



# Fred Burry's Journal...

A Monthly Periodical of  
Advanced Thought

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*JANUARY 1901*

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# Fred Burry's Journal

A Monthly Periodical of  
Advanced Thought

Vol. 3. No. 1

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## Flashes



There is no evil. No devil ; nothing to hate ; nothing to be afraid of.



Always venture ! Mighty things are waiting for the man or woman who dares.



The world is passing through Purgatory now. The rubbish is being consumed ; and we are already able to breathe easier.



Youth and beauty are natural to the individual of courage and enthusiasm. Be honest, sincere, zealous, loving, determined, calm.



Affirm ! Say, Yes ! This is the word of power, when it means a consent to the Ideal's aspirations and assumptions of supremacy.



Do not waste your thoughts thinking too much over what is already done. Live for the future ; and think accordingly. Thus shall you get rich in all things.

The Will ! The Power that belongs to each man and woman ! It is the Love-Energy ; the Force of Creation. Therefore : CREATE!



You may be inspired, if you desire it. Only recognize your Self as infinite, and listen to the suggestions given you by your intuition.



Never allow things to pile up too high : they will crush something. Use and pass along. Change is necessary to life and happiness.



“Inborn” traits and characteristics can be outgrown and mastered when there is a desire to do so ; nothing is impossible to the determined will.



Mental Science is the knowledge of the power that resides in the Will of Man ; it has nothing to do with creeds or superstitions of any sort.



Thought creates ! All exists in potentiality, now. And Desire is the magnetic agent which attracts things to us, giving us conscious possession.



Depressions are necessary in the business life ; it is folly to bewail them. Look further ahead ! Learn what the passing shadows have to teach you.



A calm reliant attitude is a subconscious utterance, and may be likened to a silent word of power. In this trustful indifference is found the way to mastery.



As self-conscious beings, it is in the realm of possibility, for us to live on here, indefinitely. Immortality now, on earth, in the flesh, is the goal to work for.

Let all our thoughts, words, actions, be in keeping with the recognition of man's immortal nature. Let us banish death, henceforth, into the realm of shadows.

I am glad I have made mistakes. I can look back and see many satisfying results which sprang from "mistakes", and also from others' unkind interferences. All is good, and necessary.

There is a sense of relief, when things are done without delay; and there is assuredly a corresponding development wherever there is expeditious action. It is worth a great deal to be prompt.

The work at hand may be made so interesting, that your thoughts will cease to be occupied very much over results; and then the latter will come all the sooner.

Don't allow yourself to be led away by those tomfooleries advertised all over, which under the guise of "mystery" (another word for ignorance) are presented to you as Elixirs of Life.

Read, but think for yourself. No book that was ever written is worth as much to you as your sincere unbiassed reasonings. Reason is the voice of wisdom. Listen to it. You have no other guide.

Children of the Sunshine! Sons and Daughters of the Life Immortal! Surround yourselves with materials fashioned into forms of beauty. Inscribe on your banner the words, "Art is the Crown of Existence."

Those who are exacting in demanding recompense from others for services rendered, are sure to miss

many chances of gaining treasures of value. Let us do our part in love ; and trust to Nature's certain equalizing law.

Let things go. Life is change. Anything is better than a standstill. And yet nothing can remain still; Nature forces all along. Only, our happiness rests on our willingness to cooperate with Nature's order of change and progress.

Wait, O impatient man ! Have a lofty aim ; and remember that great things require time. If you work for large results, you must expect various fluctuations ; you must travel over many waves before you reach your goal.

We make so much of Desire because we see that it is the Creative Energy of all things, the love element, the life principle, the one attractive force of all substance ; acting in lower forms as in higher,— the magnetic power of existence.

Can you not judge for yourself, and not depend upon other peoples' advice so much? Have respect for your own opinions ; and if you couple this respect with some regard for the opinions of others, you will increase in knowledge.

