

pletely disheartened, we experienced the evils of despondency. Then by exhibiting the reward offered to the persevering victor, and by cheering words, our leaders induced us to try again. And we resolved never again to be daunted at the difficulties in our pathway. But alas! how often our good resolutions were only formed to be broken. Many a time have our glad voices broken forth into singing, and we have proceeded on our way rejoicing, for music removes all cares and gives light hearts. Four o'clock was always a welcome hour, and good Friday came weekly. Like links of gold were Saturday and Sunday, and as such we valued them; for all seasons of rest strengthen for renewed labor.

Week succeeded week, and soon the mountain of difficulty,—examination,—appeared in view, and its foot was soon reached. The ascent was neither so long nor tedious as we had anticipated. The summit reached, we looked back with pleasure over the path we had trod, and felt amply repaid for all the efforts made and obstacles surmounted. Before resuming our journey, we rested for a season to welcome our friends to an intellectual repast, for such it seemed to us. Their cheering words and smiling looks inspired us with a new spirit of perseverance.

And now for a time we separated from our companions, that we might rest during the sultry summer months. A ramble into the domains of Nature, gave us a love for her beauties, and it was there we learned to

“Find tongues in trees; books in the running brooks;
Sermons in stones; and good in every thing.”

The new term found us prepared to grapple with new difficulties, and time after time come off victorious. Sometimes a dark cloud obscured our pathway, but soon the beams of light penetrated the darkness. Occasionally obstacles would arise which we, unaided, could not surmount, and then our kind leader showed us another path, or removed from before us the difficulty. How typical of life! The world a school—we the scholars; often failing, our great Teacher extends the helping hand, and “leads us into the paths of righteousness.”