

brightness. Religion is from beginning to end, not only the same in kind, but the way in which we obtain one degree of it is the only way in which we can obtain any degree of it, even the most exalted.

As the earth grows lustrous by steadily turning toward the east, so Christians grow purer by steadily approximating God. The price paid by one who rises in the scale of experience becomes constantly larger, but it is ever one currency—the gold of self-surrender; that, and that only, is legal tender, and must be paid whether the blessing sought be initial or complete. One progresses in spirituality, as in anything else, by a process of repetition. The arithmetician advances from the lower to the higher mathematics by using, in ever-varying and more complex relations, the fundamental rules with which he began; he can never get beyond the necessity of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

A scholar becomes proficient in English literature by repeatedly reading, in its innumerable combinations, the English alphabet; the longest as well as shortest word among the more than one hundred thousand now used is nothing else than a piece of the alphabet, and it is by simply following his a, b, c's, as they wind in and out through the libraries of the land and the literatures of the world, that one develops into a savant.

Thus we must grow in grace. As we have received Christ, so must we walk in Him. We received Him by faith, and can grow up into Him only by a repetition of that exercise. It is the alphabet of all religion, and spells every possible experience.—*Rev. J. S. Breckenridge.*

#### POWER WITH GOD AND MEN.

In no one particular do Christians differ more than in spiritual and moral power. Some are weak, very weak, while others are strong. And this is often so where, according to all human calculation, the very opposite should be true. Power seems to be a special endowment for particular ends. The prophet Micah possessed it at one time, at least, when he said, "I am full of power by the Spirit of the Lord, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and unto Israel his sin." "Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people." (Acts vi. 8.) Jacob "had power with