I am not tied to anybody's teachings. I follow no man in particular. I am not a Christian, Buddhist, Theosophist, Spiritualist, Biblemaniac. I believe in Myself. There is only one Being, and that is the Life of the Universe. All is One.

Never mind what other people do ; do your own original work. Follow out that Idea which is with you all the time ; even though it may not come to a

successful issue, it will certainly lead to something better. Everything grows.

Ideas are floating through the atmosphere! Catch them as they fly within the range of your consciousness, and work them out into the field of manifestation. An idea is an opportunity; now is your chance, while it presents itself.

Ignorance causes men to slay one another. The nations of the earth are killing themselves, each in a vain endeavor to attain a selfish supremacy. Humanity is one; and all attempts at division or petty contraction of interests are suicidal.

When concentration is the result of strenuous effort, there is likely to be anxiety, which may defeat the end desired. Faith is the agent of power, and where there is faith there is always calm. Concentration in the true sense, is a condition of repose.

It is not so much that we have many things to gain, as that we have many things to throw aside, in order that the treasures within may be disclosed. If we would be free we should cast away those burdens, so often mistaken for valuable possessions.

The utter disregard among men and women around me, the entire indifference for others' welfare, even among professed humanitarians, almost appals me. They are hastening their own doom; courting the hand of death. Love alone is life. And love is sacrifice.

The meannesses of some people astonish me. If they could only realize how they were crushing themselves, poisoning themselves, they might change the course

of their actions. But only a generous move on their part is going to open their eyes,—and this they fail to make!

There is so much useless stuff piled up in people's houses. Keep things that are useful; throw the rest away; you will feel fresher. Burn a lot of those old books, papers, letters, "antique" gimcracks, mementoes, and other relics of the unholy past,—and make yourself young again.

Art is the fruit of welcome labor. Work at something you are interested in; you will then make the world beautiful. If you think you have something to do which is inherently disagreeable, do it well, keep your attention on it,—and something will spring forth from it, interesting and agreeable.

In a wondrous realm, are we even now residing. The masks of illusion have simply to be thrown aside, and the world as it is in reality shall appear in all its glory. The veils melt away like mists,—we are unwinding the filmy gauzes of the night of ignorance, and we are facing the dawn of day.

You cannot afford to sacrifice the arguments of your Reason to the traditions of your childhood. Let the churches' teachings depart; their expounders give no proofs for them; and we have found by experience, that they are not only false, but in their falseness, they are injurious to both mind and body.

Give as much as you can, if you would gain much. The spirit of generosity will moreover make you young and beautiful. The laws of supply and demand lie deeper than appears. They are at the very Centre of things,—in the depths of Nature,—in the Soul of Man.



Justice holds sway forever at the infinite Centre.

There is no excuse for laziness and slovenliness. Lazy people are half dead. The trouble is that the few sparks of life which remain make these creatures such a nuisance to others more wide awake. Some of the world's "geniuses" were notoriously lazy ; but there is no excuse for even them. It is all disgraceful.

Though you may not think there is time to wait for some plan of yours to mature ; yet Time must have its dominion, and to endeavor to rush things through is often only to retard the fruition. Have patience ; and make the most of the lovely things which are all around you ; neglecting not to build for the greater future.

A casual glance at Self does not reveal one's nature. Everything is carried on behind the scene of one's vision. Our bodies are shrines of millions of ages ; and some day when our consciousness widens we shall see marvels of worlds within them. In the meantime let us have faith, live up to our ideals, and be contented to grow.

Ascribe to yourself all the power that you have hitherto given to God. You have been praying to your own Soul, Yourself, all these years ; the clouds helped you to focus your attention, but you know better now. Your veins are filled with the Rivers of Life flowing from the Centre Within ; but the clouds are empty. Look where there is Life.

Slavery is sometimes associated with apparent ease. But liberty is so precious, that it is worth any amount of labor to gain it. Once free yourself from the bonds of others' whims and fancies, and you can then order

your life very much as you want it ; for outside of the shackles invented by man, there are no bonds throughout all nature,—nothing to prevent the expression of your desires.



