

put ourselves in a balloon and loose it from the earth we will mount up, up into the ethereal realm. If we bind ourselves to sin by evil deeds we put ourselves in the power and swirl of the laws that bear us downward and downward. But if we put ourselves by virtuous deeds in the forces that mount up, the ethereal realms of bliss will be our destination. It is God's will that every individual soul should lay hold upon everlasting joy. It is as free to all as the very air we breathe. We are all Peters, possessing the keys of Heaven or of Hell for our own individual soul. We are left free to choose which door we will open and enter. But do not be deceived, my friends, the law of Karma says we must choose by our deeds. They are the keys. It is the unchangeable law of God that virtuous deeds will open the gates of Heaven. Lustful deeds will forge a key that fits only the gates of the place of torment.

O, Christianity, cloak no longer thy lusts and petty sins under the superstition of imputed righteousness. Thou canst not evade the law of Karma. Thou canst not deceive God. Come into the clear light of the Christ within, the Son of righteousness, and spread the influence of thy beauty, love and helpfulness over the world.

AN ESSAY.

Read at Philanthropic session at Coldstream, Ont., 6th mo. 30th, by Carrie F. Zavitz.

Boys all look forward to growing to be gentlemen. The word has a fine sound, and all should be desirous of meriting its application. What idea have we of the qualifications necessary to a gentleman? The poet Tennyson has given us a beautiful definition:

"How modest, kindly, all-accomplished, wise,
With what sublime repression of himself,
And in what limits and how tenderly,
Not making his high place a lawless perch
Of winged ambition, nor a vantage ground
For pleasure; but through all this tract of
years
Wearing the white flower of a blameless
life."

And the apostle Peter exhorts us to "have compassion, be pitiful, be courteous." Gentleman is defined as "one of gentle or refined manners." Thus we find it is a title no rank can bestow, and is not dependent upon a high position, as the world judgeth. In none of these quotations do we find room for selfishness or cruelty. For cruelty is but an outgrowth of selfishness.

For what purpose were we created and placed on this beautiful earth? Was it the intention of our Father that our own enjoyment should be our highest aim? That our time shall be spent in pleasures that soon vanish, leaving no benefit? If we listen closely for the still small voice within us, which ever leads us aright, if we will obey its teachings it directs us to gentleness and mercy—gives us an insight into other's feelings than our own, and enables us to enter into spirit with the bound and suffering—remembering "them that are in bonds as bound with them." It is in obedience to this gentle spirit of love, which God will give us abundantly if we but cultivate it in our hearts, which will increase as we use it, that noble men and women have marked the suffering of these unprotected ones, both in the higher and lower creation. They have reached forth a helping hand to rescue those left to the cruelty of man when selfishness and other animal traits are developed to the neglect of the finer nature. They have organized societies for the prevention of cruelty. Humane societies are a power which is recognized in many of our cities, and the children are joined in Bands of Mercy, the Dickey Bird Society, and many others of many names, but all working for the same purpose—to make this world better and therefore happier.

But a sad blot on our system of education is the supposed need of vivisection, or the examination of living animals in order to study the workings of the different organs. For when the children become so accus-