

of many flowers are unknown, where there is no hope, no joy, no peace. There you will find discipline, for there reign want and suffering. There you will find disease, but do not expect from it resignation and patience. Great tribulation may exercise a salutary influence over the mind, and cause it to shake off the petty miseries of earth; but the small worries, privations and sufferings of a poverty-stricken and unhealthy home spoil the temper, destroy happiness, beat out all that makes man the image of his Creator, the temple of the Christian graces.

Those who have seen the dreadful dens in which many of the poor pass their days, who know how speedily and completely poverty destroys all that is kindly and generous in the heart, who from their own experience can bear witness to the injury which long-continued indisposition works on the temper, will not look upon bodily and mental suffering as any great blessings. When they come they must be borne patiently and calmly; as evils of the first magnitude, though having few of the advantages of one great blow. Above all things let those, who have the power, try to diminish their horrors and lessen their frequency. Then will they be carrying into practice the spirit and the letter of that greatest of all commandments, "Love one another."

Times have so greatly changed that the difficulty of living in accordance with nature's laws has immensely increased. Hundreds of thousands of children are growing up, who are debarred by the very conditions of modern life from breathing the pure air of the country, playing in grassy lanes and green fields, being invigorated by the health-giving sun. Theirs is a childhood only in name. As to the same extent was never before the case, these infants are dependent on their homes, and if those homes are bad and miserable what will be the tone of morality, what the standard of health of the coming generation? Never before to the extent that is now the case did humanity call on the opulent and powerful to exert themselves for the good of the poor. But, alas! before long the need for energetic philanthropy will become greater far than now. We stand only on the brink of the vast abyss of vice, disease, and suffering, stretching far before us. Let us bridge over that abyss while there is time, before the task is too Herculean to be even attempted. Before our enormous cities