

The Devils Best Tool

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It was announced that the devil was going out of business and would offer all his tools for sale to whoever would pay his price-on the night of the sale they were all attractively displayed, and a bad looking lot they were. There were malice, greed, hatred, envy, jealousy, sensuality, deceit, and all the other implements of evil that hell alone offers. Each was marked with its own price. Apart from the rest lay a harmless looking wedge- shaped tool, very much worn. This too was priced higher than the rest. Someone asked the devil what it was "That's Discouragement" was his reply. Asked why he had priced it so high above the others, the devil said, "because, it is more useful to me than any others. I can pry open and get inside a man's consciousness with that tool when I could not get him with any of the others. When once inside I cause whatever way suits me best. It is so worn because I use it with nearly everybody. It is most valuable to me because very few people know that it belongs to me. It hardly need be added that the devil's price for "Discouragement" was so high that it was never sold. He still owns it and is still using it.