

parents who gave it life and sustenance during its periods of helplessness?

A Not at all. It is just the other way around. Parents owe their children everything they can give them in the way of knowledge. Beyond that, parents often spoil instead of helping their offspring by a false sense of duty which prompts them to indulge their children instead of forcing them to seek and gain knowledge at first hand.

Q I see what you mean. Your theory is that too much help thrust upon the youth encourages him to drift and become indefinite in all things. You believe that necessity is a teacher of great sagacity, that defeat carries with it an equivalent virtue, that unearned gifts of every nature may become a curse instead of a blessing. Is that correct?

Hill notes, “Unearned gifts of every nature may become a curse instead of a blessing.” In our effort to give to our children, are we really cursing them? A very sobering thought, but also great advice, for parents.

A You have stated my philosophy perfectly. My belief is not theory. It is fact.

Q Then you do not advocate prayer as a means of gaining desirable ends?

A On the contrary I do advocate prayer, but not the sort of prayer that consists of empty, begging, meaningless words.