

there never can be any success or any satisfaction. These who thus try to avoid this aspect of life are making a mistake. The truer view of our position is, that we are here to contend against evil, here to encounter and overcome difficulty, here to conquer and wrest from the circumstances of life that which is for our good. And every one who has been awakened to take a true view of life will regard it in this light. We are here in the midst of forces which hinder our progress, here in the midst of temptations which spring up from within and without, here where our fellow men are ever ready to take advantage of us, and to use us for their own ends, and if we would attain to any successful use of life we must be prepared to contend every day against these forces. To the great mass of mankind to live a useful and honourable life, to earn one's daily bread, to provide for the wants of the family is a hard battle, and one that has to be engaged in every day. In merely doing this common work of life there is much to endure and to suffer, and that life is the noblest, which presses on in the face of obstacles and enemies, and wins success by a manly struggle with these, and by a real and thorough overcoming of them. And in the common ranks of life God has many heroes and heroines. Many whose lives are felt by them to be a hard and constant battle and who with brave persistence and with faith in God press on in the path of duty. These are not forgotten of Him. No man has become great, or worthy to be considered great, who has not reached that position by a course of conflict against adverse circumstances. It may have been against the circumstances of birth, or education, or the difficulties which poverty surround us with, or the want of friends, or the enmity of his fellow men. Whatever it may have been, these obstacles have been overcome. The victory and the honour has been for him who fought, who refused to be overcome by these foes to his success, who toiled on