

# **TASKS BY TWILIGHT**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649245918

Tasks by twilight by Abbot Kinney

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**ABBOT KINNEY**

**TASKS BY  
TWILIGHT**



# TASKS BY TWILIGHT

BY

ABBOT KINNEY

AUTHOR OF "THE CONQUEST OF DEATH"



G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

NEW YORK

LONDON

27 WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET

24 BEDFORD STREET, STRAND

The Knickerbocker Press

1893

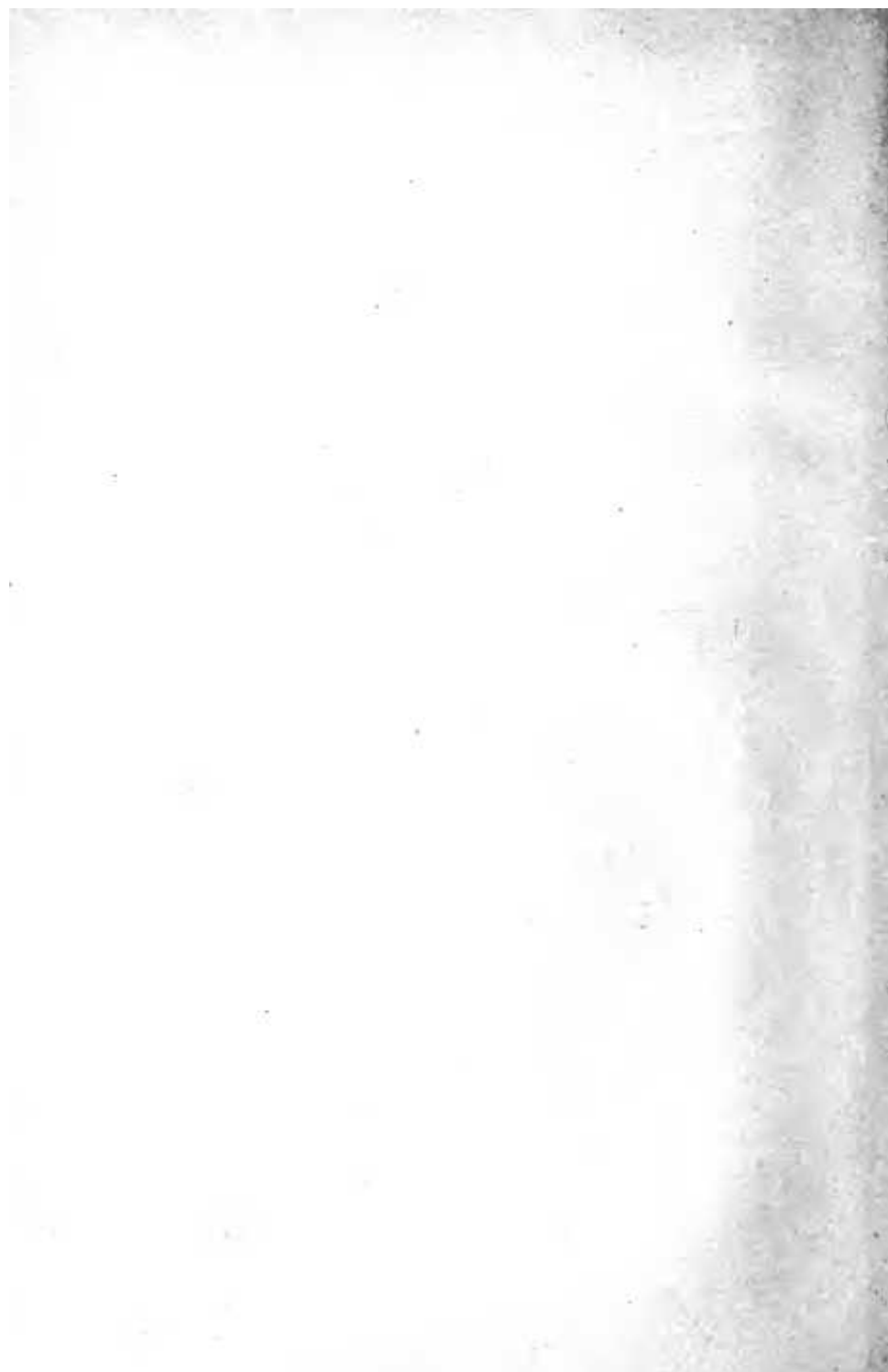
COPYRIGHT, 1893  
BY  
ABBOT KINNEY  
65508