Again I say, the thoughts in this Journal are suggestions thrown out to awaken new life in you. They are filled with vitality, and will build up whoever listens to the messages they contain. Though there may seem to be a repetition of ideas from month to month,—the new views, the varied expressions, make these pages of value. I am not trying to teach so much as to suggest.



It is strange what frail proofs seem to satisfy our "psychic searchers." Mere imaginations are made the subject of discussion at meetings and "seances"—while the world is starving mentally and physically. Common sense is worth more than "spirit guides." Mental Science is a practical philosophy ; but the "mystic" confraternities have nothing practical in them, (at least a good many of them.)



The Christian Church has played on our emotions long enough. With the weapon of fear, she has tried to force on us a stupid and self-debasing creed. No longer shall we allow the great energies of our being to be smothered and trampled on. We shall now rise, and with free minds and bodies, take the hand of authority ; for Man is the God of Creation, the Epitome of the Universe ;—in him are centred the Life forces of Existence, even the forces of Love.



## *Rise, O Man, to Higher Planes!*

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The nations of the earth are tearing at each other's throats in a mad frenzy; yells of a false patriotism are rising from the ignorant masses, lauding the men who make a business of shedding their fellows' blood; natural human affections are buried beneath the rubbish called "duty"; crimes which in a minor degree would be punished with the severest measures by the law of the land, are rewarded as deeds of valor, simply because they bear the insignia of the "authorities."

In India, people are homeless and starving; in Africa and China it is the same. Who is to blame? I blame no one in particular; history shows that national feuds and wars have been from time immemorial, and I know it is all a phenomenon of the native ignorance of mankind. Men are yet in that stage,—half animal, half human,—when they are controlled by the lowest of material motives; it is useless to expect other than barbarous actions from a race that is surely yet in the barbarous stage.

No thought of present immortality enters into the minds of the mass of people. Life to them, is a short span of less than a century; they have no cognizance of what they are, their consciousness is of a limited universe, and they imagine that only by a perpetual selfish grab can they expect to exist at all.

To talk of oneness to them is to court ridicule. To tell them to love all men is only to make them laugh at you. To ask them to sacrifice something for others is to insult them. And this crowd includes the ministers of the churches, the capitalists and financiers, the artists and writers, as well as the laboring classes.

It seems a shame to call such persons Christians;

for Christ, according to the historic writings, was a man who taught and acted exactly opposite to this Christian fraternity.

SELFISHNESS is written on everything connected with the Christian Religion. Not only are men exhorted by example as well as precept, to look after their own affairs at the expense of others but comfortable quarters in paradise are promised to the good man who will only obey his pastors and masters.

And the whole Commercial System follows in the train of this false Religion.

O superstitious generation of people! All your prayers are labor lost. All your pretenses are too thin. The Infinite Law of the Universe shall tear every mask and sham aside; you must reap where you sow.

If your daily life is not ordered according to the promptings of Love,—you are leading an unnatural existence; for Love is the Law, the only God. If you allow anything to come between you and your natural affections, no matter who may have invented it, or how many centuries custom has held to it,—you are (unconsciously no doubt) walking to your doom. For I tell you again, that Love is life; and all else is death.

The promise of an immortal life of bliss beyond the grave is a futile one. Nothing dies, it is true; everything that vacates the scene of existence, reincarnates in another form; this is Nature's way of recovering a lost equilibrium. But it is absurd to imagine that the collapse of energy such as takes place when the individual life leaves its body, makes a gateway to realms elysian. This world is the scene of Action; we are here to learn how to live, how to express our thoughts. Incarnation in flesh and blood is surely the greatest of all marvels. What proofs have you of greater marvels of expression elsewhere? Comfort yourself if you

like with the thought of a spirit body ; I do not deny its existence ; but at least make the most of your present life, which hints to you in language plain and strong, of the possibility of a glorious immortality here and now. Facts are worth more than mere dreams.

