

In the Fire of the Heart

the life of any other. Not by ambition and gain alone for self but,

“By labor, incessant and devout, to raise earth to heaven, to realize, in fact, the good that as yet exists only in idea — that is the end and purpose of human life; and in fulfilling it we achieve and maintain our unity each with every other and all with the Divine.”

Many a rich man's son has found the handicap of great riches too great to allow his making even a decent success of life; the incentive which nature seems to have decreed as a healthy and strength-developing stimulant has been neutralized by the burden which an over-rich father has dumped upon him. “Ungirt loins, unlit lamps, unused talents, sink a man like lead. Doing nothing is enough for ruin.” Many a daughter of the unduly rich has found her associations as also her training or lack of training of such a nature that undue pride or a false ambition has taken possession of her, robbing her of one of the chief charms of womanhood, and a designing or worse than empty marriage has fallen to her portion. Surely wealth is of the mind and the heart and not of the hand. And the man who makes as his life work only gain for self and who fails to recognize his inexorable relations with his fellow-men, fails completely in getting from life what he thinks he'll get; for he finds that what he gains turns to a greater or less extent to ashes in his hands, and what he bequeaths to his descendants is far below what it might be, — he or she who is *at all worthy* of receiving such bequest would rather it be a few millions less and be accompanied with a