

went over to the bar and called for another bottle and said to the bar tender "Let's die game anyway." That was simple bravado - a man helpless with fear, who having nothing better to tie to in the face of death than another bottle of beer, followed his philosophy of life.

The calmness of Charles Frohman rested also on a life philosophy, but one deeper down in the essential structure of the man. The philosophy which made him able to utter so calm a parting message must have been the great help in the winning of his success. By dint of hard work, perseverance, intelligent direction of available forces Charles Frohman rose from poverty to wealth and accomplished a great work in his vocation and for the world. Throughout his life he must have faced his many enterprises with similar words. "Why fear it? It is a beautiful adventure." The picture of this man on the deck of the sinking Lusitania, is a picture of the serene courage of one who knows and therefore is not afraid.

Fear is the great persecutor of mankind-not merely fear of death but of every change. We are torn by doubts and misgivings when the large issues of life present themselves; and often we are overtaken by a hopelessness that paralyzes every mental and spiritual faculty. We fear that which we do not fully know. Yet every step of life is from the known into the relatively unknown, and those who fear the unknown must be forever fearing.

The unknown is that which we do not as yet know, or which lies beyond the ken of our ordinary senses. Out of the unknown come and into the unknown go all the great things of life. It is necessary to life. So, why fear it? The unknown gives life to man and to all pertaining to him. Out of the unknown comes the germ of life, as the generations of men are continued. On the unknown, life feeds as in the

case of electricity, drawn out of a dark unknown by the throbbing impulses of falling water, yet subservient to the needs of man - an obedient and wonderworking servant. Into the vast unknown, our life passes. From this world, built upon the experiences of our lives, we step into a new and a larger but unknown world. Life plays forever upon the misty shore of the unknown. This thought oppresses many, fills them with fear and hinders them in the full pursuits of their lives.

It would be terrible indeed if the unknown were also unknowable, or if the mind of man could not project itself into the unknown on everlasting and comprehensive principles. If on the other hand, man may know the spirit and nature of the unknown, though it be not known in detail, ~~that~~ the known and the unknown are held together, of one ~~whole~~ as are the past, present and the future, ~~and then~~ the daily progress from light to greater light, will be as a serene and beautiful journey. Such an understanding must have been possessed by him who spoke our quoted words on the deck of the Lusitania, as he met the supreme event of his earthly life.

In the last analysis of things, it may be that happiness or unhappiness is merely knowledge or ignorance of the unknown. A chief endeavor of life must then be the drawing out of the unknown, at least the great governing principles of all time and all places. You young people, entering into a larger life, because of your greater maturity and your richer knowledge acquired in this institution, will find in life either happiness or unhappiness. Which it will be depends upon your knowledge of the unknown. ~~Then~~ You ask the everlasting question "To what extent may a man know the unknown?" The great overwhelming answer - the great message of this latest day - is that the part of the universe not yet opened to man, may be conquered and converted

into the known. Yea, even more, that much of the so-called unknown is already known, so that man need not fear it, knowing well its limitations. The history of man is the history of the conquest of the unknown.

We who are here to day have seen the unknown changed into the known. A generation or two ago the dark continent of Africa was unexplored, forbidding, fearsome, filled with venomous things and terrible human beings. Those who ventured into the heart of this dark continent were acclaimed heroes of high degree. Today the continent of Africa is opened and has been found to be a beautiful country, covered with mountains, rivers, forests and over all the light and warmth of God's sun, and it is rapidly being settled by sturdy and honorable homeseekers. There is now no fear of the dark continent. Recall the romantic history of North and the South Poles. Expedition after expedition attempted to reach these imaginary points at the extreme ends of the earth. Lives were lost; indescribable sufferings endured, but the poles remained parts of the vast unknown, mentioned with human terror. A few years ago, a man building on all that had gone before, found his way over the ice sheet and raised the flag of his land at the north pole; and a little later another man did the same thing at the south pole. The terror and chill and dread of the north has passed away. A few years ago the air belonged to the unknown. Today airships move easily through the air and in the war-ridden countries of Europe cause great destruction by dropping bombs. The deep waters were another unknown field a short while ago but today the most picturesque part of the great struggle in Europe is the warfare conducted by submarine boats, that dive under the water and remain there for hours at a time. The air and the ocean are being rid of their terrors.

There was a time when men signalled from place to place by great fires built on hill tops. Direct communication at a distance seemed most impossible. Today I need not take your time to rehearse the accomplishments of the telegraph, the telephone and the wireless telegraph. The fear of space has passed away. Such material realizations of the conversion of the unknown into the known form a never ending story. That which is dark has been made bright and easily understood, until this great law has settled in our convictions, that man is so constituted and his position in the universal scheme is such, that all that is may in time be his, that the unknown shall in time be fully known. Moreover, the known is not necessarily drawn from out the unknown. Rather, that which we know is unfolded and made to grow and become larger until the unknown is driven away. Courage has come to man as the truth has become his. If it is the latest word in the history of our civilization that all things may be known, why should men have fear in their hearts even for death? Are not the words of scripture the words of serenity? "And God saw every^{thing} that He had made, and, behold, it was very good."

