

DO IT NOW!

Does the task seem hard and long—

Opposition looming strong?

Turn your sighing into song—

DO IT NOW!

Duty slighted, left undone,

Ere the setting of the sun,

Weights—in heartache—many a ton—

DO IT NOW!

Hardships conquered—ah! 'tis true!

Open vistas, fair and new—

Bright Achievement's land in view—

DO IT NOW!

Like Aladdin's lamp, of old,

"Do it now" will bring you gold—

'Tis the slogan of the bold—

DO IT NOW!

—ERNEST NEAL LYON, in Ex.

WHAT DETERMINATION DID

WHEN young Stonewall Jackson, one of the most awkward, ungainly, and, seemingly, unpromising youths that the South had produced, heard of a vacancy at West Point, he immediately went to Washington, determined to get the appointment, and he got it.

When he reached West Point, the other boys laughed at him, but one of them, with more penetration than his companions, said: "That fellow looks like he's come to stay." He did stay.

He worked hard, economized, and saved enough his cadet's pay, after covering all expenses, to buy his sister a silk dress.

The world knows what battles he fought, what victories he won, in the last years of his life.

It was determination that gave to history this splendid name.—Ex.

The Basket-Maker

Women of the cunning craft,
Mystic weave and weird design,
Art where thought and skill combine,
Tell us of this gift of thine,
Was it heaven-quaffed?

Tell us, is thy work inspired,
That so cunningly is wrought
Fancy fine and tender thought?
Art thou by immortals taught—
Soul by spirits fired?

Who perception gave to thee
Secrets of the field to know:
Where the toughest willows grow,
Where the finest grasses show,
And rare colors be?

How didst chance to catch the glint
Of the wild bird's painted breast,
That from him thou might'st wrest
Colors on his bosom press'd
Thy rare work to tint?

Wonder-worker, women, thou;
Weaving songs and poems rare
Dreams and visions passing fair,
Epics of earth, sea and air,
Tales of past and now.

Skill like thine is heaven-taught;
By the magic of thy art
Hopes and fears that throng thy heart
Find a pictured counterpart,
In thy basket wrought.

Arthur J. Burdick, in the
Indian's Friend.

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