

## Learn to Admire Rightly.

"To be governed by our admirations rather than by our disgusts," says Dr. Van Dyke, "should ever be our resolve."

That we may be governed by our admirations we must escape from the control of our disgusts. There are two ways of doing this and, like Huxley's paths to truth, they both "meet at the top." One is to forget our dislikes and the other is not to have no settled, unchangeable disgusts. Unfortunately, to a mind not fully under the guardianship of the great and mellowing power of a love which envelops all, and which is full of charity for all, an honest disgust is pertinacious in its grip. For this reason it is always easier to say, "Let us forget" than actually to do so.

The thought we cherish becomes custom, and custom, sooner than we think becomes a fixed habit. The attitude of every individual mind, whether cynical, critical, narrow or severe, or full of love and charity, is the prime factor in the justice or injustice of opinions.

As there is seldom anything which is wholly admirable, so there is not often anything which is unqualifiedly disagreeable or disgusting, or which is not in some way amenable to mitigation.

It would be well then to investigate dislikes, and learn if, perchance, they are quite as sane as they are deemed. Applying the great and benign thought of charity to our disgusts as well as to our admirations will but enhance the charm of the one and lessen the dislike of the other. The man of science says there is no cold; that which is called cold being simply a low degree of heat. May it not be then that, tempered by a tolerant spirit, there is no dislike, no disgust (that is, of course, outside of those things which are intrinsically wrong because of there infringement of some moral principle), but simply a greater or lesser degree of admiration?

At all events a tendency toward a more charitable consideration of the real merit or demerit of those things which are unpleasant will give us more completely to the government of our admiration, and at the same time will lift us above petty animosities, small envies and groveling ambitions, and beget within us a spirit of loving forbearance and an ardent resolve to see the best of all which is presented to us in the shifting scenes of life. It will help us to be not eager to detract but quick to praise; it will aid us to remember that oftentimes things judge us instead of submitting themselves to our judgment. The fine picture, the great book, the splendid poem, are never pleasing to those who have not the ability to appreciate and enjoy them, and it is to such persons that we may generally look for words of criticism and detraction. They are not able to admire; therefore they criticize. It comes from knowing the best things and having in our minds a standard of comparison, but it is not sufficient simply to be able to distinguish what is good. What we need to cultivate is enthusiasm for what is excellent in life, literature, art and morals. It is this love and appreciation that yield happiness and enable us to grow and broaden and develop all the higher capacities of our minds. Somewhere Thackeray says: "Learn to admire rightly; the great pleasure of life is in that." Let us accept the truth of his words.—Frances Worden, in "Ledger Monthly."

In God's Kingdom, every man is an heir apparent to a throne.

## Our Young People

## October 2. In Training.

## Some Bible Hints.

It is the duty of every Moses to lay his hands on some Joshua, and prepare him to carry on his work (Deut. 34:9).

Joshua was not as great as Moses (Deut. 34:10), but God did not ask him to be. He was great enough for his task, and that is all God wants of any man.

The best preparation for succeeding any man is to be his servant, his assistant. Thus Joshua had been Moses' "minister" (Josh. 1:1).

"Moses is dead; now therefore"—go into mourning? Let fall your hands in despair?—"Now therefore arise!" (Josh. 1:2.)

## Suggestive Thoughts.

Every faithful Christian Endeavor society is training the church of the future. How faithful, then it should be!

Consider what qualities are needed in the church prayer meetings, business meetings, socials, committee work, and put those qualities into the prayer meetings, business meetings, socials, and committee work of the Endeavor society.

As Joshua had Moses for a model, and Elisha had Elijah, so it is a good plan for a young Christian to study the life of some noble and experienced Christian for an example.

No one entirely succeeds another, but every one must make his own place.

## A Few Illustrations.

If a young man would be a painter, he deliberately selects that calling. Why, if a young man would be useful to the church in any post of service, should he not also deliberately select that calling?

A wisely conducted place of business always has some one in training for every important post. Thus should we conduct "our Father's business."

The pilot of a New York ferryboat once fell dead at his post, and the boat was left to drift without a helmsman, and in imminent danger. Such will be the condition of the church, unless it trains the young to take the places of the old, as soon as they are vacant.

## To Think About.

Do I keep in mind the higher work to which I may be called?

Is all my service a training for higher service?

Am I ready for any task to which God may summon me?

## A Cluster of Quotations.

To know that God never leaves His work uncompleted, that He gives it to us to carry on, and that those who go before us have entered into His rest while we take up their unfinished task—this is the threefold solace of the sorrows alike of the church and of the Christian family.—*Presence.*

The appointment of a new leader should be the signal for a fresh advance.—*Adeney.*

The demand and the supply, the hour and the man, always meet.—*Watts.*

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tisement of our society.

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## The Friendly Hand.

BY JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.

When a man ain't got a cent, an' he's feelin' kind o' blue,  
An' the clouds hang dark an' heavy, an' won't let the sunshine through,  
It's a great thing, O my brethren, for a teller just to lay  
His hand upon your shoulder in a friendly sort o' way!

It makes a man feel curious; it makes the tears drop start,  
An' you sort o' feel a flutter in the region of the heart.

You can't look up and meet his eyes; you don't know what to say,

When his hand is on your shoulder in a friendly sort o' way.

Oh, the world's a curious compound, with its honey and its gall,  
With its cares an' bitter crosses; but a good world, after all.

An' a good God must have made it—leastwise, that's what I say,

When a hand rests on your shoulder in a friendly sort o' way.

## A "Rare" Sin.

I asked a question some years ago of a person whom I believed to be one of the most covetous individuals in my acquaintance, and I received from him a singular reply.

I said: "How was it that St. Francis de Sales, who was an eminent confessor to whom persons went in the Romish Church to confess their sins, found that persons confessed to him in private all sorts of horrible sins, such as adultery, drunkenness, and murder, but never had one person confessed the sin of covetousness?"

I asked this friend whether he could tell me why it was, and he made me this answer, which certainly did take me rather aback.

He said: "I suppose it is because the sin is so extremely rare."

Blind soul! I told him that, on the other hand, I feared the sin was so very common that people did not know when they were covetous, and the man who was most covetous of all was the last person to suspect himself of it.—Charles H. Spurgeon.

The Church Missionary Society has closed its connection with missionary work in New Zealand, leaving its support and supervision to the church of the colony.

## Daily Readings.

M., Sept. 26. The school of the prophets.

2 Kings 2:1-7.

T., Sept. 27. Samuel in training. 1 Sam. 3:1-21.

W., Sept. 28. David in training. 1 Sam. 16:1-11:3.

T., Sept. 29. One part of training. Prov. 4:1-7.

F., Sept. 30. Timothy training. Acts 16:1-3:17:14, 15.

S., Oct. 1. John Mark in training. Acts 13:5:1 Tim. 4:11.

Sun. Oct. 2. Topic—How we are in training to succeed others.—Deut. 34:7-12; Josh. 1:1-2.