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It was a task to keep that stand free from dust, but my Mother used to do it.

"So have I seen slaves riding on horseback and princes plodding about like slaves."

My point is that most of us have a lot of such stuff in our lives. We think that they are things of beauty, when all we are doing is exalting slaves. For instance there is the great American attitude of "getting-by". We get-by in the classroom. We get-by in an examination. We get-by in a game. We get-by in our work. We do not do all that we should do. We do not do the best that we can do. We just get-by. So have I seen slaves riding on horseback.

Superficial things abound that we consider signs of quality. Are they? I do not know what it is that you think makes a man or makes a woman, but let me ask you this, "Are you putting a slave on horseback." are you taking some habit or some attitude that is cheap and making yourself think that it is truly excellent?

"To dress, to call, to dine, to break
To canon of the social code,
The little laws that language make,
The little deceptions of hope,
How many a soul for these things lives
With pious passion, grave intent!
And never seen in dream has been
The things that are more excellent!"

My notion is that if those of us who are just starting out could be able to judge truly the things that are excellent and worthy we should save ourselves a tremendous amount of trouble. We do not like to listen to what older people have to say, nor do we like to take advice from them so I am not going to ask you to do it. I am going to ask you to set up a little laboratory and bring into that laboratory all of the evidence that you can get from the lives of people who are happy and from the lives of people who are not happy. Then I want you to find out the real reason back of both the happiness and the unhappiness of those people. You will then be able to check the statement that I am going to make. Until you do check it I do not expect you accept it. I think that a great majority of the unhappiness and failure that comes to people comes because when they started out they

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it all depends on what you expect from education. I think that the educated man is he who puts the slaves where he belongs. I think that he is the one who is not fooled into thinking that an unworthy thing is excellent or that a cheap thing is something valuable. He is able to enjoy life because he knows where the true riches of life hide. He has seen seen that which is more excellent and has exalted it in his life. Education should help you to do just that.

One man I know was keener than all others. Not once did he mistake the false for the real. He lived in a time when it was just as easy to do that as it is today. Yet something in him helped him always to put his finger on that which was vital, and to cast aside the unessential. He stands out in all history as the man who had a true sense of values. Perhaps you would not agree that the values of Jesus of Nazareth are the best values. There is only one way to find out and that is to compare his life and its satisfactions with your own. If his values do not give you a life that is more real than they are not good values. I believe that Jesus got more out of life than you and I because he saw the things that were lovely, and the things that were real.

You who are graduating are facing an endless procession of days. From each day you will take some gift. Some will take diamonds, some kingdoms, some stars, some bread. Each will take that which according to the criteria of his taste is most excellent. Having taken your gift you will be given certain places in the world. I wish that you would be governed by the values of Jesus because I have seen slaves on horseback and princes plodding about like slaves.

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did not judge between the worthy and unworthy, between the cheap and the excellent, with the result that they found themselves possessed of nothing that is worth anything. This is the tragedy of the man who has spent his life putting slaves on horseback.

One thing you should get from your education. You may be able to handle the binomial theorem with ease. You may know all of the propositions of plane and solid geometry. You may be able to trill off Latin conjugations with ease. The dates of history may be as familiar as certain telephone numbers. The walls of your room may be papered with diplomas and degrees, but if you have not learned the distinction between that which is cheap and that which is truly excellent all these things shall profit you nothing.

Probably the teacher of every subject that you have had for the past four years has told you that unless you mastered that particular subject you would not be an educated person. It would not do for me to tell you something else now. I can just say this, that education does not consist in the abundance of facts that a person possesses. ~~What~~ ^{What} Dickens says about Thomas Graigind, a man of facts.

"Girl number twenty, Give me your definition of a horse."

Sissy Jupe was not able to comply.

"Girl number twenty unable to define a horse. Girl number twenty possessed of no facts in reference to one of the commonest of animals! Some boy's definition of a horse. Bitter yours."

Bitter replied, "Quadruped. Grainivorous. Forty teeth, namely twenty-four grinders, four eye-teeth, and twelve incisive. Sheds coat in the spring; in marshy countries sheds hoofs too. Hoofs hard, but requiring to be shod with iron. Age known by marks in mouth."

