

---

## PATIENCE AND EDUCATION THE DEMANDS OF THE HOUR.

I am entirely in sympathy with your noble purposes, and am, indeed, doing just what you are; that is, I am doing my best. But the more I study the question of life the more settled I am becoming in the conclusion that there is really no short cut or hurry-up road to righteousness, or right relation, which I understand to mean the same thing. I have entirely abandoned the hope once strong within me of compelling people to live scientific lives because a "law had been passed."

Of course, every consideration of "wisdom and humanity, of expediency and simple justice, alike call for a governmental policy which shall substitute an army of wealth-creators for a large standing army of destruction"; and when considerations of wisdom shall direct our governmental policy, all that will be done. On our present plane we lack just one element necessary to carry out your ideal and mine—that is, an ideal of social justice—and it is very important and fundamental; its name is *wisdom*. We are not yet a democracy. It is assumed that we are and that we have a government of the people; but you and every one of us who thinks knows full well that our Government is, indeed, a government of a very select few—not because of any special venality in the select few, but because we are as yet in that developmental stage of our national life where only a very small percentage of the people take any

part in the affairs of government. One-half of the race, the women, are yet declared politically and socially unequal, and both men and women accept this as being divinely ordained.

Then, under our elementary system of partizan politics, only a very few men really have anything to do with the selection of the officials who are to express our ideals of a righteous social order. That again is not due to the malevolence of "corrupt politicians," as is so commonly and flippantly charged; it is due to the indifference, or rather the undeveloped state of mind that both the politicians and the people are yet in.

From these and similar reflections, I am slowly learning that the moral universe is subject to law as well as the material; that God has not gone off on a vacation and left the affairs of the race to run themselves in a sort of hit-or-miss, catch-as-catch-can way as appears to you and me; but that, according to His processes, justice is to be wrought out of what appears to us to be little short of confusion and chaos. We are learning the lesson of life in the only way and the only place that it can be learned; that is, in the university of experience. I am a student in this school, and daily I am learning to be more loving, more patient, and to have faith that the divine purpose is going steadily forward and that justice rules. God's law is never suspended, not even for a single instant, no matter what the revised statutes say.

Charles Ferguson, in his new book, "The Religion of Democracy," has stated a great truth that we shall do well to consider, and stated it very tersely: "Europe and America are sick with the nightmare of their dreams. They have dreamed of Democracy, and in their dreams have achieved liberty—but only in their dreams, not otherwise." And again he says that when the people love justice they will have justice.

We are learning Democracy. It is our only hope; and the best we can do, after all, as I believe, is to continue

faithful to the truth as each one shall see it In the words  
of the little Sunday-school song—

"Let our light shine;  
You in your little cozies  
And I in mine."

SAMUEL M. JONES.

*Toledo, Ohio.*