

Beyond the Alps

Napoleon saw Italy, but not the Alps. He had an objective and he knew where he was going. The Alps were simply something to be crossed en route.

Washington saw the Hessians massed at Trenton. He didn't see the Delaware choked with ice. A frozen river was simply a challenge to be overcome on the way to a victory.

A young man intent on bettering his life and earning a college degree will hold a strong image of graduation day in his mind. The exams, long nights of study and jobs that must be done for tuition and room and board are simply the price that is paid in exchange for a great reward.

A mother about to give birth has her mind and heart wrapped around the baby she will soon hold in her arms. The agony of childbirth is simply something that must be endured to experience the joy of new life.

The majority of people will always see the obstacles that loom in their path. But the truly successful will see the objectives -- the goals, the reason, the hope that lies beyond the challenges.

Those who work through problems reside in the land of success. Those who don't are lost in oblivion. After all, a man's (or woman's) reach should exceed his grasp.

--Beecher Hunter