

Let us then cultivate the powers that we possess, therein we shall find our happiness, and tho' "life is short and joys are fleeting," our reward will be gracious and name never dying. Let us seek with the clearness of unclouded faith after the truth, with the flame of divine love burning with unextinguished glory on the altars of our hearts, that we may benefit our fellow-man, encourage him to nobler and higher aims, that our nation may be enlightened and glorified, thus for years our names will be renowned and our deeds immortalized.

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IMPOSSIBILITIES.

IMPOSSIBLE! What an unlucky word. How often do we see persons lose heart and fail in business attempts, simply because they have become accustomed to using this fatal word in minor duties, because they have become accustomed to gazing idly over everything, omitting everything that is difficult instead of obtaining the true understanding of it, so that when a somewhat different problem of life stares them in the face, they, partly through habit, partly through inability, cry out impossible and sit down with folded hands to await the solution by another who never says impossible.

No good comes to those who too often have this unlucky word on their tongues, but nevertheless we hear persons everywhere crying out and demonstrating that such and such things are impossible; that this and that in some great field of art is impossible, but let them cry and demonstrate, what harm can they do? It is their nature and no energetic person should pay attention to them.

It was once demonstrated and proven by calculus that steamships could never cross the Atlantic.

Such people also demonstrated that the Atlantic cable would never be a success, that the Union Pacific Railroad could never be

built. But what has been done? We now learn of the happenings in foreign cities almost as soon as those of our own, each hour we can hear the shrill shriek of the steam engine which is carrying its precious burden from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

As students training ourselves for after life we should be careful not to belong to the above class. We should learn to meet and do everything and anything in the right time and place.

We should not study in what might be called a mechanical way, that is depending wholly on the memory in getting our lessons, simply for present recitation, but we should get the true meaning of what we are studying. With regard to any subject or object we should ask ourselves such questions as: What is it? How is it produced? Whence does it come? It is not ours as students to create, but rather to find the true cause and effect of what is done and created. It is ours not only as students, but as men and women not to look dimly at what lies in the distance but to do what lies clearly at hand. Not to look before and after but to act *now*.

Not to idly and vainly gaze into the obscure distance and paint glorious triumphs and victories on the cloud-curtain of the future, but to look calmly about us on the scene where we now stand, then and not till then will many of our apparent perplexities disappear and some distinctive characters more clearly reveal themselves. If we thus learn to meet everything in our present duties surely we will be better prepared for those which come in after life.

No high attainment was ever accomplished without work and persistence which are the first conditions of all success. The tendency to persevere, to persist in spite of hindrances, discouragements, and what some call impossibilities, is what distinguishes the strong man from the weak, the energetic from the slothful and the civilized from the savage. Of