experience and judgment enable him thoroughly to gauge the requirements of the trade.—*Record.*

Fairville, St. John, is to have an immense brewery, which Messrs. Mooney & Sons are now building for Mr. James Ready. The plans have been made by a New York architect, and provide for a structure of five stories, 150x59, besides boiler room and engine house. Two of the stories are to be built of granite and to be below the level of the street; the work for this is already well under way. Three stories will be furnished with iron girders. It is expected that 1,000 tons of granite will be used in construction. Operations are to be pushed on with all possible speed to have the building completed by Christmas.—*St. John Telegraph.*

The Standard Drain Pipe Company, St. John, Que., are now manufacturing tombstones, the material being practically indestructible.

The Pictou Iron Foundry Company, Pictou, N. S., are repairing and enlarging their works. They will give employment to about fifty hands.—*Canadian Manufacturer.*

The furniture repository of Messrs. A. Stephen & Son, Barrington St., is well worth a visit this Christmas-time. We have not space to go into details, but a very handsome bed-lounge, and fine assortment of wicker-work furniture, ladies' baskets, and very handsome footstools, are well worth inspection.