

of the regard in which he was held, but to the consideration of a few of the more prominent lessons taught by his life.

*First*—It teaches the importance of an early and decided choice, and of a right choice. His course was adopted long ago, and the results have even now been only partially seen. He chose the Lord's service. He sought wealth, but not to lavish on himself. If he sought distinction, it was the distinction of doing good. And the Lord blessed him with peace, and gave him also wealth and great honour. His early and decided choice led to all these results.

*Secondly*—We see the importance of cultivating the habit of giving freely and frequently to humane and religious objects.

The Premier of England, in a recent speech at the banquet of the Lord Mayor in London, said that Mr. Peabody has taught the most useful of all lessons—"how a man can be a master of his fortune and not its slave." Mr. P. won this great conquest by a course of personal training, and this consisted in cultivating the habit of giving. He found it difficult when he began, and said so once, when speaking of the subject to a friend, but recommended it saying that *practice made it sweet*. He thus won a great moral victory, and made for himself "friends of the mansion of unrighteousness." We cannot all have wealth, but we can all enjoy the luxury of giving, and there is nothing to hinder us from cultivating the blessed habit.

*Thirdly*—He executed his own will.

In a suggestive article in the *Christian at Work* for December on George Peabody's *Life and Bequests*, we read—"These two words thus conjoined are very suggestive. How much more he put into his life than he left in the form of bequests. His greatest bequest was his example. His life was his largest benefaction to mankind. This testimony is true, and to it we add the testimony of Rev. Newman Hall, "How wise the course which Peabody pursued! Why leave behind him vast sums to be disposed of by others when he might be his own almpor? Why not,

after providing reasonably for future contingencies, enjoy during life the luxury of making others happy? With philanthropic machinery of all kinds standing still, or working heavily for want of fuel which we have stored; with the hungry, the ignorant, the perishing around us, it is a fearful responsibility to possess great wealth; an awful crime to die rich, after a life of covetousness, which is idolatry! All honour to Mr. Peabody that he recognized the responsibility, as well as enjoyed the privileges of wealth. Alas for those who hoard their money till they can no longer keep it, and close their ears to the cries of the poor, till death, inexorable and irresistible, comes to demand the whole! Alas for the unfaithful stewards, who, not being rich in good works, die rich in silver and gold, which will be stern witnesses of their greed, and pitiless clamourers for their condemnation."

Edward Jost, of Halifax, a man of strong faith and moderate means, has built a brick church in Barrack street for the poor and the outcast; and it was erected from means which he had designed to bequeath for the Lord's cause. He thought better of it, and now sees in part the blessed fruit of his liberality in the evangelizing agencies clustering around that building.

It is in this direction that Mr. Peabody's example is in our opinion calculated to do the largest amount of good. A great name was needed and the impulse of a great example. These we have in George Peabody. He has indeed shown to the world, as Mr. Jost has on a smaller scale and to a narrower circle, "how much better it is to be one's own executor, with a living hand to give, and enjoy the giving in the gratitude of the living. That is not *given* which a man hoards during life, and which *drops* in death from the palsied hand." "

We submit the two following sentences from *Christian at Work*, to all whom they may concern:—

"Is the eye of a man following these lines who is adding to his capital and whose income is annually increasing his investments? Do consider this, that what you give to benefit mankind, you yourself use,