

shine, and we walked home surrounded by the brilliant coloring of the mountains, red and golden, which only grows more beautiful every day.

"And I will trust that He who heeds
That life that hides in mead and wold,
Who hangs yon alder's crimson heads,
And stains those mosses green and gold,
Will still, as He hath done, incline
His gracious ear to me and mine;
Grant what we ask aright from wrong debar,
And as the earth grows dark, make brighter every
star!"

—Whittier.

OPPORTUNITY.

Opportunity is offered to every person in this world, at some period in his or her life, perhaps when young or perhaps in later years. We can never tell when this chance will present itself to us, but at all events, we should endeavor to make the most of our time.

Some children idle away their study hours, and then at the examinations they wish over and over again that they had prepared their lessons, especially when they see their industrious companions writing with ease what they are unable to do.

So it is, in later life. The one who has patiently met every difficulty, and fought bravely on, in the end is very much higher up the ladder of life than the person who was easily discouraged by a trifle.

A very pretty poem has been written on the subject of "Opportunity." It tells of a coward, who feared to engage in the coming battle because of losing his life. Trying to make excuses for his behaviour, he said to himself: "Had I a sword of keener steel, like that which the king's son carries, I would not be afraid of anything. But what can I do with this blunt thing?" He snapped it in half and threw the pieces away, then crouching to the ground, so as not to be seen, he crept away to safety.

Presently the king's son himself came along. He was wounded, weaponless and pursued by his enemies. Looking around in desperation, he spied the broken sword, with its hilt buried in the dry and trodden sand. Grasping it eagerly, with a battle cry, he leaped forward, striking to right and left, felling enemy after enemy, until he stood quite alone on the field unopposed.

In this manner he had saved a great cause, which his craven subject might have accomplished had he not been so traitorous.