

as well as the lamb to follow his nature, so far as the law will let him or as he has power ? Eccelino, for instance, was by nature a devil incarnate, a sort of Satanic enthusiast of evil. What had merely utilitarian morality to say against his gratification of his propensities as long as he had power on his side ? ”

The common sense of this subject is that life without conscience becomes a destroying animalism, and that conscience without religion has neither force nor justification for its restraints.

Those who know life deeply and intimately, who are profoundly acquainted with all the suffering, sorrow, misery, and sin of cities and villages, those whose studies are not limited to books read in a library, or to discussions accidentally started in a drawing-room, know as the first axiom of their knowledge that religion alone among all the forces at work for the improvement of humanity has power to alter the character and regenerate the soul of evil people. Legislation may better house the poor, may educate their children, limit the opportunities for drink and crime, and punish evil-doers with a saner and more determined effort at their moral reformation, but without religion they will never give spiritual joy and rejoicing strength to the posterity on which evolution depends.

“No heart is pure that is not passionate ; no virtue is safe that is not enthusiastic.”