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Clubs and Organizations-Labor

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CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

"LABOR"

Original Notes for a talk before the

S. A. Club - Chicago

About 1876 or ~~1887~~

LABOR

How to lighten and avoid labor is the arduous task of half the world. Men and women too, for that matter, will labor harder, shirking work and make more fuss about it ten times over than would take to accomplish the same work should they take hold of it with heart and hand and not trouble their brains about how they may do it easier.

Nothing of worth and true merit can be accomplished without labor and ^{the} greater the labor the more valuable the work.

The great works that Shakespear~~e~~, Milton, Dante, Newton, Wall and Morse have left to the world were only accomplished after long and hard labor. Had these great minds been of the shrinking kind, the memory that is now so fresh and green of them^d would have long since been buried in the dark oblivion of the past.

"Idleness is the key to beggary." "Industry prevents vice.", two true^e maxims have never been uttered, and yet how slightly regarded by thousand who think idleness, pleasure and labor, disgraceful.

We should have something to do, something to accomplish, during ever moment of our lives. We should

We ~~should~~ never pass an idle moment. Lost wealth may be restored by industry. Lost knowledge by study; lost health by temperance or medicine, but lost time is gone forever.

A young man that lounges around doing nothing or a lady who rests lazily upon her sofa from morning until night, with no one dependent upon her, nothing to care for, nothing to do as she thinks, will tell you that they have awaited for weeks to find time to answer a note. They find--so they always say in a whinish lazy way-- no leisure to do any little charitable deeds or perform any little acts of kindness. But workers find time to do more even in their busiest hours. Give a busy man ten minutes to write a letter and he will dash it off at once. Give an ^{idler} idle day and he will put it off until tomorrow or next week.

So necessary is labor of some kind to make existence tolerable, ^{that} though those who attempt to live a life of idleness are forced to make work for themselves.

They turn their pleasure into toil and for want of something to do engage in the most arduous pastime. "There

is many a ^{gem} gem in the path of life which they pass in their idle pleasure."

We must guard ourselves and prevent this false notion from leading us in its destructive path.

We must be very vigilant to protect ourselves for we are all very prone to listen, to believe and ^{to} follow that which has the least resemblance to pleasure that is apparently happiness.

This question is one of vast importance; it is one that we should give more than passing notice. Much could be said of the effects of idleness upon the human race and especially upon various ^{notions} notions. But I will refrain from further than these few plain remarks as this subject was well and ably discussed before this society recently. The arguments presented at that time weighed so heavily upon my mind, that I could think of nothing else to write about but, Labor, Labor, Labor.