

to be helpful towards furthering the perfection of mankind, it is important, in the first place, to form some clear conceptions as to the goal towards which humanity is tending. As to this, there seem to be prevalent two sets of ideals opposed to one another. In both human happiness is the goal. According to one set of ideals the world is to be made a better place to live in. Our notions of what is good for us are to be accepted as practically fixed, while circumstances and conditions are to be adjusted to suit them. According to the opposite set of ideals we must take the world as it is, call it "Nature" and adapt our tastes and notions to suit it! It will be surmised from a perusal of the preceding pages that, according to the psychological view, both sets of ideals are equally fallacious. Happiness can only be real and lasting when we have entirely overcome that grasping attitude of mind which seeks to fix either mental disposition or environment as being capable of maintaining respectively permanent independence apart from one another.

It is the conquest of this grasping disposition of heart and mind which is the true meaning and implication of the process of being "born