

thering up such lessons from the actual biography of a distinguished man; and there is an importance to be attached to such lessons which cannot be given to general and mere abstract precepts or recommendations. These precepts may have, or may not have, been realized; but in our case the lessons read have been *lived out* in actual life,—have been proved not only possible of being learned, but have already been learned and made palpable to every one in the every day work and toil of our busy world. They not only prove things possible which at one time seemed to be impossible, but they have firmly arrested attention, and compelled men to pause and wonder.—Such are the lessons taught us by the life of Kitto. To all they should be profitable; but they should be particularly so to the young, whose characters are as yet only forming, and whose life lies far on, it may be, in the distant future. To such we would earnestly address ourselves, in the few lessons our space and time permit us to read. Out of many we select the following.

I. OUR AIM IN THE BUSINESS OF LIFE SHOULD BE SINGLE OR ONE.—This is a lesson which is emphatically taught us in the life of Kitto. We have seen that at a very early period, he determined to make himself useful to the world; and to be so, he at the same time resolved, that he should fix on one purpose, one work, one task. The purpose on which he fixed was to become a popular, an acceptable and a useful writer—and a writer of high standing in the literary world. When once his purpose was taken, nothing could, for any length of time, make him deviate from it. In his chequered history, occasionally events did occur in the mysterious arrangements of Divine Providence which seemed to lead him away from his chosen course, but these were only slight disturbances in the orbit in which he revolved. True to his original design, he was speedily back at the point from which the deviation began. The magnet will sometimes tremble and quiver and appear to point to different quarters of the compass, but it is only for a little; it is only because some attractive influence, some mountain impregnated with iron, or some hill with kindred loadstone has come across its path; in a moment or two its tremblings cease, its deviations are ended, and with a firm, determined, fixed hold, points to its loved pole again. So was it with John Kitto. One aim he had, and that aim he kept steadily in view throughout life. Before it physical difficulties—and these were not few—were compelled to give way; before it trials, sorrows, opposition, enmity, and even friendships themselves, were made to recede; and under its mighty and hallowing influences, he came out before the world one of the noblest of noble conquerors, having blazoned on his banners—*Labor omnia vincit*—“labour conquers all.”

Powerful is the lesson which this fact reads to all, and especially to the young whose characters are but moulding. Fix upon some one important work and resolve, with the help of God, to achieve it. One such work is enough, and perhaps it will be found to be more than enough. This lesson requires to be the more earnestly impressed, because at the present time it seems to be much neglected, if not wilfully forgotten. Among the youth of our Colonies and of the neighbouring Republics, and it may be of some other places, there seems often to be a want of purpose, a want of aim, in the great business of life. There is a restlessness, a feverish excitement, a dissatisfaction with their present circumstances, which seems to be almost ominous; and yet there is no special purpose or object which they aim at in room of these circumstances. They are at one thing to-day, at another to-morrow, and at another still the next day. Alternately they farm, merchandise, and work at mechanical trades. They try every thing, but as a very natural