

CHAPTER XVIII

P r o t e s t a n t .

Seventeenth

About the ~~seventeenth~~ Century a religious spasm broke out in Europe and spread out over the major part of the Central and Northern sections of the Continent, and at about the same time as the new birth of science and philosophy, and the combination of events practically changed the whole course of modern history; the religious rebellion started in Germany, and was fostered by some German monks, assisted by a number of petty German Princes and Rulers; the leader of the movement was a German Monk named Martin Luther, who was the first to openly defy Rome, and attack the Church and clergy with a vitrolic violence that knew no bounds; he lashed with scorpion scorn the tyranny and abuses of the Popes and Hierarchy of the Roman Church; openly he denounced the leaders at Rome for abuse of power, selling indulgences, simony, greed, and he especially accused the Church of openly practicing idolatry, and that images, and relicts of saints were being worshipped, and the grand ceremonies of the Church were simply a continuation of the Pagan Rites of the old ancient mythology.

You may imagine the rage of the Roman Hierarchy, and how they excommunicated, and anathemized Luther at once, abuse was heaped upon his head, and he was roundly cursed and villified by every member of the Roman Clergy; yet this made the slightest impression on this stubborn monk's conduct, the more Rome denounced him, the harder he fought back, and as the church had no physical power where he was, on account of the Germans taking his part in the controversy, and therefore could not have him seized and tortured, they were compelled to answer him with billingsgate and abuse only; and that suited Luther exactly, for he dearly loved a vicious abusive controversy.

The schism spread fast and far, and within a short space of time, Central and North Germany with Denmark, Sweden and Norway all joined the rebellion, and the Christian religion was split in twain; this was the first big religious movement since the time of Mahomet, and had just as far reaching results on world history; Luther was just an ordinary monk, and ~~his~~ only his stand against Rome made him a famous character; he liked wine, women and song, so he may have resembled Rabalais, filling himself

186

full of good wine and beer in the Taverns, singing a Rollicking song with a crowd of boon companions, and monklike, making love to the buxom dames.

Luther made one vital mistake - he could ~~have~~ possibly have changed the whole religious world for the better if he had not only thrown off the yoke of Rome, but at the same time, attacked and abolished all of the old nonsensical and ridiculous superstitions and miracles of the Roman Church, and made his church new modern and up-to-date in scientific thought, but he could not bring himself to do this, the old beliefs were so pounded and grounded into his thick skull, and ^{he} had so hypnotism himself in the old foolish creed, that he simply could not cast the trash overboard, and so carried along with him into his new creed the same old story of the Virgin Birth with all the rest of its images and fairy tales, and gave to his followers the same old mess dressed up in new clothes; he did make some startling changes like permitting the Priests to marry and live natural lives, ~~He~~ abolished oral confession, did away with the Pagan Mass, and above all he caused the images to be thrown out of the Church, in fact he abolished the Paganism and the ceremonies, but accepted the fairy tale creed.

Thus Luther lost his chance to be a real world leader in giving all people a sensible religion that any one could accept- one that could have appealed both to the ignorant and to the intelligent, but he did not have the will-power to appeal to the mind, from his training he only knew how to appeal to ignorance, fanaticism and bigotry; so ^{we} find his new religion as intollerant and biggoted as the one he broke away from, nothing new, nothing inspiring, nothing to appeal to the best intelligence in men.

He is honored by the Church he founded as it was given his name, and is today the Lutheran Church, and we are sorry to say that it is as narrow and biggoted as any other religion, and far worse than it should be; the result of Luther's rebellion was a new religion, and it caused some of the bloodiest wars Europe has experienced, in fact the schism in the Christian Churches caused Europe to be drenched in blood for two hundred years; no one will ever be able to estimate the damage to Europe in loss of life, property, or intellectual advancement, to a

better, nobler way of living in a higher, better civilization than

187

what these hideous, senseless fanatical strifes cost the people in Europe ~~and~~, and for not one good reason whatever.

Another man broke out about the ^{time} same as Luther- a different kind of man, who resembled Luther ⁱⁿ but his willingness to break away from Roman domination, this man was John Calvin, a Frenchman who was without doubt the gloomiest, cold blooded, narrow minded, hateful character who ever tried to teach or preach a religious thought; this man's veins must have been filled with prussic acid and his heart a ball of gall. It is possible that in his youth a worm entered his ear, and lodged in his brain, and it grew into a maggot, and the maggot grew and grew until it poisoned his whole mind and body, and he became in fact a religious maniac. There is no other way to account for his actions, teachings and deeds; Calvin located in Geneva where he was politically safe, and there formed his Church and his Creed, and he turned Geneva into a lunatic asylum.

One of the bright ideas emanating from his brain, was his glorious theory of Foreordination, which is a religious master-piece, it proved to Calvin's own satisfaction that infants who die without being baptised, were doomed to hell; this pious, tender loving thought was on a par with all of his cold gloomy doctrine; we cannot imagine it was a dear and comforting thought to young mothers who had lost their babies, and yet for some strange reason, men and women became fanatical followers of this cold blooded monster, and millions believed in his creed, and not only worshipped this man's awful teaching, but actually fought to the death for it; that only goes to prove how far ignorant fanaticism will carry men, they will fight and die with more ferocity and bull-dog courage for a point in their creed than they will for home and country.

