

earth, earthy ; give me a taste for higher things. I move in a narrow world ; broaden my conceptions. Lead me out into the world of nature so that I may sympathize with all its beauty and perceive in it the hand of God ; lead me out into the world of man, so that I may make mine own, the thoughts of the good and great of all time. Do not strive to mould me into shape as a potter moulds his clay, but through self-activity cause me to reach out and on, towards a fuller, freer life. Let me not settle down to inaction, or a life of indolent ease, but teach me so that this will be my thought :

‘ Man am I grown, a man’s work must I do.
Follow the deer ? Follow the Christ,
the king.
Live pure, speak true, right wrong,
follow the king,
Else, wherefore born ? ’ ”

Yes, my child. Tenderly shall I undertake this task. To lead you upward will be my constant task and my only thought. Right ideals—constantly widening ideals, shall I place before you, ideals of thought and speech and action, so that you and I together may feel that we have understood what the poet meant when he said :

“ Build thee more stately mansions,
O my soul,
As the swift seasons roll !
Leave thy low-vaulted past !
Let each new temple, nobler than the last,
Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast
Till thou at length art free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life’s
unresting sea.”

Oh ! brother teacher, say you this is all too fine—that teaching is at best

but soulless work ? In vain then spake the master-teacher when he said :

“ I determined that there should not be a moment in the day when my children should not be aware from my face and my lips that my heart was theirs, that their happiness was my happiness, and their pleasures my pleasures.

“ We wept and smiled together. They forgot the world and their neighborhood ; they only knew that they were with me, and I with them. We shared our food and drink. I had about me neither family, friends nor servants ; nothing but them. I was with them in sickness and health and when they slept. I was the last to go to bed and the first to get up. In the bedroom I prayed with them, and at their own request taught them till they fell asleep.”

In vain too were those noble words penned by him who gave us for our consolation and inspiration the “ Day-dreams : ”

“ And O, brother schoolmaster, remember evermore the exceeding dignity of your calling. It is not the holiest of all callings, but it runs near and parallel to the holiest. We have usually to deal with fresh and unpoluted natures. We are dressers in a moral and mental vineyard. We are undershepherds of the Lord’s little ones ; and our business is to lead them into green pastures, and by the sides of refreshing streams. Let us into our linguistic lessons introduce cunningly and imperceptibly all kinds of amusing stories ; stories of the real kings of earth that have reigned crownless and unsceptred, leaving the vain show of power to gilded toy-kings, and make-believe statesmen ; of the angels that have walked the earth in the guise of holy men and holier women ; of the seraph singers whose music will be echoing forever ; of the cherubim of power, that with