Electrotyped, Printed, and Bound by  
**The Knickerbocker Press, New York**  
G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

## CONTENTS.

---

EDUCATION . . . . .	I
PHYSIQUE . . . . .	19
BOYS . . . . .	20
MANUAL LABOR . . . . .	28
PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT . . . . .	33
OBSERVATION . . . . .	61
EDUCATION OF GIRLS . . . . .	64
THOUGHTS . . . . .	101
DIET . . . . .	154







## TASKS BY TWILIGHT.

### EDUCATION.

"The hard toiler is slow, patient, and conservative, while the student is progressive, as thought will impatiently outrun the slow march of stubborn reality. By joining study with labor, we combine the spirit of progress, development, and adaptation with the spirit of conservatism, both so necessary for the historic development of a nation."  
—SAMUEL ROYCK.

**E**DUCATION is generally considered to be the literary preparation given young persons by teachers at home or in our schools and universities. This is the commonly received interpretation of the word. It is an interpretation narrow and incomplete to the last degree.

Education, in its complete sense, is the preparation for living, and begins at birth. That portion of it obtained from books and in the schools is the outward flourish, the trimming and the ornamentation, as compared to the solid requirements necessary for a successful life.

The absolute essentials for a useful and happy existence are three: First, animal strength—to be a good animal—to have health, vitality, and physical power. Without a due amount of this, no other requirements, no knowledge or information, can be utilized. The physique

must be there to use knowledge. To the extent that physical power or vitality is absent, a human being's knowledge is less useful. As the physique diminishes in power, so must the beneficial activity of the human being be likewise diminished.

The second quality essential to a useful life is the power of observation and adaptation. We must be able to *see* things when we see them; when we look at a thing we must observe it, recognize its qualities and, remember it. The circumstances in our lives are so varied, so complicated, so changeful, that no rule can be laid down for details in any person's life. Persons do and must depend, in their lives, upon their own individual capacity of observation and adaptation, certainly while any progress takes place in society. We must, if we are successful, act in harmony with the inexorable laws of nature. These laws, never changeable in themselves, are so varied by the circumstances surrounding us, that the rules for successful action in any given person's life must be inscribed and treasured in their own consciousness.

The third quality, without which life must be a failure, is character. By character is meant that combination of qualities which enables us to use the knowledge derived from observation, through our physique, so as to achieve results.

The human animal is gregarious. All human lives are, therefore, affected by the lives of others.

Success may be measured by the capacity an individual has of combining the lives and activities of others, and

shaping these to his own ends. For these purposes, a person must have the decision, the perseverance, and the concentration to know what he wants, and to pursue that desire to a conclusion. And above all things he must have the power of securing the confidence and aid of his fellow-men. Energy and honesty are, therefore, important elements in character. Even the chief of a band of thieves must have a degree of honesty to secure the confidence and obedience of his band.

With these three qualities in their perfection, any one reaching maturity will certainly be successful.

The lack of the literary accomplishments and of the useful information furnished by the schools can be and is being every day overcome outside of the schools by those successful without their aid.

The thoughtful will recognize at once that none of these three essentials are customarily taught in schools. On the contrary, the confined and sedentary life lived by the scholastic student is always detrimental to the physique. Often the consequences result in serious and permanent disability, and not infrequently end in premature death.

The second quality is, as schools are usually managed, equally dwarfed and injured. The thoughts, the statements, and the dogmas of others are taught and memorized at the expense of the individual powers of observation of the student himself. Instead, therefore, of looking at the facts of nature for themselves, and seeing what those facts are, a scholastic person is taught to receive with