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Parting With One's Dreams

(By J. D. Gillilan, D. D.)

Who has not dreamed? Who does not retain dreams? Who does not live partially, at least, in dreams?

Without dreams what would the framework of our lives be? I do not have reference to the meaningless, foundationless night thoughts which come on ways unsurveyed and by lines unreasoned; not the chance flight of untrained imagination, but the geometry of thought tollsomenly diagrammed, lined, lettered, concluded; the day dreams that are a part and fundamental portion of our very being, needful to our best existence as is the cornerstone to a skyscraper or a pyramid.

The animal has night dreams but none of the day. The hound yelps in his slumbers as he does on the trail of the fox; he sees him and flies to overtake. The human being lives in the figured prospect, imagines a possibility and plans to make it permanent in something factual. Surely there is no intelligent success without the dreamer.

The forces that awaken the speculative in man may be varied as the nature of the individual. Mayhap it was the weirdness of the lightning-flash that made Franklin and others of the experimenters in things electric believe that such energy could be applied to the tasks of humanity; something did it, and the chapters of his dreaming which were interrupted by death were completed by them who followed and the resulting findings are visible about us today. There is less of accident than of design in the mightier accomplishments of modern inventors. When Edison dreamed a magician waved his wand. Morse dreamed and a wire was substituted for space. Marconi dreamed and the wire was annihilated. In the glimmerings of the fallow dip and the midnight oil practical electricians dreamed and night was destroyed and work once done in daylight only was made uninterruptedly continuous.

All the practical inventions of the times are the findings of the thinker; for the thinker is the one who goes forth into the world not seen as yet, and materializes the creations of his imaginings. He dreams in reasonings.

Is every dreamer more than a mere night-wanderer or a daylight tramp? Are there never any vain thoughts? Are not some day-dreams "hazeless as the fantastic vision of the evening"? Who has not pondered and planned futures that never came? Who has not built castles all in air and then cried because ignorant and conscienceless fate would not perma-

nently support the speculations?

A beggar and an impoverished spendthrift who had played the prodigal and never repented nor gone home slept beside each other in a home for the poor. In the morning the beggar who had never possessed anything related his night's dream to the derelict. He had been all night in the land of plenty, the homes of the rich, had dealt out values lavishly, and had awoke in the land of plenty, the hawke in the midst of a banquet of a dozen courses. Adversity had made the once-rich man thoughtful and philosophic. He said to himself, "That man's dream is an impossibility to him, but was a fact to me and is now my night-mare by daylight. He is better off than I." The dream of the beggar died at the opening of the day; remorse made the day of the other man a perpetual night-time.

Reader, did you ever have to part with your life's dream? Was there ever among your acquaintances a young woman who looked upon life as a treasure to spend in the purchase of enjoyment? Did you ever know such who after awhile found she had gone to the wrong counter for her bargains and was receiving sorrow instead? Have you ever heard of any who with careful inward and outward education was found bound by toughened thoughts of adversity to the eternally revolving wheel of small circle and goaded on and on to a wearisome task by the rawhide of pitiless duty? Did you ever see her looking up through the grime of poverty willing for a brief glimpse of other-world brightness to risk her soul? She is a true dreamer, but without power to realize. How terrible was the hour when she had to awaken and after long rubbing of her stiffened eyelids to stay awake and work, since dreaming proved such a loss of time! Yet, like the beggar, she had much pleasure in plans experienced in the speculation; both were real while they

lasted.

Only a few days ago a man awoke to the knowledge of the fact that while he had been busy planning and doing, Time, the thief who steals years and never returns them, had slipped up on him and taken away his youth. He had hopes of certain preferences that could come to the worthy and studious; he had been in sight of the goal of his ambitions and had even in his possession the hint from

the power that could bestow it, that his life ambition was realizable. Another stepped into the coveted place, and a fast-graying head told him to cease hoping. He awoke. That dream had never been made a reality and now, never shall.

Dreams are thought children. How hard it is to part with them! They are dear to us as the children of the flesh. Well, why not? They are our own and they are honest.

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16 acres, only one mile from La Grande, all in full bearing commercial orchard, except one acre. This property is well improved and a fine home. Good house, barn, fruit house, wind mill and outbuildings, telephone, rural route, in fact every convenience. The crop this year will pay more than half the purchase price which is \$10,850.00; good reasons for selling.

480 acres, four miles from good town, 80 acres in cultivation, 200 more can be cultivated, balance pasture and good timber. Plenty of water and good new improvements. One year's work will actually double the value of this property. The price now is \$27.50 per acre.

5 acres adjoining city limits of one of the small towns of the valley, perfectly level and best of soil. This entire tract has just been planted to commercial apples and pears, there being 240 of each. Enough produce can be grown between the rows to pay taxes and all expenses until the trees begin bearing. This entire tract is only \$1,200.00, and is only half the regular price asked for new orchards. A splendid investment.

40 acres of unimproved land, best of soil, covered with small second growth of pine. On one of the main county roads of the valley, on rural route and 4 miles from town. Improved land all around it cannot be bought for one hundred dollars per acre. Wood and posts on this forty will pay for clearing. Price is \$1,500.00—three hundred down, good terms on balance.

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