

yet it is as ceaseless as it is silent. We are the builders of our own lives, and the work is doing either properly or improperly. If the former, the structure will be eternal in its existence; if the latter, it is built on the sands of time, and the waves and floods will dash upon it, and destroy it.

We must have help. We cannot build a high and stately edifice standing upon the ground. Let us throw up a scaffold, and build as we climb and climb as we build. But what is a scaffold, and what is it for? What we mean by scaffolding is help in building. And what we want with them is to help us build ourselves up. When workmen erect a building they make a scaffold upon which to stand, and this makes the work comparatively easy and convenient. Indeed a building of any importance cannot be built without the aid of a scaffold of some kind. Yet it is no part of the building, but simply a help, and when the work is completed the scaffolding is torn down.

But in the structure we are building, they remain, and add beauty and finish to it; they will fail with time, it is true, while the building itself will be eternal, and may be "Fit for the heavens." Here are some tough, old timbers, true principles, for the uprights of our scaffold. Fasten them down deep lest the scaffold give way and we fall. Ah! there they stand, strongly and firmly; time cannot destroy them, nor wind nor hurricane move them. Work steadily, slowly, but surely, be cautious in the selection of your timbers, use no unsound planks to stand upon and the labor will be safe and easy. Anything that draws man's thoughts away from himself is a help to him. Humanity has no greater elevator than education. What is it? "Education," says Webster, "comprehends all that series of instruction and discipline that is calculated to improve the temper, and form the habits and manners of youth." It is a good and valuable thing, then; it takes away unruly tempers and gives instead

proper manners and habits; verily, it is good timber, sounder than we thought. It opens up rich stores to us, and study strengthens the mental faculties and the will power, making us see more clearly into life, its demands and requirements, and stonger to resist wrong.

We can see what education has done for us. We have seen it change the coarse and ignorant youth into a refined and cultivated gentleman. Not one student has entered our University and applied himself diligently for any length of time without bettering his motives and enlarging his views of life. There is so much more in it and of it than we dreamed of before our eyes were opened even this little. Let us open them wider, "For it is better farther on." Education is worth and "Worth makes the man, the want of it the fellow". A complete education is an education of morals as well as mind, hence it includes Christian training, making it what we have called it, humanity's greatest elevator. But there are other planks to put into our scaffold. The various accomplishments are refining and elevating in their influence. Painting and music bring one into direct contact with all that is truest and purest, and appeal to all that is true and pure in our natures. True, we may never become very proficient in any of these arts; but the scaffold is useful. One cannot engage in any refining, elevating pursuit without being made better and more refined.

A knowledge of one's self is an indispensable help in our work. There are two ways of self-investigation; one tends to the covering up of defects and to flattery; the other, to an honest understanding of our faults, that they may be corrected, and of our virtues, that they may be extended and enlarged. We should study our motives to be sure that they are right, and our acts, that they correspond to our motives. Above all, be thoroughly honest with ourselves, be as ready to see our own faults as we are to see the faults of others. Avoid all selfishness, for a selfish