

Character is the basis of all good citizenship and all national greatness ; nations do not die for want of wealth nor want of power but for want of character.

"Within the problem of a better social order lies the problem of a better man."—Peabody.

The moral well-being of the people must be the supreme consideration of all legislation, education and religion. The making of character must proceed along two lines :

(1) The removal of all degrading conditions. It is the function of the State to provide a healthy environment in which a strong character may develop. All vicious surroundings should be removed, all insanitary conditions cleared away, all forces of evil suppressed.

(2) The transforming and moulding of the individual life. Here the school, the church and the home must co-operate with the State.

(a) *The School*—The end of education is to produce upright and capable citizens. Surely then it is of great importance to teach the child how to live aright. The great defect of education in the past has been that, while much attention has been given to the arts and sciences, sufficient emphasis has not been placed upon moral qualities, such as Temperance, Purity, Industry, Self-Control. It is of the greatest consequence for the future citizenship of the country that a high ideal of manhood and womanhood should ever be held before the minds of the pupils.

(b) *The Church*—The work of the church is fundamental ; make the tree good and you make the fruit good. It is useless to expect strong character apart from the transforming power of the grace of God, the Gospel message is essential.

But more is needed ; young lives must be protected against degrading influences which abound on every hand. The church must adapt her methods to meet the needs of her young people every day of the week. She must displace evil by providing the good. An angel must tenant the house or seven devils will soon appear.

(c) *The Home*—The home should be the greatest institution of all in the making of good citizens. The function of the home cannot be superseded by the church, the school or the state. No other influence has so much to do with the formation of the character of a child as the teaching, the example,