

SOURCE OF CONTENTMENT



Geoff Serpell

The Friendship Book produced by D.C. Thomson, contains this gem of a reading from the English poet, critic, and essayist, Leigh Hunt.

Born in London, 1784, he wrote poetry as a contemporary of Keats, Shelley and Byron, including the following:

"Few people, rich or poor, make the most of what they possess. In their anxiety to increase the amount of the means for

future enjoyment they are too apt to lose sight of the capability of them for present.

Above all, they overlook the thousand helps to enjoyment which lie about them, free to everybody, and obtainable by the very willingness to be pleased."

He wasn't saying don't plan for the future. He was suggesting we make more of the here and now.

Reflection:

Paul's letter to the Philippians was written while in prison, and troubled by other Christian workers towards himself.

"I know what it is to be in need and what it is to have more than enough. I have learnt this secret, so that anywhere, at any time, I am content, whether I am full or hungry, whether I have too much or too little. I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me."

Philippians 4:12-13

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