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The Secret Of Success.

Self-confidence is the explanation of all successful careers. It is a virtue that should be carefully cultivated in the young, for the lack of self-trust may amount to complete self-effacement in the competitions of life. There was something imposing in the excessive self-reliance of Napoleon, who declared if there were no one to make cannon and gunpowder he could make them. "It is I alone who have arranged the finances, you know." This is a colossal egoism, it is true, but it was the motive power that made Napoleon one of the most magnificent military successes in history. It is better to possess the quality of self-confidence in excess than not to possess it at all. Montaigne, among the shrewdest of practical philosophers, says, "To speak less of himself than he possesseth is folly and not modesty." Offense lies not in relying upon one's self, but in speaking boastfully of one's self ability and exploits. A writer observes that some offensive egotists are of indispensable importance to the carrying on of American life, "whom we could ill spare; any one of them would be a National loss. But it spoils conversation. They are ever trusting their pampered self between you and them. . . . Nature utilizes misers, fanatics, egotists, to accomplish her ends, but we must not think better of the foible for that."

Self-confidence is, therefore, to be carefully distinguished from self-praise, which, even in the greatest of men, is intolerable. A man should believe in himself, but he should not advertise his merit by his own proclamation. It was the injunction of a famous artist, "to confide in one's self, and be something of value." When this is one's mental attitude toward one's self, a

long step has been taken in the path of success.

Self-confidence is the offspring of self-respect. "To think meanly of one's self is to sink." "Feel yourself and be not daunted by things." Those are the precepts which inspire men to worthy, if not famous achievements. A great deal may be expected from a man who, in a new, difficult and untried position, acts as if he had a right to be there. It is related that the Saxons were taught to believe that they would be first, and the aggressive energy of the race may be due to this primitive inspiration.

Though it may seem affliction, the young man who stands alone has an opportunity to test his manhood, and such opportunities should be welcomed. "Go forward with hope and confidence" was the best advice which the sage could give to the youth who desired to learn the mystery of success. Self-confidence can never be learned in seclusion. It is nurtured in the school of the world, by contact with men in touch with affairs. Of course, it will be understood that we are not encouraging the overweening self-confidence that despises the advice of experience; but we must learn to try our own wings, to trust our own powers, if we are to make notable progress in the world.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The plumbers extended the water pipe to the teachers' garden Tuesday. It is hailed with delight by both teachers and pupils, as they have been carrying water some distance heretofore.

The electric light wires to the barn were repaired Tuesday. These wires were damaged several weeks ago by flying pieces of stumps that were being blasted out.