

### A Secret of Progress.

This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.—Philippians, iii., 13, 14.

Paul is teaching by symbolism. He is using the figure of the foot race. In his imagery he is a runner speeding over the course, with every faculty focussed upon the goal before him. A runner cannot waste any time looking behind him.

Similarly, life is a struggle, altogether too serious a struggle to permit the attention to be diverted for a moment from the earnestness of the present duties. The lesson is at once one of encouragement and of warning.

We may forget the sins of the past. A man's character is measured not by his sinlessness but by the intensity of his struggle against sin. His destiny does not depend upon his making no moral mistakes, but it does depend upon what he does after their occurrence. He may look back upon them with indifference and he will partake of their nature; they will transform themselves into habits. He may look upon them with dread, he may call them by their right names and turn from them, and they will then become stepping stones to higher things. If we think of the sins at all let us think to act, not to idly brood. Salvation is separation from sin. Remorse does not sever one from his sin; only repentance can do that. Sorrow for sin avails absolutely nothing except as it sends one to the Christ for a new power to overcome the forces that tend to his ruin. The darker the past the more completely turn from it.

We may forget the failures of the past. There are things upon the record which are less than

sinful, which are the product often of the sincerest effort, but which have left a legacy of loss and regrets. They are the unwise acts, the blunders, the failure of our yesterdays. How many they are! A great artist once said, "Nobody ever does anything; he only tries." Yet here, too, Paul's secret of progress applies. Errors have a distinct value if they are rightly regarded. A failure is the product of energy that is either insufficient or misdirected. A crown yet awaits every man who will learn from his failures. Frankly met, bravely faced, the failures are life's best teachers.

We must forget the successes of the past. There have been victories in our yesterdays. Each of us has some memories which he prizes as a priceless heritage from the days that are gone—memories of some deed of kindness, of some sacrifice of love, of some vision of holiness, of some crisis when he was true. Must we forget these things? Yes, exactly as we must overlook the other things. It is the time of effort now, not of attainment. As long as there is any ideal of life unrealized, any duty remaining unperformed, we are still in the midst of the race. Satisfaction is as fatal to progress as despair. Whatever, of attainment the past has won for us must be the point of new departure and the pledge of better things to come, for growth is the law of life. No man is good to-day unless he is better than he was yesterday.

No wasting time with vain regrets, no satisfaction with the second best for us before whom stands the Christ in His peerless manhood. Let us follow Him to life's end and crown. Let nothing in the past cheat us out of His riches nor swerve us from His high aim. We have nothing

to do with yesterday but to get a sunlit to-morrow out of it.—Milton S. Littlefield, The First Union Presbyterian Church, New York, in N Y Herald.

### NOTICE TO EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS AND GUARDIANS.

North Carolina, Forsyth County:

Every Executor, Administrator and Guardian is required, by law, to file with the Clerk of the Superior Court, annual reports so long as any part of an estate remains unsettled, and when settlement is made to file final report. When such reports are not filed, as required, the law directs the Clerk to issue legal Citation, and then if report is not filed within twenty days from service of Citation the Clerk is directed to proceed against such delinquent Executor, Administrator or Guardian by removal and attachment.

There are at present, numbers of Executors, Administrators and Guardians, in Forsyth County behind on reports, notwithstanding the fact that I have faithfully endeavored, by persuasion, to secure the same. Since notices by mail or publication have, in many instances, proved unavailing, I feel it my official and sworn duty to try legal means. Therefore I trust that parties behind on reports to this office will file the same promptly, otherwise they may expect such proceedings as are prescribed by law, without further notice.

Very respectfully,

R. E. TRANSOU,  
Clerk Superior Court.

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