

It is the distinct teaching of the Bible, that character building is the ultimate aim of all Christians living in this world. We glorify our risen Lord only as we become like him. The glory of God is his character, and the glory of man is the same thing. Now God's purpose, concerning us, is that we should be made like himself, in character, and the man Christ Jesus is the example set before us to this intent. But the man Christ Jesus was made perfect through suffering. And we can only be perfected, made Godlike, by the same great means. So that every trial of life, is but a ministering angel, working towards this end. And the great Sculptor, who is chiselling and fashioning us into the image of his dear Son, is infinitely tender in all his dealings with us. He makes no mistakes.

They tell us that Algerian carpets are woven by hand, upon a canvas webbing. The workmen stand on one side of this material, as it hangs across the room. The designer stands on the other side, hidden from their sight, by the work upon which they are engaged. The designer calls out to the workers, each color and stitch, according to his purpose. They simply obey, and do their work, not knowing what the plan may be, upon which they are working, but having perfect confidence in the designer, who is working out of sight on the other side. To them there appears

no pattern, but knots and broken threads and ends in confusion. They find the beautiful proportion and harmony of the work only when it is complete and they view it from its right side.

In like manner the knots, and ends, and apparently broken threads, of the web of life may seem dark and mysterious to us. They may sometimes pain and distress us. But, be it remembered, we are not yet viewing life from its right side. Some day we shall learn fully, what God's whole will and purpose have been. On the other side of this life, we shall see how perfect is the whole pattern, which the Great Designer has been working out. "He doeth all things well. "For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men." "It is for chastening that we endure ; God dealeth with you as with sons." My soul wait thou only upon God."

Those of us, then, who have this hope in God, are bound to make the best of life. We must not forget that by every least act of life we are making history, both for time and eternity. Every day we are creating memories. Let them be memories that shall bring sunshine into human hearts, rather than memories that shall cast life-long shadows. "Let them be memories that shall cause those with whom we come in contact, in their quiet hours, to sing a Te Deum, rather than to pray in agony that they