However, the great known which has been unfolded to include so much of the unknown, has not come by chance. Only by the application of intelligence has this progress come; and as man has reached out intelligently, he has been brought to recognize the existence of great universal laws which are dominant in all that we know. These great laws seeming to be expressions of a universal intelligence, appear to control the unknown as well as the known. Intelligence dominates all. That which we call chance is subject to universal law, and fits into the scheme of things. The unknown is really known by the laws which control it. There is really no unknown. Even the laws themselves are

subject to the dominating law of progressive development. That is the whole story. Rock and plant and beast and man are moving onward and upward under intelligent direction.

It is intelligence that has brought order out of chaos, light out of darkness, the known out of the unknown. Where intelligence reigns there is no place for fear. I have no doubt that the man whose words we are using as our text was convinced within his heart that this was a universe under the rule of intelligence; and that therefore he had no cause to fear the transition from earthly life through death to a newer life. Things governed and guided by intelligence do not go wrong. The Savior taught the same doctrine: "If thine eye be single thy whole body shall be full of light, but if thine eye be evil thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If, therefore, the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is the darkness". And we might add, that if a man realizes fully that intelligence is the dominating force of the universe, how great should be the light of that man. If a man has become thoroughly saturated with this doctrine, the unknown loses its terrors and he ventures bravely into all the undertakings of life. Those who are young, especially need this feeling ~~so~~ that they may cast out any fear that may be in them.

We are driven by all sane thought into the conception of a central directing, dominating intelligence, of whose nature we are. This intelligence is everlasting - it was, it is and ever shall be - and man being of the same intelligence, of one race with God, is equally indestructible. A man cannot therefore, be taken out of life; he can merely be taken from one life to another. A person who has such a philosophy of life enjoys life much more fully, for he does not need at times to withdraw himself from life to work out a guide for the conduct of his life. It is said that the man who became Buddha, when about 40 years old,

withdrew himself from active life to spend the rest of his life in working out the system of thought for the governing of human lives. Such seclusion becomes needless with the simple philosophy in mind that God lives and directs nature by intelligence, that life is indestructible, and that a perfected plan has been given to man for his eternal salvation. This earth, with its sunshine, happiness, beauty and all its good things, then becomes the best place for man because it is the realization of all the past and is the promise of all the future. All fear is cast aside in the face of the knowledge of the eternal nature of man. Infidels do not go, fearlessly, into death. Infidels do not tackle the problems of life with the same joy as do those who believe in God and His ruling intelligence. A wondering terror overshadows all their ventures.

Charles Frohman spoke of death as the most beautiful adventure of life. In view of man's eternal nature, it would be better to say that earthly life is the most beautiful adventure that eternal man has known. The greatest undertaking, the most successful enterprise of our existence in this life. The smile for fate must be applied to every change that comes into our daily lives. Every day brings its problems; every life has its own cares; every man has his own undertakings - solve, overcome and conquer them in the sure faith that whatever comes is part of the scheme of existence, as worked out in the divine mind, and is for the uplifting and ultimate good of man.

The great achievements of man have led to the feeling that with him all is possible. Nevertheless, man, being in a progressive state, has well defined limitations beyond which he cannot go. He can merely conjecture some things, and take the shadowy shapes as they are presented, to be used as best he can. An ancient legend brings out the thought.

60 A holy man, a lover of the message of Christ, spent much time meditating upon the relation of God to man. The Gospel had revealed to him, clearly, much of the wonderful nature and attributes of God, that the holy man felt a great desire to know God more fully. He set himself, therefore, the task of solving the mystery of Godliness. As the days went by he found himself unable to carry his thoughts beyond certain narrow limits; his body and mind began to suffer from the meditation on things transcending human experience. One day as he walked along the shore he saw a child sitting on the sand, not far from the water's edge, who with a large wooden spoon was carrying water from the ocean a spoonful at a time into a little hole dug in the sand. The old saint asked the child "What are you doing?" The child answered, "I am emptying the ocean into this hole which I have dug in the sand". "But that is impossible" said the old man. Then suddenly the child grew larger and stood as an angel of God and spoke "Thus you are attempting to fathom the eternal mystery of God". The old saint went home happy and satisfied. He understood that there are limits beyond which the mind of man cannot go.

A great deal of what we have in life must be taken without the ordinary proof of the common senses, though stepwise the conviction of the truth may be irresistible. This is faith. Faith is a recognition, first of the vastness of the unknown which may in time be converted into the known, and secondly, of the fact that man has limitations of mind and body beyond which he cannot go in his present state of experience. The man who understands his limitations succeeds and is content with his knowledge, because he does not undertake the impossible. Little is known about the nature of the electric current, but we know certain laws governing it, and by observing these we control the current. One who does not know, grasps the naked wire carrying thousands of volts of electricity, and is immediately stunned or killed by the shock, whereas the man who understands carefully insulates himself before he touches the

highly charged wire. Faith helps men rid themselves of fear, and to smile at fate.

