

The Forum

WEALTH FOR 1915

By Rev. V. L. Eggleston

This is a poor world, poor and suffering and hopeless. This is a rich world, rich and prosperous and full of brightness and hope.

One of the above paragraphs is as true as the other, because we are divided into two classes, those for whom the world is poor and those for whom it is rich; and of these classes there are many subdivisions. I believe that the class and the sub-class to which one shall belong is very largely a matter of choice and also largely a matter of natural organization. Put these two elements together and you have the "book of fate" for almost every man.

Given a certain organization and a certain effort and the man will be rich in the true sense of the word, given a different organization and effort and he is condemned to poverty, poverty of purse and poverty of soul, or perhaps it may be wealth of purse and poverty of soul.

Now there are many who do not agree that organization and purpose determine one's fate, or condition as to wealth and poverty. There are many who measure success in dollars and cents and look with jealous eyes upon every one who has more money or finer things than they have. There are many who, in their manner of condemning the rich, show that they are more avaricious than those they condemn; for they would take without compensation that which has been accumulated by hard work. They cause a great amount of crime by teaching that property belongs to all and that it should be equally divided. Thoughtless young people who hear such talk grow up with the idea that there are no rights of individual property and that the taking of what belongs nominally to another is no sin but only a step toward the equal distribution that ought to be universal.

There are many rich people who despise labor and treat the poor with contempt, but my observation is that there are about an equal number of the poor who cherish the same spirit. They too despise the labor and have a contempt for the poor including themselves. The self-respecting poor man, the poor family, struggling upwards with brave and cheerful hearts, respecting themselves and commanding the respect of all their neighbors, is a noble sight, but not as common as it ought to be.

We often see a poor family, hopelessly depressed, commanding no respect because they have no respect for themselves and throwing away the chances of advancement that lie before them on every hand, spending for useless luxuries the little that they might save up when they might be and ought to be moving steadily on toward prosperity and future wealth. The prosperous people around them upon whom they look with such jealous eyes were once the most of them, just where they now are, poor, obscure, hard-working people, down at the bottom of the ladder, with none to care for them except they for themselves. But they wasted no time in grumbling because rich people looked down upon them, and they coveted no man's possessions. They just buckled down to their hard tasks and kept themselves strong and fit for their work by keeping good health, eating plain food, wearing plain clothes, and so tugging along their hard way, until ten-foot-sore and tired but always with stout hearts, always with self-respect, always in hope of a better future, and they gained the victory that always comes sooner or later to such diligent toilers.

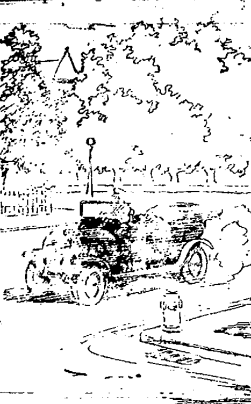
Here is the most profitable field for culture. Here shall we find the best use for all our good sense and for all our power of improvement. Watch the laws and those whose duty it is to enforce them. Watch the selfish employer and make him pay all he can really afford to and then deal fairly by yourself, see that evil passions do not cheat you out of your hard earned wages, see to it that leisure hours are spent in wise and mental culture, and thus let your face be constantly set towards success, not a mere money making success, but the success that consists in complete and healthy living, with just enough of this world's goods as is necessary to such success. This is the wealth that I heartily wish for every reader of the Andover News and for all mankind in this dawning year of grace 1915.

Mons Bérthelin Fighting. The fight began at Troy, Caesar founded a camp and a short time later his brother sustained a siege by the Gauls. His most famous siege was in 152, held by Frederic of To-mani's possessions. They just buckled down to their hard tasks and kept themselves strong and fit for their work by keeping good health, eating plain food, wearing plain clothes, and so tugging along their hard way, until ten-foot-sore and tired but always with stout hearts, always with self-respect, always in hope of a better future, and they gained the victory that always comes sooner or later to such diligent toilers.

Let the poor and despised look then not merely at the present condition of the prosperous people around them. Let them go further and consider the past history of such well-to-do people. They will find much in it to encourage them, much that is worthy of imitation, for it is a well known fact that the great majority, indeed almost all of the prosperous people of this country came up from poverty, they, or at least their parents, and that the hard struggle they had was not any advantage to them. Do not believe there is a poor

A KINDLY IMPULSE

By ALVAH CONDON GARTH.



The Proud Possessor of a \$2,000 Touring Car.

"Get back home, are you Earl?" queried Clyde Forrest of his cousin "You" came the sharp, somewhat brittle response. "I'm going back to Dunham thoroughly cured of my fondness for roving. I'll put what is left of my \$200 in the bank. I wish I had never drawn it out. I'm going to buckle down to work and keep right in my old plodding sensible program. My high and lofty ideas have taken a drop, I can tell you!"

