

and were to go away, inwardly gratulating yourselves on the attainment you had made, what real advancement in knowledge would there be? Just as bank notes are so far valuable as they do really, and in good faith, represent value, so propositions, thus representing value, add to the riches of the mind. All others are like those *flash notes* which serve for the amusement of children, and are sometimes wickedly employed for the delusion of the ignorant and unwary. Suppose that you had learned all that the Hindu sacred books teach, of terrestrial geography, how much wiser would you be? Observe, I do not mean that it would not be knowledge to know the fact, that the Hindu books do teach so and so,—but that if you had, as scholars, committed the whole to memory, you would have a number of imitation bank notes, gratifying your own ignorant vanity, but leaving you in an intellectual poverty as complete as ever.

*Child.* Then you wish to teach us that there are too many pretenders to knowledge?

*Father.* I do; and these are of two classes. Those whose memory is stored with words without any real meaning; and those and they constitute the most numerous division—who hold in their memory words that have both a meaning, and a good one, but who hold them *only* in their memory. The conditions of knowledge are two. First, that the propositions refer to real existences; and, second, that they be deposited in the understanding, the living, active intellect,—becoming a portion of that entire intelligence which the individual has acquired. I have often been amused with the pompous enunciation of collected common-places, never ruminated on, never digested, never made part of a man's self. The food you take is, indeed, all from without; but, digested, and taken up into the system, it is made alive by that one which belongs to the entire person of the individual. Take care that the words you receive are possessed of meaning and value; and then, that that meaning be conveyed into your own intellectual system. In this way, but in this way alone, you will increase your stock of knowledge.

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## THE MISSIONARY IDEA.

The idea of the world's redemption is the most sublime conception of the Infinite mind that has been revealed to man. We know not what thoughts exist in the depths of the Godhead, or what thoughts the Holy One has revealed to other beings who