

Has some **great** obstacle confronted me? That will justify me still less in losing my mental poise, for now I require my **greatest** strength of mind, and loss of mental poise is loss of mental strength. Nor should I cease radiating happiness and mental sunshine all about me. Here is simply a **greater** lesson than those little ones!

My pathway is filled with barriers great and small, and I, and I alone, am called upon to surmount my personal hindrances. Around, or over, or through, or under them I must go. There they are! My Destination lies beyond! That is a part of the great Plan! The little ones, if I have learned their lessons properly, but prepare me for the **greater**.

Great and small is but a matter of comparison, after all. The Little is **large** to the Small; the Large is **small** to the **Great**!

Why should I complain, knowing that he who bawails only makes more formidable the cause of his bewailment by weakening his own power? The strong, by the exercise of strength, will become yet stronger, until the greatest obstacles will be greeted as mere pleasurable conquests. A man does not measure strength with an infant!

Therefore, I should learn the nature of my being, of my mind—the source of my strength and my fortitude, and the citadel of my well-being—and its relationship to its environment which includes the minds of others, for I am only an infinitesimal part of the manifestation of Mind on Earth!

I am continually coming in contact with other Minds, either directly or indirectly, or with the results of their operations, and I should recognize the fact that my mind is only a tiny particle of the stupendous **Operation**.

It should become apparent to me that practically all of my strength is gained primarily through this contact, for the Mind must have an **objective** in order to function. That is, the Mind cannot conceive of itself by itself alone. I know not only because of my Mind, but because of the things that are—because of my environment, which, repeated for special emphasis, includes the **Minds of others**.

### **How I Gain**

It is a recognized principle in nature that in Union there is **Strength**, therefore, I gain not only because of my proper association with others, but because those others also gain, and, if my association with others is naturally adjusted, my gain increases as the gain of those others increase. For instance, I know a little about machinery because others know more about machinery than I, and the more those others learn about machinery, the more will I be able to learn. I am indebted to the minds of others for all that I know about automobiles for I had nothing to do with the creation of those machines. Other minds created the automobile and placed it before me for my