



“Now In Our 43rd Year”

From the desk of David Simpson

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“No river ever reaches the sea without first making peace with every stone.”

- Irish Proverb (not really)

One of our readers (thank you Winston) recently sent me a note suggesting that our July QOTM may have had more than one source. In fact, I do spend a fair bit of time trying to verify that the QOTM is actually authored by the person who the quote is attributed. In the case of this so-called “Irish Proverb,” there is no record of this phrase being used in historical Irish literature or ancient Irish archives. Rather the words are a modern inspirational quote that was attributed to Irish folklore but actually showed up on social media and lifestyle blogs in much more recent times.

Leaders frequently encourage team members to push harder and overcome problems with force....“we can push through this team!” In fact, progress is not always about “knocking down walls to make doors.” Rather, just like the river that does not waste its energy trying to push aside every rock in its path, perhaps it is worth keeping in mind that, at times, it is best to change direction, adjust one’s path and not fight every obstacle. Accepting that a course correction is needed is not weakness. Rather it is a form of intelligence. Frankly, we move forward when we stop carrying inner battles that lead nowhere.

Today there are constant challenges – career instability, personal struggles, unexpected business setbacks. Adapting and navigating around the “rocks,” just like the river, is a critical skill to possess. Being a “blunt instrument” is no longer a key to success.

Perform better!