"Now girl number twenty," said Mr. Graigind, "you know what a horse is!"

So have I seen slaves on horseback. So have I seen people who possessed multitudes of facts and thought that they knew life, yea that they knew God. Of course,

SLAVES ON HORSEBACK

"So have I seen slaves on horseback and princes plodding about like slaves." Ecclesiastes 10:7.

- I. The story of God's Fool
- II. The writer of the book of Ecclesiastes says, "So have I seen slaves on horseback and princes plodding about like slaves. And I rather think that the irony is that these same slaves, like God's Fool thought they really were princes."
 - A. The point of view of Ecclesiastes
 - B. "There is an evil I have seen on earth, a ruler blundering without meaning it; fools often eat high costs from him while the noble have a lovely feast; so have I seen slaves on horseback and princes plodding about like slaves."
 - C. The thinker watches the procession go by.
- III. Each age has expressed this topsy-turvy condition in its own way.
 - A. Our thoughts are confused. We are not able to distinguish true worth.
 - B. The American parlor--mothers stand
 - C. Superficial things that we consider signs of quality.
 - D. "To dress, to call, to dine, to break
No canon of the social code,
The little laws that language make,
The little deceptions of hope,
How many a soul for these things lives
With pious passion, grave intent!
And never seen in dream has been
The things that are more excellent!"
- IV. If those of us who are just starting out could be able to judge truly the things that are excellent and worthy we should save ourselves a tremendous amount of trouble.
- V. What education should give.

"When the right standard of excellence is lost, it is not likely that much which is excellent will be recognized."

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- A. You must learn the distinction between that which is cheap and that which is truly excellent or all these things shall profit you nothing.
- B. Thomas Graigind
 - "Girl number twenty, Give me your definition of a horse."
 - Sissy Jupe was not able to comply.
 - Girl number twenty unable to define a horse. Girl number twenty possessed of no facts in reference to one of the commonest of animals! Some boy's definition of a horse. Bitter yours."
 - Bitter replied, "Quadruped. Grainivorous. Forty teeth, namely twenty-four grinders, four eye-teeth, and twelve incisive. Sheds coat in the spring; in marshy countries sheds hoofs too. Hoofs hard, but requiring to be shod with iron. Age known by marks in mouth."
 - Now girl number twenty, said Mr. Graigind, YOU KNOW WHAT A HORSE IS!
 - C. So have I seen slaves on horseback. The educated man is one who puts slaves where they belong.
- VI. I believe that Jesus got more out of life because he saw the things that are lovely and the things that are real.
- VII. MEMBERS OF THE GRADUATING CLASS. YOU ARE FACING AN ENDLESS PROCESSION OF DAYS. FROM EACH DAY YOU WILL TAKE SOME GIFT. SOME WILL TAKE DIAMONDS; SOME KINGDOMS; SOME STARS; SOME BREAD. EACH WILL TAKE THAT WHICH ACCORDING TO THE CRITERIA OF HIS TASTE IS MOST EXCELLENT. HAVING TAKEN THIS GIFT YOU WILL BE GIVEN CERTAIN PLACES IN THE WORLD. I WISH THAT YOU WOULD BE GOVERNED BY THE VALUES OF JESUS BECAUSE I HAVE SEEN SLAVES ON HORSEBACK AND PRINCES PLODDING ABOUT LIKE SLAVES.

GOOD'S POOL. The ruler and the
Kahlil Gibran

"Once there came from the desert to the great city... a man who was a dreamer, and he had naught but his garment and a staff.

And as he walked through the street he gazed with awe and wonder at the temples and towers and palaces. And he spoke often to the passersby, questioning them about their city—but they understood not his language, nor he their language.

At noon he stopped before a vast inn. It was built of yellow marble, and people were going in and coming out unhindered.

This must be a shirash, he said to himself, and he too went in. But what was his surprise to find himself in a hall of great splendour and a large company of men and women seated about many tables. They were eating and drinking and listening to the musicians.

May, said the dreamer. It must be a feast given by the prince to the people in celebration of a great event.

