

image he bears. Upon the will to respect will grow *the will to trust*. And there is no more powerful agent of reclamation in the world than the will to trust. Trustfulness breeds trustworthiness. That is just what you are endeavouring to do when you put a child on his honour. You are making him trustworthy by the process of trusting him. And this is a universal truth. The parent of strife is the readiness for strife, whether in the individual or the nation; and readiness for strife, is always born of fear and suspicion and distrust.

Some such thing as this, then, the *will to love* is; and I beseech you to believe that the singular opportunity that you teachers of little children possess of stimulating the will to love places you in a position of strategic importance for the future of the Kingdom of God and the world. The will to love is the energy of social regeneration and of world-peace; it is even more than that,—it is the deepest truth of the life of God. “For God so loved the world,”—that is the ground of our redemption; but it is also to be the pattern of our conduct.—“As God hath loved us so we ought also to love one another.” What God has given us we owe to our fellowmen. And it is given you to take into your hands the unformed, plastic manhood of the future, and to cast it into the divine mould of the *will to love*: and in so doing to lay well and truly the foundations of that new world which is to be, that world in which com-