

To a Certain Scientist.

[BY EDWARD ARTHUR WICHER]

You lack perspective, need the wider view
 Toward the horizon, with its farms and towns,
 Its vineyards, olive-orchards, flashing crowns
 Of snow-peaked mountains; with its ocean's blue.
 You need the vision of this human life,
 Pulsing, exuberant, grandly surging up,
 In the full faith of Him who drank the cup,
 And brought forth harmony from the primal strife.
 And yet you keep your failing eye screwed down
 To your one microscope; shut out the whole
 Broad universe from your interest. And so
 You lose your life, and in small theories drown
 The great enthusiasms of your soul;
 Fearing you should unscientific grow.

Selections From the Masterpieces.—VIII.

To determine your life solely by the prospect of worldly success is to risk the loss of the best things in life. To sacrifice friendship or conscience to success in your calling is to sacrifice what is best to what is lowest, and to blind yourself to the highest human happiness. For happily the essential elements of the highest happiness are as open to the poor as to the rich, to the unsuccessful as to the successful—love of wife and children, congenial and educating friendships, the knowledge of what the best men have done, and the wisest men have said, the pleasure and impulse, the sentiments and beliefs which result from our knowledge of the heroic deeds done from year to year among men; the enlivening influence of examples that tell on all men alike, young and old, rich and poor; the insight and strength of character that are won in the hard wrestle with life; the growing consciousness that God is in human life, that He is ours and that we are His—these things and all that makes human life of value are universal as air and sunshine, but must be missed by those who make the world their object. . . .

He who believes that God is pledged to provide for him cannot be greedy, anxious, covetous; can only be liberal, even magnanimous. Any one can thus test his own faith. If he does not find that what God promises weighs substantially when put in the scales with gold; if he does not find that the accomplishment of God's purpose with him in the world is to him the most valuable thing, and actually compels him to think lightly of worldly position and ordinary success; if he does not find that in point of fact the gains which content a man of the world shrivel and lose interest, he may feel tolerably certain he has no faith and is not counting as certain what God has promised.

—Marcus Dods.