

pursuit that may not be made subservient to religious ends. All that we have, and do, and are, may conspire in the service of God. It is not necessary to exclude every thought but God from our minds, in order to serve him acceptably. To be guided by the light of day, it is not necessary that we keep our eyes for ever fixed on the sun. It is enough that we surround ourselves with the invisible element of which that sun is the source. And so, to serve God, it is not necessary that we make him the immediate and sole object of all our thoughts. It is enough that we make his law the light of our lives, and obedience to him the motive and the end. We serve God by every act and calling which tends to benefit and bless our kind. Every such calling and act has the spirit of religion, if not its form. And religion is not a form but a spirit. Fill the place and follow the calling which you are best fitted to fill and to follow, by natural endowment, by education, or circumstance. Be faithful to its duties, feel its worth in relation to the general good. Make it bear favorably on the interests of society, consider yourself responsible to God for the manner in which you improve the opportunities it affords; and that shall be your religion, an acceptable offering, a "reasonable service." Whatever your hands find to do, do it with your might, for God's sake. That is religion. Whatever your earthly calling, see that it harmonize with your "high calling," and follow it with right aims in an earnest and dutiful spirit, laboring not for the meat that perisheth, intent only on selfish gratification, but for that which endureth unto everlasting life, — self-improvement and the good of mankind.