

parts, and these periods he measured by candles, burning one inch in twenty minutes. During the sixteenth century the hour glass was employed in churches, and continued in use till about fifty years ago. In several of the churches in England hour glass stands of elegant workmanship are still to be seen. The proper division of time will do for the individual what the division of labor does for the community. In the case of government contracts, the work is divided and given to different parties that the whole may be completed within the time specified; in the same way we divide our daily duties, giving to each hour its allotted task. If so much time were not wasted in thinking of what to do next, we would not at the close of day look back with regret on the loss of golden hours set with diamond minutes. Many times this stopping to consider ends in the putting off till to-morrow. As Young tells us—

"Be wise to-day; 'tis madness to defer;
Next day the fatal precedent will plead.
Thus on, till wisdom is pushed out of life.
Procrastination is the thief of time—

Taking duties in their proper succession is a great saving of time. Many people who neglect to observe this rule bring upon themselves the homely truth, "your head will never save your heels." If we were to see a letter-carrier take his letters out in a general heap and deliver them just as the addresses turned up, we would at once tell him that he could save much time and trouble if he would first arrange them in proper order and then distribute them. If a man fails to have organization in his daily business, the rumor is soon abroad that the business is far from being in a flourishing condition, and this is soon followed by the report that he has failed. In the associations of men for all purposes a system of organization is carried on. In all large establishments law and order is positively a necessity. We have a good example of method in railroad and insurance companies; each person has their labor appointed to them, and everything works in unison. But while considering method in connection with great things, we must not overlook the small as beneath our notice, for it is these which count up, and unless we have method in the most trivial things, we cannot expect to have success in the great.

ASTRONOMY.

How broad the subject, but how narrow our views! How extended the field of observation, but how limited our vision! Above us and all around is spread "the amazing canopy, the wide, the wonderful expanse," and though unable to comprehend all the mystery, we may learn some lessons of the greatness, and power, and majesty of Him who "stretched out the heavens and placed therein great lights, the sun to rule by day, the moon and stars to rule by night." For six thousand years the same book has been open to man, "the book of God before us set wherein to learn His seasons, months, and days." Its letters of light are stamped indelibly on the dark page, so that he who will may read. For six thousand years the sun has risen and set; "Hesperus has led the glittering host;" the planets have moved on in their own appointed orbits, and "silently one by one in the infinite meadows of heaven," have, each evening, "blossomed the lovely stars, the forget-me-nots of the angels, until at length the moon, apparent queen, unveiled her peerless light and o'er the darker silver mantle threw;" and for six thousand years has astronomy been studied. It is the oldest of all the sciences, and a grand and glorious one, worthy the attention of celestial spirits. In Eden, in the still evening, "when glowed the firmament with living sapphire," and everything breathed purity, the sinless pair in humble adoration of the Creator together sought from Him an answer to these enquiries, and an archangel stooped to tell the magnitudes and endless circuits of the stars. Time passed on; the light of science set in gross darkness; man forgot his Teacher, and forfeited that knowledge gained without toil or weariness. Now he must learn by his own hard, earnest labor—by nightly patient watching and waiting, and by daily calculation—for in the deluge sank the records of antedeluvian learning, and astronomy with the rest. But by the flickering light, as history begins to dawn upon the world, we see the promise of its re-appearing. Taking its rise in astrology, it glimmered long on the eastern horizon, but as the centuries rolled round, rose higher and higher, advancing "westward, and ever westward." Though error has often obscured or partially eclipsed it, like the sun