

must not over-estimate the extent to which this spirit has affected us, for this would be to slander humanity, but on the other hand we may well pray to be kept from condoning or overlooking it, lest, deceiving ourselves, we lower the standard of character, and when you lower that you can heighten nothing.

That murderous spirit has scattered its contagion among humanity until there is a little murder in us all. Anger, strife, scorn, heartless competition, malice, wrath, the look of reproach, the unforgiving spirit, these would never have been known to exist between man and man had not the Cain-spirit crimsoned the race. The drooping arms of Cain form on either side the water-shed of the human race. See how instead of the tropical gulfs of peace and good will among men, receiving ever fresh and full supply, this murderous spirit has sent forth the chilly waves of rebellion and anger until they have become frozen into treacherous heights against which the millions have dashed into shipwreck. Had Cain raised his right hand unto his God and lowered his left hand helpfully to his brother, peace on earth, good will among men might this very moment have charmed the whole race into the REST of its God.

Then man would have lived for his fellows, each man would have been a benediction to all other men