Faith, moreover, leads to other great qualities, the chiefest of which perhaps is courage. In the vast universe to which we belong many things may happen, even under law, to cause for a moment our spiritual or physical discomfort. It takes courage to accept what I may call the punishment of the unknown. We are tempted throughout life to seek easy tasks; to smile at fate, but immediately to circumvent her. This weakens faith, and in time destroys the man, for by overcoming resistance only can he become strong.

There is another old legend of early Christian days that sends home this thought. Peter, the Chief Apostle was in Rome, had been tried, found guilty and condemned to be crucified. He was placed in a dirty dungeon ~~and~~ the day before the execution. That night his friends found their way into the prison and the prisoner was allowed to escape. Peter hurried out of the city to find a refuge far from the people who had attempted to take his life. As he left the city gate he saw approaching, with rapid stride, a familiar figure. It was the Savior, His Master, who passed by without a word and was about to enter the city, when Peter cried out, "Master whither goest thou"? and the Master said, "I go into Rome to be crucified in your place". Peter understood; turned his face to the city, and gave himself up. The next day he suffered death on the cross. A legend this is, probably having no foundation ~~in~~ truth, ~~in it~~, but it illustrates the eternal principle that men who are to rise to great heights of victory must not be afraid to take the punishments of life. Disappointments and troubles will overtake every person, and if he does not meet them with courage, he subjects himself to hopelessness. We owe to the leader of the stoics this thought,

"Lead me oh God and thou oh destiny,
Be what it may, the goal appointed me,
Bravely I will follow; and if I would not,
I would be a coward, yet must follow still."

The man who stood on the deck of the Lusitania was not a coward. An understanding courage based upon faith and on conviction of intelligent domination in the universe enable men to smile at any fate. Courage as a principle of life brings great rewards.

When courage is developed, obedience comes also - not only obedience to the greater laws of life but to lesser ones also. It takes some courage to be obedient to the laws of honesty, kindness, morality and the many others. Obedience marks a man as understanding the true philosophy of life. Only the shallow minded are disobedient, and they never have a smile for fate.

Men may be divided into the pessimists and the optimists, the happy and the unhappy, the satisfied and the unsatisfied. The optimistic, the satisfied, the happy have a knowledge of God and a faith in the great plan according to which intelligent man conforms to the laws of life. Marcus Aurelius said, hundreds of years ago, "We are all working together to one end, some with knowledge and design and others without knowing what they do, as men also when they are asleep; co-laborers, however, in the universe. If we are indeed co-laborers in a great plan we cannot well insist on doing this or that work, when all work is necessary. "Our lives" Emerson said, "are apprenticeships". Apprenticeships, no doubt, for some greater work to be done, for all may do greater work as time goes on. But, whatever a man's work may be, if done well, it leads him into a continually greater labor. The only absolute sin of man, to use Emerson again, is the sin of a fixed limitation. The only limitations we should know are those which may be moved farther and farther away as we grow in power and intelligence, as a man moves his fences beyond and beyond as he adds more acres to his land.

The same thought was well spoken by Oliver Cromwell when he said to his men # A man never rises so high as when he knows not whither he is going."

This, then, is the secret of a joyous and happy life; to have a knowledge of God; a faith in the ultimate conquest of the unknown; a courage to meet whatever may come; a willingness to obey law in times of trial as of success. That is, the man who would have a smile for fate in all the adventures of life must have a sane religion, or darkness will engulf him. Religion is the comfort of human life, for it gives strength and knowledge as needed, and clarifies the mysteries of life until they become his willing slaves. He does not care if he accomplishes all that may be in his heart and mind to accomplish. If what he does is well done, day by day, like Charles Frohman he does not hesitate to go into a new adventure with a smile for fate.

Great men have ever found in religion a philosophy of life such as here outlined, which has given the strength necessary to build their great lives. As one of ~~the~~[^] thousand examples, here is the testimony from the history of Benjamin Franklin, known to almost every school child. "I never doubted the existence of Deity; that He made the world and governed it by His prudence; that the most acceptable service of man was the doing of good to man; that our souls are immortal; and that all crime will be punished and all virtue rewarded either here or hereafter." No wonder Benjamin Franklin achieved greatness.

The sum of the whole matter is this. Life is a great adventure in converting the vast or unknown into an equally vast known. This earth has been made for the good of man. It is beautiful, and upon it man may dwell in happiness, and may even attain a perfected joy. What we desire to achieve, let us go at with a will and a clear understanding that it is within our power to achieve all within the limitations of earth, and

of the eternal plan in which all men are involved. The secret of the joyous life is knowing God and His plan for men, by which we may be ever guided and by which all the experiences of our lives are tied together. When we understand the philosophy of life, and have at our command a true religion, we may go down to the depth or into any impending change with a smile and the courageous words "Why fear it? It is one of life's beautiful adventures."