At that moment a man, whom he took to be the slave of the prince, approached him, and bade him be seated. And he was served with meat and wine and most excellent sweets.

When he was satisfied, the dreamer rose to depart. At the door he was stopped by a large man magnificently arrayed.

Surely this is the prince himself and he bowed to him and thanked him.

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Then the large man said in the language of the city: Sir, you have not paid for your dinner. And the dreamer did not understand, and again thanked him heartily...

...Then the man clapped his hands and called—and there came four watchmen of the city... They took the dreamer between them and the dreamer noted the ceremoniousness of their dress and looked upon them with delight. THESE, SAID HE, ARE MEN OF DISTINCTION.

Then they came to the House of Judgment and the dreamer saw before him, seated upon a throne, a venerable man with flowing beard, robed majestically. And he thought he was the king. And he rejoiced to be brought before him.

Now the watchmen related to the judge the charge and the judge appointed two advocates, one to present the charge and the other to defend the stranger. And one after the other each delivered his argument. And the dreamer thought himself to be listening to addresses of welcome.

Then sentence was passed upon the dream, that upon a tablet hung about his neck his crime should be written and that he should ride through the city on a naked horse, with trumpet and a drummer before him.

Now as the dreamer rode through the city the inhabitants of the city came running forth and they saw him and laughed one and all. AND THE DREAMER'S HEART WAS FILLED WITH ECSTASY, AND HIS EYES SHONE UPON THEM. FOR TO HIM THE TABLET WAS A SIGN OF THE KING'S

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BLESSING AND THE PROCESSION WAS IN HIS HONOUR.

As he rode he saw among the crowd a man who was from the desert like himself and his heart swelled with joy, and he cried out to him with a shout:

"FRIEND! WHERE ARE WE? what A RACE OF LAVISH HOSTS? WHO FEAST THE GUEST IN THEIR PALACES, WHOSE PRINCES COMPANION HIM, WHOSE KING HANGS A TOKEN UPON HIS BEAT AND OPENS TO HIM THE HOSPITALITY OF A CITY.

And he who was of the desert rejoiced not. He only smiled and slightly shook his head. And the procession passed.

And the dreamer's face was uplifted and his eyes were overflowing with light.

HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE June 26, 1938

INVOCATION:

Almighty God, we invoke thee, the fountain of everlasting Light, and entreat thee to send forth thy truth into our hearts, and to pour upon us the glory of thy brightness; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER:

"God of Wisdom, who guidest thy sons and daughters through days of preparation, and then givest them work to do with thee for thy kingdom, we pray for the young men and women in schools throughout our land for whom the days of training are about to end, and the work of life to begin. Give them high ideals of service and enable them to keep their visions fresh against the world. Guard them from the selfish use of talents given them by thee, who art the giver of all good gifts. Lead them into those places where they may do battle for the right, and give them the glorious

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sense of fellowship with thee, as they strive to serve their Master, Jesus Christ."

"Grant, O Lord, to all teachers and students, to know that which is worth knowing, to love that which is worth loving, to praise that which pleaseth thee most, and to dislike whatsoever is evil in thine eyes. Grant us with true judgment to distinguish things that differ and above all to search out and to do what is well-pleasing unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord."

(Thomas à Kempis)

"God, I am leaving friends and places that have become dear to me. Let their memory not grow faint and ineffective. Help me so to live that neither distance nor circumstance can separate me from that which has been a blessing to me. I thank you for the privilege of this period of training. Grant that my horizon may broaden. May the things which I have learned serve as good tools, and may the interest that have been awakened within me be a call to creative living."

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Selections from Ecclesiastes

Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity. The sleep of a labouring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much: but the abundance of the rich will not suffer him to sleep.

Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might: for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.

This wisdom have I seen also under the sun, and it seemed great unto me. There was a

little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it: Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man. Then said I, Wisdom is better than strength; nevertheless the poor man's wisdom is despised, and his words are not heard. The words of wise men are heard in quiet more than the cry of him that ruleth among fools. Wisdom is better than weapons of war...."

SLAVES ON HORSEBACK

"So have I seen slaves on horseback and princes plodding afoot like slaves."