Love is Life ! The man who day by day acts from the dictates of his heart, —who spends and gives away freely what he possesses, even denying himself for others' sakes,—who is open, free, honest, candid, sincere,—is the man who must by the unerring laws of Being, express in his body, here and now, youth, beauty, and strength.

Everything moves in accord with the wishes of such an individual. It may take a little while before great results present themselves ; but the signs of the working of the one law of life, of growth, appear at once.

Turn your face away from the shadows, created by Ignorance. You cannot afford to follow in the lead of Custom and Convention. You are now surely awakened to a higher consciousness. Ideals of brighter possibilities are now breaking on your vision. See, see, clear before you : look not behind. The Spirit, your spirit, is now disclosing to you, your own nature : your own mighty possibilities are being opened to your sight. Recognize yourself as you are, and enroll yourself among the leaders of the race. If the masses will not yet listen to the cries of Nature to ascend to higher planes, at least take the higher position yourself. You will then be a help and encouragement to others ; and from your more lofty situation be able by the mighty Law of Attraction to draw others up to you.

The world is ignorant. It needs teachers. It is capable of better things than it presents to-day. Do your part in working for its emancipation from the bonds of ignorance. Let the light of your clearer Recognition shine out and illumine the earth.

## *The Scene of Action*

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The tempestuous billows roll over the Scene of Action,—

And a curse on things created is pronounced by Man.

Vibrations, fierce in their velocity,—

Currents of energy, madly tossing to and fro the affairs of the world,—

Cause men to denounce the whole creation as evil.

Wherefore this great whirling chaos, this plunge of battling forces?

Why is pain and death stamped on all things?

Is not Nature the expression of one Force, one Law.

Why this discord, then?

The object of existence is that Consciousness may be born,—

Ever higher and higher births of Consciousness.

In each creature is enshrined the Creative Principle ;

In each is contained the Centre from which issues forth the individual type or person ;

The multitude of forms throughout the Universe are so many expressions of the one Power.

And Consciousness, the child of Existence, is the heir to all kingdoms of life.

Recognition is possession ! Life is a school !

To learn our relationship to things external, is to master them.

To assume our rightful position as overseer, is to make servants of the forces of nature.

Our lack of recognition, alone, causes the blunders which bring pain ;

And pain is the spur which makes us open our eyes.

If we had never suffered, we would never have Known ;

And Existence without Knowledge would be mere vegetation.

It is by our losses, failures, mistakes, discords, trials, fears, and general disturbances, that we are led into the Way where there is harmony.

When we have risen to the state of Wisdom, mastering the problems as they come before us ;

When no longer shamefully wasting the precious Time in idleness,

We work for the widening and extension of our conscious dominion,—

The whole earth is transformed ; we have then created a new world.

There is no excuse for idleness.

It is not as though it disturbed only one,—but all within the circle of the idler's acquaintances are affected by the latter's influence.

The stagnation which comes where there is inaction,

The deadening effect of careless contentment,  
Poisons the very atmosphere .

Exercise is imperatively necessary for Life and Growth.

The inheritors of the earth shall be the men and women of Action.

The land lords of the future shall be the workers.  
(with brain and hands.)

Labor shall be the token of the world's aristocracy ;—

The time is near at hand when the usurped positions of kings, masters, governors, must be vacated,

And with the departure of these drones, all other idlers shall likewise vanish.

Nature now declares that henceforth, on this Scene of Action, there shall be no parasites. All must work.

The laborer and thinker shall now be the same person.

All work shall receive the mark of not only respectability, but honor.

And what changes shall take place, with this new order.

The chaos all around shall dissolve, becoming transformed into glorious harmonies.

For the Vibrations of life are all right ;

They but require tuning to a higher and more perfect degree.

Fearless and free, the children of earth are stepping to a place where there is conscious security.

