

see that all proper employments are equally honorable. That men may be contented in their various occupations, nature has caused them to differ one from another in mental constitution. Hence we see the necessity that one should form a careful estimate of his own abilities, and guide his course accordingly. A desire to engage in some high calling is a praise-worthy motive, if it be within the limit of his capacity. Remembering that places of eminence are rare, we should shape our ideals by the structure of our own minds, so that, even if we do chose an humble calling, we shall thereby gain the approbation of our own conscience. M.

TIDE OF BATTLE.

The tide of the battle ever changes. The result of conflicts and contests decides the destinies of nations, kingdoms, and empires. As the sentence of life or death depends upon the result of a contest, how anxiously the people await their doom, in almost breathless suspense. Yet while the result may hang on the most brittle thread; while doubt comes, borne on the moaning breeze, above the din of battle; how desperately the fight goes on, and with what tenacity do the participants cling to the last cherished hope of success. While the result hangs in the balance, and while there seems to be a wavering from one side to the other, a little succor upon either side might turn the tide of battle. Just so it is in the life of individuals. When one encounters the storms of life singly and alone, quite frequently the opposition is too strong; and beaten back by the driving storm, he fails to accomplish his design on account of his own weakness. Yet in this direful dilemma, a little succor from a fellow-man might enable him to overcome the obstacle, and fit him for safe sailing upon the angry billows often encountered in the more severe storms of after life.

This teaches our mutual dependence up-

on each other. A little help from a fellow-man is not only now and then acceptable, but absolutely indispensable. Yes indeed we are mutually dependent, and we cannot conceive of an individual so high in the scale of wealth; so potent in the scale of being, or with such an innate faculty of self-regulation and self-government that he could, even for a limited time, dispense with the assistance of his fellows, much less could he dispense with the assistance and protection of an infinite and omniscient God. In view of these facts, our duty becomes plain. "Bear ye one another's burdens." Be judicious in your movements; take care of the present moments; and as you travel up the hill, encountering the oppositions which almost constantly present themselves, remember that as your fellow man's advice and assistance is oft-times needed; so your fellow companion has a right to expect your help in times of trouble. Justice demands that we lend a helping hand to the weak and erring ones. Surely the tide of battle wavers.

In the loudest roar of battle;
In the darkest scenes of life;
If a helping hand is lent me,
I am sure to win the strife.

Upon the great battle fields of human carnage, when the scale stands, quivering in the balance, how many eager eyes are turned towards the scene of strife; and when the news of victory comes, how many hearts beat with a quickened pulse at the thought of success. How much more confident do the victorious people enter upon the next campaign, knowing that one victory opens the way for another, and they are inspired with the hope that the final triumph shall be theirs.

As Alexander aroused and conquered the world; as all Europe stood spell-bound as if from an electric shock, at the wonderful achievements of Charles XII of Sweden; as the Czar of Russia trembled at the approach of Napoleon; so we find that the people of nearly the whole habitable globe have, at different times, been