

posed in him, so catholic a disciple that he drew all believers into his capacious friendship, and so loyal a witness to Christ that he never gave an uncertain sound. His death leaves a gap, as an oak of Bashan leaves when torn up by a tornado, and it is a gap which half-a-dozen common men will not fill. Like Livingstone in Africa, Livingston Nevius was a missionary general and statesman in China.

Yet, tho an uncommon man, the secrets of his success are open for the most part to all who will learn them where he did, in the school of Christ. We shall here only advert to some of these divinely taught lessons, referring the reader to that more copious and complete narrative, and graphic profile of his character and career, which his widow has left us, in which she mixed her colors with her own brains and heart's blood.

First of all, Dr. Nevius laid the basis of his lifework in *regulating resolves*. He lived by rule, tho not by rote; and twenty-four such "Rules" are on record, the first dated December 29th, 1850; the last, April 17th, 1851. Four months, just after he attained majority, seem to have been given to the settling of the great principles by which his life was to be governed—in the best sense, *ruled*.

It is not needful to transcribe them here, as they are published in full in his life (p. 713); but they are the laying of foundations tried by the plumb-line and level, set true and square. It is amazing how comprehensive they are; they show the master builder working at the basis of the structure of character.

He begins by abandoning self-made plans, while seeking to be ready for whatever God wills; he puts life before him as a transaction with God and for God, and sets service rather than scholarship before him as his aim; he proposes victory over evil, Divine daily guidance, and habits of prayer, as to be expected and provided for; carelessness in devotion, covetousness in disposition, and envious and jealous tempers as to be anticipated and provided against; he determines also to study courtesy of manners, but especially love to God and charity to all men in his heart.

Physical health is not overlooked. Hours of sleep, of exercise; habits of eating and fasting, of holy reflection, and Bible study; diligent use of time and thoroughness of application, avoidance of procrastination, of frivolous and indelicate conversation, and even of careless speech—all these crowned by the solemn purpose in all his ways to acknowledge God, and to account nothing too trivial to submit to His direction—such are the basal stones which lay at the foundations of one of the purest, truest, noblest lives of this century of missions. What if every young man would lay a similar basis for his own life! What decision of character and what objects in living, deliberately chosen and sedulously pursued to the end!

Such Christian virtue brings its own reward. He shortly afterward recorded that whenever he had attempted to engage in any public service without asking help of God with a sense of weakness and dependence on