

grace to fail in an honest effort—but it is a serious reflection on the character of any student to endeavor at the last moment to cheat his instructors, and himself, that he may secure a “sheepskin.” Above all, he is by such a course cheating himself for life; robbing himself of that which would have proved of greatest value to himself and no one else.

Some there are who must fail. But in such event the pupil should not feel bitter at his instructors, nor at himself, provided he has made an honest and energetic effort. If he has not done his best he will have cause to taste the bitterness of his failure, but should realize that he can blame no one but himself. Out of this bitterness with self, if he is at all wise, will grow a strong resolution to do better in the future.

YOUTH AND SPRING-TIME

In Nature there are many similarities. Perhaps the greatest of these lies in Youth and Spring-time. In Youth's golden period all is glorious, everything is fresh and joyous, the breath of life is strong, strength and vigor are growing day by day, and the great mysteries of life are beginning to attract, bewilder, and enlighten. The future seems to hold unlimited promise of great things, and this adds to the joys of each succeeding day. Youth is, or should be, optimistic, for the world and its beauties and treasures lie just ahead, calling Youth to follow on and on. In some ways the call of the Future to Youth is like that of a Siren—except that it need not necessarily allure to destruction. But it calls with a voice of sweetness all its own. Such is Youth, and it was an All-wise Creator who willed it so.

Spring-time on earth is the time of promise—as in Youth, the harvest must come later. Spring is full of beauty; all Nature assures us that ere long old Earth will fulfill those promises which sprouts and buds foretell. Flowers bud and later burst into full bloom much after the manner of Youth, making the world brighter and better. How glorious it is to sense these things! It is a great pleasure, and privilege as well, to live and see Nature's work—those wonders of Youth and Spring. How many of us stop to realize the blessings which are ours? We accept things as they are without stopping to think of the many seeming miracles which confront us on every hand. The vastness of it all—the great plan of the Infinite—is bewildering to the human mind, bound up as it is in limitations. But all of us should feel the affinity of Youth and Nature, that beautiful period of human life and buds and blossoms.