Ecclesiastes 10:7

I. The story of "God's Fool" from "The Forerunner"

II. The writer of the book of Ecclesiastes says, "So have I seen slaves on horseback and princes plodding afoot like slaves." And I rather think that the irony is that these same slaves, like God's fool thought they really were princes.

A. Among the Parthians one could distinguish freemen from slaves by the fact that freemen rode on horses and slaves ran on foot.

B. Picture the Thinker-- things are topsy-turvy Slaves are on horseback

C. We would say--unworthy men are riding in ~~Pierce-Arrows~~ *Cadillacs*

D. In our thoughts we are putting slaves on horseback.

III. Some examples

A. The attitude of "getting-by"

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A. Superficial things abound that we consider signs of quality.

"To dress, to call, to dine, to break

No canon of the social code, The little laws that laqueys make,

The futile decalogue of Mode,-- How many a soul for these

With pious passion, grave things lives intent!

And never ev'n in dreams has seen

The things that are more excellent!

IV. My notion is that if those of us who are just starting out could be able to judge truly the things that are excellent and worthy we should save ourselves a lot of trouble.

I am not going to ask you to take advice today because I know you do not like to do that

I am going to ask you to set up an experiment--an laboratory.

Until you check the statement I am about to make I do not ask you to accept it

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I think that a great majority of the unhappiness and failure that comes to people comes because they started out unable to judge between the worthy and the unworthy--the cheap and the excellent. This is the tragedy of the man who has spent his life putting slaves on horseback.

V. One thing you should get from your education.

You may be able to handle the binomial theorem with ease,--all the propositions of plane and solid geometry. Latin conjugations--the dates of history and the wars of kings--diplomas and degrees BUT if you have NOT learned the distinction between that which is cheap and that which is truly excellent all these things are worth nothing.

Probably the teacher of every subject It would not do for me to say anything else. I ONLY SAY THAT EDUCATION DOES NOT CONSIST IN THE ABUNDANCE OF FACTS THAT A PERSON POSSESSES.

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Girl number twenty unable to define a horse. Girl number twenty possessed of no facts in reference to one of the commonest of animals! Some boy's definition of a horse!

Bitzer replied, "QUABRUPED. GRAMINIVOROUS. FORTY TEETH: NAMELY TWENTYFOUR GRINDERS: FOUR EYETEETH: AND TWELVE INCISIVE. SHEDS COAT IN THE SPRING; IN MARSHY COUNTRIES SHEDS HOOFS TOO. HOOFS HARD BUT REQUIRING TO BE SHOD WITH IRON. AGE KNOWN BY MARKS IN MOUTH.

NOW GIRL NUMBER TWENTY, said Mr. Gradgrind, YOU KNOW WHAT A HORSE IS.

Kagawa writes, "IN THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE IN TOKYO THE POLICEMEN CONTINALLY GRIED THROW AWAY YOUR BAGGAGE, BUT THOUSANDS PERISHED IN THE FLAMES THAT CAUGHT THE SILKS THEY WERE TRYING TO SAVE! Humanity may perish today unless you who are young discover that some things are more precious than others. We are seeing in our own community what happens when

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people forget that the whole life of organized society exists for the people who belong to that society. The machine exists to serve man but today we see slaves on horseback and we see man serving the machine he created to enrich his life.

VI. One man I know was keener than all others----

VII. YOU WHO ARE GRADUATING ARE FACING AN ENDLESS PROCESSION OF DAYS. FROM EACH DAY YOU WILL TAKE SOMETHING. SOME WILL TAKE DIADEMS. SOME KINGDOMS. SOME STARS. SOME BREAD. EACH WILL TAKE THAT WHICH ACCORDING TO THE CRITERIA OF HIS TASTE IS BEST. HAVING TAKEN YOUR GIFT YOU WILL BE GIVEN CERTAIN PLACES IN THE WORLD. I WISH THAT YOU WOULD BE GOVERNED BY THE VALUES OF JESUS BECAUSE I HAVE SEEN SLAVES ON HORSEBACK AND PRINCES PLODDING AFOOT LIKE SLAVES.