That which they formerly designated evil and corrupt,

They are recognizing as negative conditions, which were necessary in the earlier days of evolution.

Different and truer views of Life, are showing them why and how they should reshape their actions.

Instead of cramping themselves in the prison-house of Selfishness,

They are realizing that Happiness can come only by a generous spirit, an expansive interest.

Love is disclosing herself as the Mother of Life,



the Force of Creation ;

Only waiting for man with his intelligent directorship to harness her emotions, her energies divine.

Arouse yourselves then to the needs of the hour.

You who have awakened to the Life Celestial, lead the way,—conquering all discords as you go,—and enter the realm of conscious dominion.

And you who have been lagging behind, clasp hands with your brothers in front.

The hidden treasures of the earth, her great forces, are yours, O Man ! And your expanded Ideals shall show the way to open these vast treasures into glorious fields of Expression.

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### THE ONE LIFE

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In the ordinary sense, I do not believe in God. There is no being up in the clouds, or in any sense shut away outside of me. I am God. All is God. The only God is the Life,—the one Life—the Life in the worm, as well as man. There is nothing but this one Force, or Being, or Energy. And Man is the Expression of all, the one object of creation. He contains in his body, the electric forces of creation ; and his Will is capable of accomplishing any desired thing. His will is the conscious expression of the One Energy. Nature is a unit, and all atoms are physically connected by etheric links,—just as spiritually, everything is eternally attached. All is One.

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# Fred Burry's Journal

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*A Happy New Year!*

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With the New Year, comes the first of a new volume of FRED BURRY'S JOURNAL. We have made some improvements since the last number; and during the coming year we are just going to see what we can do to make this Journal shine.

You have been very good to me during the past year, sending me new subscribers, ordering books, and writing me such letters of praise and encouragement.

I shall be very pleased to forward sample copies free, to any progressive people; perhaps you will send me some names of your "thinking" friends.

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Fred W. Burry, 673 Queen St., West,  
Toronto, Canada.

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From now on this Journal will show a more radical tendency. The humbugs of the day are getting unbearable ; and I must protest against them.

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“JUST HOW TO WAKE THE  
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BY ELIZABETH TOWNE.

---

The author is well known to the mental science world as the publisher of *The Nautilus*, certainly one of the boldest of all the advanced papers. This new booklet is a series of powerful essays, giving concise instructions in Mental Science ; it is filled with suggestions for health and success. Price 25 cents.

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If you have recieved this Journal as a sample copy, it is an invitation for you to subscribe. \$1.00 a year.



## *Genius Native to All*

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Only here and there do we come across an individual in whom has been born the desire for original action. Everywhere we find imitators,—and indeed people pride themselves on their ability to “interpret,”—in other words, to copy.

Many people have an idea that genius is heaven’s gift to a few ; that inspiration has nothing to do with work, but “comes ” to the favorites of the gods. And yet, the great men of genius themselves, deny the possession of any particular divine nature ; in fact they are forever asserting that all men are potentially capable of doing similar things as themselves, and even greater.

In looking at one whom in a sense we may consider a fit exemplar for the race, we should not imagine that we are merely to follow him. Originality is an imperative necessity of genius, and all examples are only for suggestion.

Life is rising continually in a scale of evolution ; the past was all right as far as it went,—we are here however to improve upon it.

It is strange that people should imagine that the greatest masters of arts and sciences are dead, and that the methods and theories of “schools ” are settled. Why should antiquity, with all its gross imperfections, command our reverence? The same with even the more modern systems,—why should we tie ourselves to any man’s ideas?

Because people persist in this habit of leaning on others is the reason of the scarcity of genius. There is no reason why every man should not excel in some line or other,—and what is genius but excellence?

Let a man use his brains, and with a confident self-assurance, trust to his own mental resources, and he will find that in the vast store-house of his mind there are concealed germs of mighty creations, which only need his intelligent direction for their growth and expansion.

