

THE MEN WHO SUCCEED.

BEAR in mind that the great difference among men, of all callings, is energy of character or the want of it. Given the same amount of learning and integrity, and the same opportunities, and energy will make one man a conqueror. The want of it will see the other a failure. Dead-beats are all men without force. They had as good a chance as any of their companions. Others went ahead and carried off the prizes, while they were lying beside the wayside dispirited and despondent. It takes nerve, vim, perseverance, patience, continuance in well-doing, to win a great prize. And the young man who goes into a profession without this pluck and force will not earn salt to his porridge. He will drag along through life with the help of friends, getting some credit with them for being a well-meaning man, in delicate health and unlucky. The real trouble is, he lacks energy. All the learning in the world will not qualify a man for usefulness. It requires push, stamina, vigor, courage, resolution, will, determination—in one word—energy.—*N. Y. Observer.*

As a man that has a burden on his back, or a long garment hanging down to his heels, is altogether unfit to run a race, so unready are they for the spiritual race who are entangled with the love of the world, or with any sinful compliances.—*Burkitt.*

THE GREAT PHYSICIAN

THE surgeon who goes upon the battle field to dress the wounded always first goes to the most desperate case, so Jesus does not exclude the greatest sinners when they come to Him, but on the contrary gives them his first attention. He came to save "sinners."

LOVE NOT THE WORLD.

A CHRISTIAN in the world is like a man transacting his affairs in the rain. He will not suddenly leave his client because it rains; but the moment the business is done he is off.

"But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

—Eph. ii. 4-6.

FAIR WEATHER FRIENDS.

WHO is a friend like me?" said the shadow to the body. "Do I not follow you wherever you go? Sunlight or moonlight I never forsake you."

"It is true," said the body. "But where are you when neither sun nor moon shines upon me? The true friend abides with us in darkness."

"LO I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS," saith the Friend.

THERE are two ways of coming down from the upper part of a house: one is to jump down, and the other is to come down the stairs one step at a time, but both will land you at the bottom. So there are two ways of reaching the lowest level of degradation and sin, and eventually of hell. One is to jump down—few people do that—the other is to go down by the steps of little sins. Thousands are doing this.

IMMORTALITY.

IF I err in believing that the souls of men are immortal, I willingly err; nor while I live would I wish to have this delightful error extorted from me; and if, after death I shall feel nothing, as some minute philosophers think, I am not afraid lest *dead philosophers* should laugh at me for the error.—(*Cicero.*)