Earl Bartley acted and felt somewhat ruffled. His story was a simple one. He had lived at Dunham all his life. His father had left him a small but steady real estate and insurance business. There were no big profits, but the regular collection of rents for clients and some notary public business resulted in a fairly good added income.

Earl had a girl, Mary Evans was pretty, popular, and, best of all, practical. Earl earned enough to dress well and take Mary to the occasional entertainments Dunham afforded his better class—the family horse, but slow and old now. Also a buggy that had seen its best days. Mary declared that she enjoyed a drive on a safe basis. Whenever some of the more fortunate young bloods of Dunham dashed by with their automobiles, however, Earl felt charged and behind the times.

"It's not justice to a nice girl like Mary to ask her out with slow poke old Dobbin," ruminated Earl. "Wish I had an automobile. I could get round fast and double my business. I wish I was making more money."

Then he had a visit from his cousin Clyde who lived at Rowland. That town was having a boom. There were possible grand openings for an enterprising young man. So Earl left his business temporarily in charge of an assistant and went down to explore conditions at Rowland.

It took Earl a month to find out that whatever there was of good property chances had been already cornered by wide-awake residents of the town.

has gone dead, I'm in don't know what to do."

"Why, get out and fix it," advised Earl, a little nettled at the uselessness exhibited by the owner of the auto.

"I can't. I don't know how," almost wailed the young man. "I'm an invalid—nervous wreck! Doctor says I must be careful. Please help me out—that's a good fellow."

Earl glanced at his watch. He had no time to waste. A thought of Mary spurred him on. (Common sympathy urged him to act the humanitarian role set at work on the machine. At the end of one-half an hour he had it in right trim.

"I've got to catch a train," he said. "I suppose you'll take me to the station?"

"Yes, but I'm too nervous to run the auto myself," declared his new acquaintance, so Earl took the wheel. He sprinted, but they arrived at the depot just in time to see the train disappearing around a bend. He explained his predicament to his companion, and none too pleasantly, for his mind had been set on reaching home that evening.

"I'm dreadfully sorry that I've caused you all this trouble," remarked his companion. "See here, though, you can do me a further favor and help yourself out, too."

"How is that?" queried Earl brusquely.

"Why, I live at Corydon. I am Leche Short. As I told you, I'm an invalid and I was foolish to venture so far from home in my condition. This ends automobileing for me! If you will consent to drive me as far as Corydon, you can get a train there and Dunham early this evening and I'll be glad to settle for your trouble."

"Never mind that end of it," said Earl, and spirited up at the thought of seeing Mary that evening after all. During the next hour Earl learned that his companion was a whimsical young man of wealth, who fancied himself an invalid. The brusque, free energy of Earl made his acquaintance quite companionable. He roused out of his timidity about dusk.

"I'll relieve you at the wheel," he observed. "Wish I had your splendid physique and nerve, my friend," and he spurred up the machine, quite pleased at gaining courage from the proximity of Earl.

Just at dusk it

Earl went whizzing up with his valiant efforts at the wheel, was pulling on the road when he suddenly drew back to a position of safety.

"Great heavens," he gasped—"I have killed somebody!"

Only a flashing glance Earl had of a prostrate figure in the middle of the road. Then the car's momentum passed it over it. There was an unearthly yell. Earl's first cry! Short had dropped away from the wheel and his hands were over his eyes and clattering away in an excess of wild error.

If Earl had not seized the wheel just in the nick of time, the machine would have gone over the side of the road to sure destruction.

"Be a man!" he adjured his frantic companion and ran back the road. He returned almost instantly.

"It was a dummy figure, a trick of the farm boys to scare race fonda, he explained. "Come, come, brace up!" he urged the abject, nerve-racked Short.

"I can't—oh, this eventment will kill me!" chattered Short. "Get me out of this and I will never enter an automobile again. Please, please, ask the farm people to get a steady rig and drive me home! I'll pay any price."

"But the machine!"

"Yours—take it, keep it. I vow never to enter one again! If you don't take it, I'll send my man after it and have it sunk in the river, I'm in earnest. It's yours—oh, get me home!"

And that is why Earl Bartley drove into Dunham that same evening the proud possessor of a two thousand dollar touring car. It built up his business as he planned, and there came an opportunity to sell some property for Mr. Short, which squared the deal.

"And all our good fortune because you followed a kindly impulse to help a poor fellow in trouble!" said Mary sweetly the day they were married. (Copyright, 1914, by W. G. Chapman.)

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