

agency effective for good, for though operating on a lower plane, it undoubtedly exercises as great an influence in moulding the framework of the social organism today and hence the individual men and women of the future as do either Mr. Orthodoxy and Madame Fashion: for indeed all three are but expressions of the selfsame mind and will acting upon different planes—the outbreathings of the soul of the community.

The vastness of the problem and the complexities of the relationships involved so overburden us with a mass of detail that it is difficult to apprehend the facts in their larger relations. Yet the faintest glimmer of this fuller light is to be warmly welcomed, the importance of a perception being not always measurable by its wealth and accuracy of detail—the glimpse of an angel may be of greater value than the most precise knowledge of the appearance of a snail.

In virtue of such perceptions incidents of daily life, which seem trivial, when measured by ordinary standards take on new meaning. To follow the plough is ordinarily deemed an ignoble occupation, but, under the inspiration of christian belief, to have consciously guided the plough which was instrumental in raising the wheat that sustained the strength of Jesus of Nazareth during his labours here must surely be deemed as worthy an effort as that of seizing a crown or gathering together some millions of dollars—and who can tell what momentous issues hang upon seemingly trivial actions of today.

The poet, in virtue of his divine gift, is enabled to fire the imagination with quick perception, thus arousing the soul to new consciousness. By slow process of reasoning and with evident effort I have endeavoured to conjure up in your imaginations a shadowy presentment of that vast movement which is bearing humanity onward. The effort is confessedly a feeble one—it is faulty—to a clearer vision it would appear as false, but it may embody an element of perception that will engage your attention and stimulate further enquiry.

Mr. Orthodoxy, Madame Fashion and Mrs. Grundy, I leave them with you, not to look at but to look into as a man might peer into a human face in eager desire to penetrate to the soul within. The suggestion of personality they shadow forth may give substance to your vision of that mighty informing Power that finds expression through, while dominating, the myriad atoms of humanity which it marshalling and gathering into systematic adjustment as sentient units of a living whole. "A body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, which according to the effectual working in the measure of every part maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

Under the inspiration of such ideas life will assume a deeper significance and the bonds of human fellowship be drawn ever closer, for they bid us recognize man not merely as a creature of time, but also as an heir of eternity.

Notwithstanding their acknowledged imperfections let us cherish such perceptions as of infinite worth, for are they not a promise and foretaste of a fuller insight yet to come, of the further unfolding of the wings of the soul.