

gradually undermined, till they are finally overthrown.

Flattery, when used injudiciously, skillfully and insidiously winds itself, parasitic like, about one, and draws away the life currents till there is no strength or vitality remaining.

The force of an individual is also weakened by depending on the ability of others. One must be self-reliant, conquering all obstacles, and he will possess a character of firmness and strength.

In the vain struggle for fame, honor and wealth, the desire for character is praiseworthy; but its attainment should not be the main object in view, but rather the outgrowth of the purity, nobility and grandeur of our life. Such characters out-live all others, and while a stroke of the hammer lays waste the beauty and symmetry of the sculptors work, a true character is imperishable, and gathers beauty through all eternity.

E. P.

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### CONTENTMENT.

It is evident that there is an element in the human mind which, if not cultivated or restrained, will have a tendency to allure it into a phantom that will make its career unpleasant and unprofitable. How many at the present time are not contented. They are always longing for something; they know not what. It may be the beauties and mysteries of Nature; or the wealth, honor, pomp, or applause of the world. Perchance it may be that "fabled fountain of immortal youth. Something at most beyond their immediate reach. This yearning is manifested in all classes of society; from the humble peasant to the millionaire.

Many home circles are made unhappy. Many discords are made in society by discontented minds. The person that is content with his surroundings, ever cheerful when adversity comes, is in possession of one of the richest treasures that can be obtained. If we are not contented and

have the mind free from all longings and desires that we have not the power to gain, we cannot be happy.

The majority of mankind in every vocation, who are prosperous, influential and happy, are those who yield to their fates. Truly it has been said: "Life is a great drama;" and every human being is an actor. Let each of us do our parts well. While gathering up the fragments of knowledge here, let us ever strive to study well the lessons given by the great Teacher. May we be contented in our own spheres; never trying to grasp something beyond our reach. Remember contentment is a precious jewel. A gem of great worth.

'Tis contentments silver chords  
That find these hearts of ours,  
In plain and simple words  
with a high and nobler power.

'Tis contentment that shall give,  
In a world of strife,  
Pleasures while we live  
In every walk of life.

D. C. V.

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"We have an extreme susceptibility of mind, an inordinate craving, an ambition in our thoughts, in our desires, and in the movements of our imaginations, yet when we come to practical life, when trouble, when sacrifice, when efforts are required for the attainment of our object, we sink into lassitude and inactivity."

GUIZOT.

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"To crush the growing intellect by cramming it is not the way to make scholars though it may be the way to make scholastic imbeciles."

E. P. WHIPPLE.

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"Whoever had qualities to alarm our jealousy had excellence to deserve our fondness."

RAMBLER.