

ments we cherish and that if we seek for wise direction we may gain knowledge which will afford a source of constant pleasure while the journey of life shall last.

May every one of us be careful to choose best thoughts for our portion, and may they take deep root and spring up in flowers of beauty and fruits of gladness, and after years our be crowned with the well done of satisfied endeavor.

Trusting the success which has attended our first endeavors in this direction will be an incentive to continued efforts in the future, and appreciating the kindness of those beneath whose roof our feast is spread, we disperse cherishing bright memories of these enjoyments and feeling a desire to take up the work again when the snows of another winter cover the earth and the cheerful fireside is so alluring. Solomon says: "How much better is it to get wisdom than gold, and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver." Prov. xvi., 16.

EGOTISM.

What is egotism? Is it not love of self-commendation, vanity, which too often causes seed of discord to be sown in our social gatherings, neighborhoods, and even homes? Is it for us to say to our friends: "Stand thou there, I am more holy than thou?" Who of us is without fault?

Egotism is a venomous character, and should be dealt with cautiously. Surely those of such dispositions can not be really happy; they are constantly watching where they can get an opportunity to praise themselves.

I believe there is a seed of egotism abounding in every individual; but does every individual allow it to mature? It is one of the ill weeds of the mind, and should be kept in subjection and the seed of "self-denial" sown in its place. My determination is to subdue such feelings and to "scatter seeds of kindness" in the path of life. B. A. Z.

Stepping stones found in the Rock, n'er was made by man,
Wisdom hath her matchless work, and never changed her plan.

Foundation not of books or men, lo here's or lo there's,

But God, our Father, is our all, by birth we're made his heirs.

And he who finds the stepping stone and builds upon the Rock,

Obtains the Key in wisdom that books can not unlock.

To the multitude our brother spake, the will of God do ye ;

Then ye are my brothers—from sin ye are set free.

Seeking wisdom, pure, divine, resort unto the Fountain,

Quenches thirst by better far than at the foot of the mountain.

Gathering foreign substances while running through the passes,

Like instruction from a book that's filtered through the masses.

But humbly pray and look unto the Head who holds the power,

Receiving from them daily bread—the interest of our dower. H. G. M.

ESSAY.*

The following essay is from one who wishes to promote an interest in the above organization and is willing to

"Let charity divine
Spread wide its branches
O'er the *motives* of our fellows,
Howe'er unwise their *deeds*."

What is life? It is the beginning of eternity; it is immortal, neverdying; it is a realization which exists in every soul upon the earth; it is that with which every tree, bird, and insect has been endowed, and all proclaim in glowing language the idea of *life*.

What is *our* life? A condition to prepare for that eternity, of which this is the beginning. It is by living in

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