

IN RELIGION

the success and happiness that come of understanding the powers of our natures and drawing on the reservoirs of those powers.

The greatest of our powers is that unconscious ideal and aspiration which takes the form of the Hero Wish. It begins, perhaps, as pure selfishness and the desire for egoistic domination, but it is soon molded to more unselfishness by the desire for the parent's affection and approval, the approval of the parental God, the approval of playmates. At adolescence, it takes on forms of self-sacrifice and fulfills the ethics of Christ—perhaps because at this period the parent image has to be sacrificed to the new sex love and this sacrifice colors the whole unconscious ideal. The self-sacrifice continues in love for a mate, for children, for the family. And always the herd instinct, that seeks the approval of our fellows, operates to make the ideal of value to society. Such a Hero Wish is the true Will of any "psyche"—the strongest thing in life. And it is the calamity of our religion and our morality that we have marked so many of the strongest impulses of the "psyche" as "base animal impulses," and fought them blindly, and condemned them as having their source in "original sin."