

**SEED-TIME AND HARVEST:  
OR, WHATSOEVER  
A MAN SOWETH, THAT  
SHALL HE ALSO REAP**

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Seed-Time and Harvest: Or, Whatsoever a Man Soweth, That Shall He Also Reap by T. S. Arthur

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**T. S. ARTHUR**

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By T. S. ARTHUR.

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PHILADELPHIA:  
J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO.  
1864.

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## PREFACE.

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THE title of this book explains with sufficient clearness the important doctrine it is designed to teach. "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap," is a truth that must be palpable to every one of sound mind; for an effect always bears in it the quality of its cause. If men's actions are governed by selfish and evil purposes, a re-action of evil will follow as certainly as like produces like. From this law of existence there is no escape; and, this being so, every wise man will take heed unto his ways.

The illustrations of our subject presented in this volume, the ninth of the "LIBRARY FOR THE HOUSEHOLD," are not a tithe of what might be given. Enough is written, however, to make the truth we would teach so plain that even he who runneth may read.



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## SEED-TIME AND HARVEST.

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### ACTION AND REACTION.

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THERE is a law governing in the affairs of life, with its award of good or evil, according to the tenor of every one's obedience or disregard thereto. Ignorance of this law exempts no one from unhappy consequences; and yet at least four-fifths of the human race appear to be utterly unconscious of its existence. The law is that of action and reaction, which may thus be stated, in order to make it clearly comprehensible.

Every act of man's life, whether good or evil, has a reaction of consequence. Whatever we do, affects others or ourselves in some way; for there cannot be such a thing as an act without an effect proportionate to the action.

This, upon a little reflection, will appear self-evident.

The importance of a life in obedience to this law must strike every one at a glance, for happiness or misery here and hereafter depends upon it. In great things, so to speak, all see and acknowledge the existence of the law we have stated; for examples of its unerring visitation are of daily occurrence. How sad and various are the consequences that flow back upon men for evil actions! But in little things, as they are called, where no violations of penal statutes or public opinion take place, and where no reaction is apparent, we imagine that none will ever come; that what they have done is but as in a void immense. This is a fatal error. There is not an act of a man's life, little or great, good or bad, that does not, sooner or later in life, react upon him with its full quota of consequences. A philosopher has said that the stamp of a man's foot upon the earth will shake the universe. The remark is more likely to be true than false. We can believe it more easily than we can disbelieve it. And a single word, a look, or smallest act of a man's life, forgotten by him in the next moment, may shake his soul to the very centre.

Alonzo Turnham had never heard of the existence of the law to which we have alluded. But that was of little consequence. He would not have credited the fact, if he had heard it stated. The law which he laid down for his government was, to seek his own gratification in all possible ways that