



THE Canadian Spworth Era

Toronto
November, 1908

Vol. X

No. 11

Happiness Close at Hand

THE surprise of life always comes in finding how we have missed the things which have lain nearest us —how we have gone far away to seek that which was close by our side all the time. Men who live best and longest are apt to come, as the result of their living, to the conviction that life is not only richer, but simpler, than it seemed to them at first. Men go to vast labor seeking after peace and happiness. It seems to them as though it were far away from them—as though they must go through vast and strange regions to get it. They must pile up wealth, they must see every possible danger of mishap guarded against before they can have peace. Upon how many old men has it come with a strange surprise that peace could come to rich or poor only with contentment, and that they might as well have been content at the very beginning as at the very end of life! They have made a long journey for their treasure; and when at last they stop to pick it up, lo! it is shining close beside the footprint which they left when they set out to travel in a circle!—

Phillips Brooks.