

fifth year, and have saved to me at least ten of the best years of life,—years which were spent in obscure and humble occupations. But while my story must serve to show the evils which result from truant carelessness in boyhood, and that what was sport to the young lad may assume the form of serious misfortune to the man, it may also serve to show, that much may be done by after diligence, to retrieve an early error of this kind,—that life itself is a school, and Nature always a fresh study,—and that the man who keeps his eyes and his mind open will always find fitting, though, it may be, hard schoolmasters, to speed him on in his life-long education.