We all have our ideals, and these are prophecies of what must eventually be materialized. Our dreams,—our castles, are no mere clouds or bubbles, but distant visions of what shall yet be seen to be realities.

Every ideal is an opportunity. Take hold of it while it is in the foreground of your consciousness. You know that every invention of man was once but a filmy thought. Why should you not accomplish as much as another? What proof have you that the men who have made history,—whose minds have created great centres of life and action, who have built nations, reared cities, made the world to be more and more fit for habitation,—are more gifted than you are? You only need encouragement to evolve as great, and who shall not say even greater, creations.

This world, so far, presents an appearance of undeveloped resources. It remains for man now to rise in numbers, for the vastness of what is undone is now so clear that we can see that nothing but humanity en-masse can renew the earth. One man cannot do it. It requires thousands,—yes, millions.

It is no chance that our great world should possess so many treasures; so very much rich material,—though in the rough. All this is the substance for awakened men to make use of.

Rise, O Man! Open your eyes; dive into the chambers of your mind, and let the wonderful machinery of your thoughts give form divine to the crude material of Nature. Do not think any longer that the limit of expression has been reached by others. They have only touched on the possibilities of the earth.

Trust yourself, for you, yes you, have all the energies of genius within you, yearning, yearning for birth and action.



There is plenty of time. Do not be in too much of a hurry. But this is not to say you should dawdle. Simply use the moments as they fly ; and have periods of both activity and repose.

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We should feel very grateful toward those who in spite of every hostile criticism and all manner of persecution, have given us the truths of Mental Science, teaching us how to keep well, how to control our lives by our own faith and will-power. All hail to the brave leaders who have taken us from the clutches of superstition and all manner of dread !

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Degrees of Time are not always to be taken into account, in dealing with spiritual things. [And remember, when I say "spiritual," I simply refer to the real side of life, instead of merely the appearance.] In the twinkling of an eye an earnest intelligent desire can work miracles. Cures are made, the course of great movements changed, in a few moments. The forces of life are the electric forces, and like the lightning, their work is often rapid. And yet growth is always gradual ; it is only the change of a course, the reorganization of abnormal conditions, that sometimes comes suddenly.



## *Youth Immortal*

---

Nature showers her crowns of health and beauty on the young. Existence belongs to youth; old age is the sign of decay.

Some people get old sooner than others. You find men and women around thirty or forty settled in their ideas, garrulous, hard to please, and bearing various other marks of old age. It is so ridiculous to see children of such tender years bending under the little burdens which should educate them.

Nature is all life, vivacity, action. She shows her antipathy to the person who is given to pining and wailing, by removing such a person from the scene of life.

O misery-stricken inhabitants of this planet, dry up your tears; cease praying to the empty sky. Work with your brain and hands. In no other way can you emancipate yourselves from your imaginary fears and general wretchedness.

The roses of health shall return to your cheeks, renewed elasticity to your limbs, the wrinkles in your face smoothed out,—yes, youth in all its glory shall be yours, if you will but become dutiful children of your mother Nature.

Old age can be cured as well as prevented. If you have Hope, you have nothing to despair of. Hope is the child of Desire; and Desire is the sure prophecy of attainment, since it is the one Creator.

Believe in your hopes, your desires; change those old "convictions" into Ideas which are up to date. Think, oh, Think! Then you have the key to inestimable possibilities. You are then already young—to grow each day younger, healthier, stronger, wiser,—

a worthy image of the Creative Force, a picture of Energy and Vitality.

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## Reviews

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"Restful Thoughts." A collection of poems on spiritual subjects. Beautifully printed and bound. Mrs Arthur Gustorf, 339 Wisconsin Ave., Oak Park. Ill.

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# *Freedom*

BY HUGH O. PENTECOST.

---

Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. —John, 8 : 32.

\* \* \*

You may discover the truth or untruth of anything you believe by observing whether or not it tends to put you in bondage or set you free. If you feel anything binding you or paining you anywhere you are not living according to the truth.

