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The O. A. C. Review

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THE DIGNITY OF A CALLING IS ITS UTILITY.

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El Blighted Life.

A Storiette by Manning Doherty.

The day was hot. The air danced and glittered as it arose from the baking sands of the quiet village street. From the lake there came a breeze, and my thoughts travelled down to the boat-house, where my sail-boat lay securely anchored. Three weeks of my holidays had passed, and my restless nature longed for some excitement. I determined to take a sail; and, reaching for my cap, I sauntered up the road. In going toward the boat-house, I passed the "Retreat", a well kept cottage on the shore, which was buried in shrubs and trees. It was surely aptly named, for the occupant, Dr. Hambly, though

he had dwelled here for 15 years, had never been known to enter into conversation with any of the villagers. He appeared to spend his entire time in reading and in meditating. Yet not a man or child but knew him and respected him. Each day he went back and forth to the postoffice; and as he met his neighbors, he would pass the time of day and move on. On one or two occasions he had been known to smile when passing groups of little girls. No one had ever entered his home, and his life remained an entire blank to all of us. As I passed, I saw the Doctor sitting in a rustic chair, a book lying idly in his lap, and his eyes