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EDUCATION.

Study.

Few things are so important in a race as a good start, with a full perception of the distance to be run. Striking the right key is essential to harmony. Let us endeavour to make a good start by setting forth to our minds the characteristic of the race to which our subject invites us. Let us, at the outset, strike the right note. By study is meant *work*—brain work—yet real downright work. To study is to bend all the energies of the mind to the attainment of knowledge; it is to put forth all its powers in the pursuit of truth. The habit of study is the practice of being thus engaged whenever the mind is not occupied by those engagements which enter into the ordinary routine of life. By a student is understood, either one who is acquiring this habit, or in a fuller sense, one who has acquired it. The habit is not a natural one any more than is a taste for vinegar, or a liking for tobacco. In forming the habit the natural repugnance of the mind to intense and sustained exertion has to be overcome, and the habit cannot be acquired but at the expense of much labour, and as the result of a strong and determined will. For the mind has inertia like matter, that is, it opposes resistance to a change of condition. It dislikes being disturbed, and it requires a strong force to get it to move, and to keep it moving. 'Tis true that activity, incessant activity, is one of the characteristics of mind. Mind would cease to be mind, the moment it ceased to be active; yet, to the direction of all that activity into one channel, to the continuance of it for a length of time in one direction, to the bending of its energies, and to the controlling of its laws by a determined will, the mind offers more or less resistance. Although perhaps it would be nearer the truth to say, that the resistance is in the mind's servant, the brain, rather than in the mind itself,—the brain, without whose instrumentality the mind in our present state does no conscious work.

In setting forth work as the prime feature of study, and in contending that the mind requires pressure to engage therein, it is well, nevertheless, to remember that pleasure is the invariable concomitant of this work, and is one of its most frequent rewards. Nay, we may go further, and maintain that—always excepting