

condition of men. Every defect causes an excess, every sweet has its sour. Nature has no monopolies, but all conditions are equalized. A person in a humble position may imagine that power and high position are everything, but the emperor pays dear for his palace. It is the same with genius; he who is great has the responsibility of that greatness.

The law of compensation is seen in the government of nations. If the governor is arbitrary his life is in danger. If the laws are too severe they will not be carried out. But no matter what the state of government, the influence of character remains unaltered. These facts indicate that the universe is represented in every one of its particles, that everything in nature contains all the powers of nature; so also we put our life into every act, and every act rewards itself in two ways; first in the thing, second in the circumstance. This reward of circumstance is called retribution and is seen by the understanding. It is inseparable from the thing, and may not be clearly seen for a considerable length of time, but it will be seen. Every cause has its effect. The effect may not be seen immediately, but we know that it will come. Crime must have its punishment, seed its fruit, and it is impossible to separate the two.

We may imagine we can perform a certain act (one perhaps we would not wish anyone to know of on account of its not being very noble), and that nothing will come of it; in so doing, we forget that the law of nature overrules our action above our will. We may not intend anything, but retribution will surely follow.

A man cannot speak but he judges himself, that is, he reveals himself in his speech, and every opinion he advances reacts on him again. If he speak advisedly, he is strengthened accordingly; if unadvisedly, he is made so much weaker. It is impossible to do wrong without suffering wrong, and it is equally true that it is impossible to do good without receiving good. We thus see that the law of compensation relates to everything in nature.

The soul is not a compensation but a life. Virtue and truth are the influx from it. A man may commit a sin and evade the law, but, in so far as he evades the law

and carries the guilt, his soul ceases to live, and although he may not receive the punishment we think he deserves, this death of the soul makes square the eternal account.

Man's life is a progress. As we do good we are compensated by the growth of the soul, while evil tends to the death of the soul. Nothing can work injury to us but ourselves. All action receives just compensation, and in us lies the power to act.

A Mild Adventure.

It was on a clear cold night many years ago that this very mild adventure occurred, it was in fact so mild that it wasn't an adventure at all.

They had all gone out but the mother, the maid, and myself. As we were busily occupied with our various employment, all at once, about 10.30, we heard a groan accompanied by a decided rap upon the front door, we all hurried to the door and stood listening intently, for we heard such strange sounds of groaning and scuffling around, that we concluded it was a drunken man and his dog who were asking admission. By this time we were all pretty much worked up to a fever pitch. The maid was stationed at the parlor window, broom in hand to warn the master of the house who were the decidedly peculiar occupants of his front porch, the broom was to be waved wildly so as to attract his attention.

All this time the scuffling around continued and about every five minutes came a decided rap, rap, rap, but the rap was unheeded. Would the master of the house never come? It seemed not, but after an hour's awful suspense we heard the strange visitors descending the steps, we all three rushed to the window, and what do you think we saw, but three dogs with their tails between their legs sneaking down the steps and away out of sight. We reproached ourselves severely for being so inhospitable to such unusual visitors, and resolved that the next time that rap, rap knocked at our door we would investigate before we jumped to such a hasty conclusion.