

Impelled by the same spirit, Disraeli realized his own prediction that "The day would come when the House of Commons would hear him." Heyne, the eminent German Classical Scholar, shelled peas with one hand and translated Tibullus with the other. Pascal killed himself with hard work. Barnes wrote his commentaries before 9 o'clock. Carlyle says that "The only genius he knows of is the genius of hard work."

Elihu Burritt, the well known learned Blacksmith, made himself familiar with eighteen ancient and modern languages, and twenty-two European dialects. A man with no more than ordinary ability, can make of himself pretty much what he likes. Is he ambitious to become another "Porson" or "Bentley", let him resolutely set to work, employing every odd moment, nail himself to his desk, day after day and year in and year out, and he will succeed in the attainments of his idea. Is he determined to win laurels for himself as a sagacious Statesman? that can be attained. Is wealth the desire of his heart? with resolute will and unflagging industry, that can be gained. It matters not to what position a man may hope to attain, he will almost succeed if he complies with the conditions necessary to success. Let steam be subjected to law, brought under control, and at once, that seemingly powerless agency is created with an almost irresistible power. Thus it is with man. Let him be beset with difficulties and if composed of the right mettle he can become invincible.

Is it worth the effort to achieve distinction? We think it is. It is our duty to cultivate every talent which we possess. This must be done if we wish to be true to ourselves, true to our fellow-men, and true to our God. Both nature and revelation unite in condemning us for burying our talents or putting our lights under a bushel.

Let no one, then, wait for his father or rich relative to give him a start in the world, but let him commence the strug-

gle single handed, relying not on the external assistance, which begets weakness, and he will accomplish more than even the toiling Hercules. That tree which stands alone in the open plain can endure the violence of the fiercest storms. So it is, that man who fights his own way, independent of external aid, makes his mark in the world.

If any of us have a disposition to shirk work, let us resolutely abandon that spirit, remembering that—

"The heights by great men reached and kept,  
Were not attained by sudden flight;  
But they, while their companions slept,  
Were toiling upward in the night."

Nor need any of us be discouraged in the struggle, for

"Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And departing leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time."

Knowledge acquired merely with a view to examination or recitation is usually very shallow and imperfect, and soon passes out of the mind when the occasion that prompted the effort is passed.—*Dr. Whewell.*

The mind, impressible and soft, with ease Imbibes and copies what she hears and sees,

And through life's labyrinth holds fast the clew

That education gave her, false or true.

—*Cowper.*

All our knowledge originates with the senses; proceeds thence to the understanding, and ends with the reason, which is subordinate to no higher authority in us, in working up intuitions, and bringing them within the highest unity of thought.—*Kant.*

The intellect is perfected not by knowledge but by activity.—*Aristotle.*

He who has no knowledge of things, will not be helped by knowledge of words.—*Luther.*

The primary principle of education is the determination of the pupil to self activity—the doing nothing for him which he is able to do for himself.—*Hamilton.*