

intercommunication of individuality and community, by which our life is at once attractive and strong.

In its most practical form this same truth about our life is given to us in this familiar saying as to the mote and the beam. There is much to be done in the world, evils are to be overcome, wrongs to be righted, violence and injustice to be banished, reforms to be instituted, Pessimists on every side paint the picture so blackly that the world never needs to dwell long upon that side in order to perceive it; and if our theory fails us, the facts of daily experience soon make us see that there is sin and wretchedness enough to demand action on our part. And our Saviour recognized that on the part of men there is desire to perform such good action. There may be more or less malice mingled with it, there may be a little rejoicing that our neighbor has a mote in his eye, but after all it is a good thing that there is so much desire to help the world by removing that mote. There never is to be any inclination to discourage or to dismiss that desire. Our Saviour shows none; He says rather that such removal of obstacle to our brother's vision is the end and crown of all action. If we can only set a brother right, and let him see something with a clearness of vision which is not his now, we shall utilize an immense power which is lost or is going in wrong directions. If you could take the mote from the eye of some brother who is full of energy and ambition and acuteness so that he would be able to see that the interest of these passing days do not make up the whole of life, how much you would have accomplished. If you could convince some drunkard of the advantage of forgetting the pleasure of the present moment, or some man of appetite that he is losing sight of the best part of himself you would have taken away the disturbing mote that now, through that man's action, sets many lives awry, and have combined discordant elements into one harmonious picture. Never should the desire for such work be lessened, and surely the last one to speak a word against such desires is He who to do such work for all the world came to share in its sufferings and labor and death. With joy He sees all such desire and efforts however distorted, He acknowledges them with a readiness which other do not often show. And He would redeem and utilize all these efforts which to day above all times are almost tragic in the world around us, by pointing out the only path by which they can be made effective, the cultivation of self. A man himself is his own best instrument of work, and until this instrument is in good