

## DILIGENCE ENSURES SUCCESS.

[W. H.]

**B**EFORE a man can be considered successful, he must have acquired something of value, some object after which he has been striving. It need not necessarily be very precious in the estimation of the world, if it but serve the purpose of satisfying its possessor.

The objects which men pursue, or rather the aims of life, are too numerous to be given in a short sketch like this. They vary with individuals, owing to personal characteristics, as well as birth and education. That which might be considered a valuable prize by the peasant would be viewed with careless indifference or perhaps contempt by the scion of nobility. But whether man is born in humble or affluent circumstances the human heart is the same, governed by the same passions, and similarly affected by similar desires. Great as the gulf is that exists in society between the rich and the poor, the difference is so slight as scarcely to be noticed when brought under the influence of the government of the Supreme Law-giver. This places all men on a common level, for whatever tends to degrade or ennoble the rich will also tend to degrade or ennoble the poor.

Although the honest efforts of one man may not produce such brilliant results as the honest efforts of another, it is nevertheless an acknowledged fact that the more a man loves the work in which he is engaged the more likely will he be to achieve success. The reason of this is self evident, for the love which he has for his work will induce him to devote every moment to its complete mastery. In short, will prompt him to be diligent.

*Diligen.* is derived from the Latin *diligo*, which means to love; this love of an object begets a desire for possessing it, and this desire urges us to make efforts again and again until the object

is attained. These three things, namely, love of, desire for, and persistent effort in attaining, constitute diligence.

This is something which all may possess, in fact, something which all do possess, for where is the man who does not love some object—and love is the main-spring of diligence. People may observe one man who is diligent in the profession he has selected, and may be pleased to see his success which is but a natural sequence of his diligence, or they may observe another who has no profession, no occupation whatever, whose whole time is apparently spent in idleness. It might be said that such a man is not diligent, but this would be a mistake. His brain is as full of schemes as that of the busiest politician, and his memory as well stocked with the names of drinks and games as that of a student with exceptions to the rules of grammar. In his case as in all others, diligence will ensure success. He is diligent to avoid the road which leads to honor and a respectable old age, and he will be successful. The poor drunkard, as he stands on the verge of eternity, every hope shattered, every prospect blighted, is another evidence that diligence ensures success. He has lived a life of sin and folly, and the energy with which he has pursued that life has manifested itself in the wretched condition of his family, brought almost to starvation's door by his inhuman treatment, in the loss of respect and esteem he has suffered at the hands of the community, and in the pernicious effects his life has had on the morality of his fellow men.

Doubtless the unfortunate wretch who suffers imprisonment or the loss of his life for his crimes, would have paused ere he began his downward career, if he could have foreseen the success which his diligence would ensure.