

## Youth

Youth comprises the age of a person between the years of twelve and twenty.

Youth is the spring-time of our lives. In it we joyfully tread the rough avenues of life, and, however hard they may seem to the experienced, appear to put on a smiling appearance to us, and have entrapped us, ere we awake from the astonishment, which their pleasantness have produced.

This is the season of improving our mental abilities, for our minds are young and tender, and can be bent to any way, in which we want them to be.

In youth, abilities, both of the mind and body, which have before remained latent, develop themselves, and they, while no cares rest upon our mind, can be improved more easily, than if we were old.

Our thoughts are immature, and we make resolutions, which last no longer hardly, than we are making them. In short, Youth is the happiest part of our lives, and consequently can be enjoyed more than any other part of our lives.

This is the season of life, in which we should form our characters, which we should be very careful in doing, as the world regards us with an attentive eye, and We should remember the maxim,

“As the twig is bent,  
So the tree’s inclined.”

We should heed the monitions of the monitions of the aged, and turn a deaf ear to the [...] music of Temptation, into whose snares we may be easily led, and which we should resist, should we ever come in contact with it.

The fascinating goddess/muse of Fortune sings her sweetest song, and we, although we are so happy, look forward, with extreme delight and with animation to the future, when we may have opportunities of making our own fortune.

We should be very careful in augmenting our store of knowledge, no matter what we may intend to, for we may

---

[...] some future time, be [...] ones, to whom the destr... of the nation may be entrusted. We may be called upon to fill stations of rank, yea, the highest in the world, the Presidency of the United States, and then, should such ever be the case, we will find the importance of knowledge.

Our thoughts wander and we can scarcely keep ~~our thoughts~~ them directed to one object long enough for its completion.

God has given us Youth, as a time of rest, ere we begin to travel the rougher roads of life.

But while we think of preparing our bodies and minds for this state of probation, we should fit our souls for the active service in another world.

We should train ourselves to love, fear, and respect God, for "Youth, when devoted to the Lord, Is pleasing in His eyes, A flower, though offerd in the bud, Is no vain sacrifice."

E.S. Mitchell

Dec 5<sup>th</sup>/ 56

---

## Contentment

By Contentment we mean satisfaction. It is one of the principal ingredients of a virtuous character.

## Contentment

### Contentment.

### Analysis.

- 1 Definition
- 2 The causes from which it springs
- 3 Effects upon those who possess it
- 4 Effects upon ~~those~~ all of us
- 5 The reasons for which we should be contented
- 5 Instances of discontentment

By possessing contentment, we mean being satisfied with the things which we have.

It is one of the principal ingredients of a virtuous character, for we see none who have really virtuous characters, without it.

Those who possess it, are always happy, no matter in what state of life they are thrown, and hence it is productive of everything which tends to the advancement of our religious interests. It goes hand in hand

---

## Contentment

By contentment we mean satisfaction.

It arises, spontaneously almost, from a breast, not polluted by guile, not actuated by selfish motives. It is one of the principal ingredients of a virtuous character, for we see none, who have really virtuous characters, without it.

The possessors of it are always happy, no matter in what state of life they may have been thrown, and hence it is productive of everything, which tends to the advancement of our religious and moral interests.

It reflects lustre upon the characters of those who possess it. It is a ray of light, which gleams upon us. It goes hand in hand; in fact, it may very justly be said to produce hope. It comforts us in adversity, and it will not allow us to aspire for higher objects than those with which we can be contented. The faces of those contented are lit up with smiles, which produces happiness and cheerfulness to all our associates.

What lights up the face of the poor laborer in his toilings? Contentment. What cheers the poor seaman in his laborious work? Contentment. What gives us consolation in adversity and strength to bear our multifarious misfortunes? Contentment. What inspires religious feelings? Contentment. In short, truth, hope, justice, morality, everything, which is good, everything which is beautiful in this suffering world, are to be attributed to it. Without it, this world is a desert, whose oases are "few and far between."

In perusing the annals of every age and of every nation, we may find instances of discontentment, which has borne destruction to monarchs, kings, and queens, aye, to the country themselves itself, of which they were the chief. Napoleon was the greatest example of discontentment that ever was, and he, aspiring to, higher honors and higher offices, than those which he then occupied, was ruined, and France with him almost was ruined.

Contentment embraces almost all of the virtues which pertain to the enjoyment of this life. It has been said by truly great