

again, dropped their *h*'s, and I had them rehearse Byron's celebrated play upon this letter:

'Twas whispered in heaven,
'Twas muttered in hell,
And echo caught faintly the sound as it fell.

By this means I found the children could soon be cured of those defects. I also trained the boys to be thoughtful and polite, especially to their elders, and to try and speak more gently to each other.

"Indeed, I was much impressed with their behaviour, for I found and saw something deep down in their natures that caused me to think that the 'vision splendid' and the 'growing boy' had not yet parted company, and that the 'common light of day' had not closed about them. And I found questionings in my own mind and heart, asking, Why should this condition of mind ever change, and why should they not grow up into full, innocent and strong manhood? So I crossed out of my vocabulary a great many 'dont's,' and I would say to them, Do

so and so and be happy. I taught them the commandments once a week, as you did, and I thought these were quite plenty without adding to them. But I never failed to tell them the new commandment that Christ gave, and I fancied their young natures took up this golden commandment—just as if it fitted them and as if they recognized it—as a draught of their native air, terribly belying the idea that they were children of the devil, substituting the thought that God was their Father and they were his children.

"And you remember the little German girl in the school; how listless and unconcerned she was about her lessons. I was able by a happy inspiration to waken up her faculties. I suggested to her one day, if she would teach me a little German I would teach her to knit, and when I repeated to her our Lord's Prayer in her own native tongue, which I had learned in my early girlhood and knew but imperfectly—for I remember hearing the little children repeating it to their nurses when crossing the North Sea, from Hull to Rotterdam—and when I found