Freedom is necessary to happiness. Each human being is a separate individual, and can only be happy by securing and maintaining the right to be a free man or woman. We are relatively dependent upon each other in many ways. But mutual dependence is not the same as slavery. Perfect happiness comes only by perfect service, but there can be no perfect service without perfect freedom.

Freedom is necessary to growth. A slave cannot direct and develop his own forces in his own way ; cannot grow. This is no more true of a chattel slave than of any other kind.

But, notwithstanding that freedom is essential to happiness and growth, almost no one believes in it. Many persons believe that chattel slavery was better for the negro than freedom. Many believe that "the masses" are not capable of liberty, not understanding that if it were not for the enslaving conditions of society there would be no "masses." Many believe that freedom is not good for children, with the consequence that whips, and punishments of many sorts, and what is called a "tight rein," take the place in most families of an intelligent desire to foster and

direct the little lives into the paths of free development. Men think that freedom would not be good for their wives, and hence some husbands are little better than slave drivers. Women think that freedom would not be good for their husbands, and so we have those strange and pitiful creatures whom we call "hen-pecked."

Even when people are intelligent enough to see that freedom is good for themselves, they do not understand that it is equally good for others. "Oh, yes," they say, "freedom to do right." But that is not freedom. That only means that you are free to do what I think you should. It is not everyone who desires freedom above everything else, even for himself; who understands that it is worth more than anything else. Some persons are slaves because they value money more than freedom. And some barter freedom in exchange for a place in what they call society; or for what their neighbors think; or for peace. War is awful; strife and antagonisms in society and in families are disagreeable; but they are preferable to peace at the expense of liberty; for wars, strife and antagonisms come to an end, with a compensating gain somewhere, but peace at the expense of freedom is a dry rot at the root of happiness and character. It is better to fight for your liberty than not to have it; better for you and better for your master, for slavery is quite as injurious to the master as to the slave. Think of that when you are disposed to assume the control of some other life, to bend someone else to your will. Truth will make you free of everyone else, and it will make everyone else free of you.

No one can give you freedom but yourself. If you are enslaved it is your own fault. You lack confidence in yourself. You fear some one. You fear what people will say. You fear to hurt some one's feelings. You fear poverty. You fear freedom.

Most persons fear freedom more than slavery. They are like some of the old slaves in the South who did not know how to take freedom when it was given to them.

We enslave ourselves by our ideas. We have ideas of God that make us bow, and cringe, and fear to recognize how great we really are, as if God could be pleased with people who are afraid of Him. The Bible says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." I would as soon think of being afraid of the June sunshine as of God.

We have ideas about our neighbors which make us afraid of what they might say or do if we should happen to offend them, and yet who are they and how can they really hurt you? If you will but assert yourself and take your freedom they will like you all the better for doing what they are afraid to do, for they are as much afraid of you as you are of them.

We have ideas about the value of money which make us willing to be cursed and bossed and bullied into servitude, but that is because moneyless people do not understand that they could bring the world to terms in one day if they would assert their freedom for so long. Many a man and woman is in abject slavery, body and soul, for ten dollars a week. Can you afford to sell yourself so cheaply?

We have ideas of the value of received opinions which keep us in bondage to them. Not one person in ten thousand dares to fight off the domination of other people's ideas, even when he knows they are not true. This tyranny of other people's ideas is the most powerful of all tyrannies. It is what keeps the Czar on his throne, the Pope in the Vatican, the political boss in control, the monopolist in power. It is what keeps you and me the poor little worms of the dust, fallen creatures, we have been taught to believe ourselves. It is what prevents us from being the

large, free, creative, powerful, infinite beings we might be if we knew ourselves as we are, if we loved freedom as we should love it. How can one who is bound hand and foot help another? Only a free man can be useful. Therefore, prove every doctrine by this test: Does it make me free? If it does it is true. If it does not it is not true.



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