

In proof of this, witness the decay of morals in a nation during the transition from some form of decaying religion to a new or reformed way of giving play to the religious motives. A decline in Greek morals followed the national disrespect towards the tenets of the Greek mythology, just as the same thing happened when the Goddess of Reason was set up in Paris during the French Revolution. The appeal to the moral nature, or to the will by human-born motives is weak when unsupported by religious sanctions and influences. Human-born motives, as history shows, are insufficient barriers to national vice; and human-born motives are insufficient barriers to the milder immoralities of the school-room that finally depreciates the value of the individual in citizenship.

There is therefore nothing for us, as teachers, to do, but to draw into our service these religious sanctions and influences, if we would see the best results follow from a moral drill in school, and just as we have lately been inquiring about the best physical drill to be had, and the best vocal drill, and the best mental drill, with the intention of having them in our schools, so must we proceed to inquire about the best moral drill for our pupils, and forthwith introduce it.

"No boy or girl ever received a religious impression of the least value in the devotional exercise in school." There is the statement of one who affects to know what he is talking about; and we, as teachers, had better look within the scope of our own experiences, to see what measure of truth there is in it. For one, I do not think that the statement should pass unchallenged; because, for one, I do not believe that the statement can be substantiated. I know of a village in which the master was accused of having used the curtailed form of "Our Father which art in heaven, *et cetera*," when carrying out the letter of the law; and of another where the boys were accustomed to repeat the Lord's Prayer as a final exercise in the afternoon with their caps in hand ready for a rush through the open door of the school-room. I have been at the opening exercises of a school when the beautiful hymn "He maketh up his jewels" was as unmeaning in the mouths of the dear little innocent souls who were singing it, as was the hymn "I want to be an angel" in the mouth of the drunken ne'er-do-well, as he staggered through the streets. These are