

Daily Child's Message

THE PHILOSOPHY OF POWER

'Tis well to nourish the body lest man perish; but far better is it to exalt the mind that man may know his power to overcome all things.

Nothing Is Impossible

BY

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IT CAN'T BE DONE.

If I were an employer, no man could say these words and remain in my employ.

Just because he has never done it, nor has *seen* it done nor has *known* of it having been done he concludes that it can't be done.

ANYTHING CAN BE DONE.

There are NO impossibilities.

Conjure up one impossibility to-day and the answer will be its happening to-morrow.

"But there are some things, there must be some things that are impossible," an engineer stated to me when we were younger.

"Well, just *what* for example," I asked of him.

"Well here's one," he answered. "We can make an instrument to measure a thousandth of an inch or even a ten thousandth of an inch in thickness and we can calibrate a dimension still further. But we can never measure a depression in a surface so finely. That would be impossible."

"Well perhaps it would be impossible to-day just as flying would, but both will come with knowledge," I replied.

"The flying machine might come I grant you, but not the other for there would be no way of seeing it if it did come," he argued.

That seems but yesterday and to-day I saw just such a depression measured on a surface of steel which had a depth of one one hundred millionth of an inch and saw it clearly.

And if it was a two hundred millionth that could just as easily have been detected.

My friend had in mind the instruments of yesterday. He was limited by them.

To-day we have the interferometer method and monochromatic light which allows one to measure two hundred thousandths of an inch section in waves an eighth of an inch or one inch wide as desired.

Any deviation of these waves from parallel means concavity or convexity. One thousandth of one wave means one two hundred millionth variation.

Yesterday when a ship sailed out to sea it cut itself off from the world. To-day, it prints a daily paper of world news.

Yesterday a transcontinental journey in two days was huntinkable. To-day it has been done.

Yesterday television was a dream but to-day it is here.

Yesterday's pictures of world events had to await publication in other countries until photographs were mailed. To-day those pictures are cabled with the story.

Ten thousand other impossibilities of yesterday have become commonplace happenings of to-day.

Most of Jules Verne's wild imaginings of yesterday, so facinating in our boyhoods because so impossible, are realities to-day.

I often wonder what Julius Caesar would think if you set him in Times Square to-day.

With all the wealth and power of Rome, Caesar had very little compared with what the average modern man can command.

During all these intervening centuries the "it can't be dones" have been getting themselves done by the genius of man.

He who *knows it can be done* can do it.

He who knows "it can't be done" cannot do it.