

SHALL IT PROFIT ?

To make such a policy of rural economy efficacious would cost a good deal of money; but is there any better use to which money could be put than in thus securing to the next generation of children a better start in life, with a cleaner, safer path along which to go? The costs of education never keep a people in poverty. Quite the opposite is the case. Ignorance, inability, and want of good-will all come from lack of education or from poor schools. These are the most costly of all the charges upon life and upon property. Whether one believes in the assertion that "The love of money is the root of all evil," or not, I think all will admit that the love of children is a means of all good. It is worth while to put these two in evidence, when settling the amounts to be spent on education. Is there any other way worth while whereby wealth and talent can be made immortal, than by laying up treasures in the children ("for of such is the kingdom of heaven"), "where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal"? Thus may we surely uphold and extend liberty, intelligence, and justice—those roots and fruits of education—and, keeping ourselves in touch with the Universal, the Infinite, and the Eternal, from generation to generation a little child shall lead us.