

Length of the Working Life.
There is a vital topic in the discussion of the question whether the length of a human life was not in a great measure dependent on the kind of work, and effects. Certainly it is, in India. This writer was a time in history when millions were working so fervently for development as they are at present, and millions tell us that in spite of their knowledge, far, tame or, whatever else may think, is desirable the average of human life is steadily lengthening, through means strength. In no other way than by strength, ever stirring with might and muscle, can we become stronger, better, wiser, more honest. Rather it is the history of all great lives it is the history of all great nations. If the world did not strain and stretch it would never be healthy.

People who give up and stamp down at the age of fifty or thereabouts grow old and useless, who could help them do. It must be an incentive of those to just as much in him after fifteen years of existence. In this place, it is after twenty years. In actual life we find that those who have striven, always happy, and hopefully, offering joyous, and many a time feeling weak and tired, but never giving up—these are the ones who have lived longest, particularly if they have been engaged in some work that is helpful to mankind—some intellectual or literary work.

Gladiators have passed; the eighty-first birthday, and the Liberal party of England looks confidently forward to having him for its leader several years yet. William, the poet of freedom and good will, is older yet, being 88. That very old general, Oliver Wendell Holmes, is 81. Mrs. Stowe, 80. All of these are still at work except Mrs. Stowe. Gladstones never in his most youthful, strenuous days completed his 80th year. Queen Victoria, 80. Queen Victoria, the philosopher, has just turned 100. Chekhov, the great French chemist, was 101 at the time of his death, and worked continually till the last.

Old age, decrepitude and infirmity are largely matters of giving up. It is the spirit that makes alive. They who work on earnestly and confidently, not failing or懈怠, live long.

A Dear Girl.

In Warren county, Ohio, lives Mr. Ross, hunter and father. He is devoted to hunting, and to this respect his daughter Maggie, girl though she is, resembles him. She has accompanied her father on many of his hunting trips, and can see and fire a gun as well as he can, and use the hunting knife as deftly.

Maggie is a whittler, and Maggie, though only 12, has cut down the largest and most active of the younger children. One day in December Maggie went to Cincinnati to sell his game, leaving Maggie and the four younger children alone in the house. A wood girl who has killed all kinds of game before and by day is not a coward, and Maggie was not afraid. In the night the little children cried for a drink of water. There was none in the house. Maggie went to the well, 300 feet away, to draw it. She was not afraid, but she knew the country, and took her father's hunting knife with her. The children waited in the dark door till she returned. The bright moon shone over all.

While the girl was drawing the water a large, dark form loomed up in the pathway over which she had come, and made with many steps toward the door to where the children stood. It was a bear, and he evidently had no appetite then.

Maggie dropped the water and hurried to the door, drawing the hunting knife as she advanced. The bear turned to meet her as she came, and put his paws upon her shoulders.

Maggie knew just where to strike with her knife. She cut the animal's throat below where he could give her a fatal tug. Then she stabb'd him by driving the knife into his heart. When Papa Ross returned home next day he found the body of a large bear all properly dressed and skinned, and he took bear skins, smoking hot, for supper that night.

In France the minister of justice, or Justice, as members of persons now probably regard him, has issued an edict that persons themselves shall not want matches, because it does not look patriotic. Imagine a people who do not want matches! There seems to be no oil in America! There seems to be no trouble in Europe all along the line over the matches. In London the waiters have appealed to the Prince of Wales to free them from the nuisance, but in view of custom which precludes them from thus covering up a portion of their countenance, but the prince pays attention to their cry, probably thinking it serves them right for being waiters.

In Vienna the mistletoe war is still in session. Young officers and noblemen of the first cut, wanting something to distinguish them in appearance from their seniors, have requested landlords and restaurant keepers to supply on winter evenings with clean dinner napkins. The waiters associations justify regard this as a locality owing to their profession as waiters, and, indeed, warning their dandies in the arms as a defense to restaurant keepers and innkeepers. They yearn to be in fashion of their rights.

Persons past the age of 100 are becoming plentiful in many states. Daniel Burns died in Springfield, O., at the age of 102. His brother is still living, aged 100. Daniel was an Irishman.

Germany is doing something for the farmer. In Germany the socialists have taken up the cause of the agricultural laborers. They will try to form them into a union and make them stand up for their rights and wages. The socialists charge that the wife of the German Agricultural Laborer is scarcely known, and no better than that of a Russian out of the old time.

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