Fortunately for the world Calvin's creed was accepted by a small minority only, had it been as strong numerically as Luther's, Europe might have been decimated by religious wars, they were bad enough as it was, but under Calvin's banner, they would have been a horror; while these two men were stirring up strife and bitterness, good King Henry VIII was having his own merry little fight with Rome, and another ^{even these pigeons' senseless religious strifes cost the people} smelly mess was added to the boiling pot of religious strife in Europe,

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out of which emerged a largely divided Christian Churches of today.

and of which seemed a terrible divided Christian Churches of today.

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These two men were striving for strife and bitterness. Good King as it was, but under certain circumstances they would have been a better. These might have been destroyed by religious wars, they were not enough small minority only, but it seems as strange numerically as Luther's.

Fortunately for the world Calvin's creed was accepted by a and country. and this dogma came for a point in their creed that they will for some fanaticism with certain men, they will fight and die with more religious thought to the death for it: they only look to freedom for religious creed, and not only worshipped this man, a saint, religious, but religious followers of this cold blooded monster, and millions perished in his parties, and yet for some strange reason, men and women became fanatic. It was a great and comforting thought to those mothers who had lost their men on a far with all of his cold blooded doctrine: we cannot imagine being refused, were doomed to hell: this drama, seemed religious thought it proved to Calvin's own satisfaction that infants who die without religious freedom of heretism, which is a religious master-piece.

One of the right ideas emanating from his brain, was his the religion. there followed his church and his creed, and he turned Geneva into a burning and deeds: Calvin located in Geneva where he was politically safe, and long married. There is no other way to account for his actions, religious until it possessed his whole mind and body, and he became in fact a religious in his brain, and it grew into a monster, and the monster grew and grew. It is possible that in his youth a worm entered his ear, and lodged there where have been filled with pleasure and his heart a hell of aches who ever tried to reach or please a religious thought: this man, without doubt the bloodiest, cold blooded, narrow minded, hateful creature from human domination, this man was John Calvin, a Frenchman who was king of men, who resembled Luther, but his willingness to break away

Another man broke out about the same time as Luther - a different Europe, and for not one good reason whatever. what these hideous, senseless fanatical strifes cost the people in

138

From then on religion took on a national or semi-national character, large parts of Germany became Lutheran, but Saxony and Austria remain Catholic, so that the German speaking people were divided, the Northern States became solidly Lutheran, Denmark, Sweden and Norway are still of that faith nationally, the Latin states, Italy, Spain France, and Portugal remain Catholic, while England was somewhat divided between the two, but in the end the Episcopal Church of Henry VIII became the official Church of England; thus was Europe not only divided politically, but also religiously, and that gave the politicians every kind of excuse for starting wars, and making all of the trouble possible for their Christian neighbors, all of the Christian Creeds taught the brotherhood of man, and the Love of God for mortals, but that at no time prevented the Christian Nations and Churches from religiously cutting other Christians' throats.

Some little devil with a ~~queer~~ sense of humor must have brought the very gloomy doctrine of Calvin into the fair land of France, and he must have laughed himself sick at the fine mess he stirred up; at once the country was torn with dissention, bitterness and strife, civil wars raged over the land with battle, murder and sudden death, and this amongst good French citizens who would have been far better off cultivating the land and being good neighbors, but no, the Catholic Church ceremonies were conducted in Latin, and the Protestant in French, so they must massacre, kill and burn to show how much they resented this difference; about as sensible as two farmers killing off each others' stock and burning down haystacks and homes because each one does not like the way the other's hair is combed.

All of the other countries with a mixed religion were as bad off, except England, which not having a neighbor bordering on their land, had to quarrel amongst themselves only, but they made up for this by having as nasty and brutal a lot of civil wars and persecutions as any other country could boast; none of these religious wars gained a thing religiously, for any of the parties engaged they made no converts, and when any war came to an end, they were in the same condition as before, poorer off, it is true, but not a bit wiser.

Strange to say none of the mighty efforts to spread Chris-

tianity throughout Asia and Africa ~~was~~ or the large Island Groups met with any success, although millions in money was spent, and thousands of missionaries travelled into all of those Eastern countries, the results were negligent, either the Eastern natives could not stomach the astonishing Christian Creed and miracles, or perhaps the natives believed their own creed was superior; China especially was the big hunting ground for the missionaries, all of the Christian Creeds maintained missions in China, usually ^{assisted} ~~assisted~~ by different governments, who plainly showed the Chinese government that the ~~nations~~ ^{missions} should not be molested, a plain hint of punishment to follow should the Chinese disturbed the Missions, in spite of all this, the Chinese still read Confucius and follow other Eastern Teachers.

Some time ago, the Western Christian Bible Societies were highly elated over a big demand for Bibles from China, vast numbers of Bibles were forwarded, but upon investigation, it was discovered that the Chinese were using the paper in the Bibles for making fire-crackers, which are made in the homes, as paper in China is a scarce commodity, the Chinese readily took advantage of obtaining paper for the asking, hence the large demand for Bibles and free paper, it can be depended upon the free and unlimited distribution of Bibles suddenly ceased, the Chinese were also wise enough to use the Missionaries and their Sunday Schools for free lessons in the English language, and thousands of them learned to speak it this way.

The Christian people for some peculiar reason look upon the Chinese as benighted heathen, low in intelligence and civilization forgetting the Chinese were a civilized people five thousand years ago, when Europe was a wilderness, peopled by a few savages, and fatuously imagined they can teach the Chinese metaphysics, when as a matter of fact, the Chinese are quietly laughing at our clumsy efforts to convert them to the astonishing Christian Creed.

They have met with the same lack of success in parts of Asia, in no corner of which has Christianity made the slightest impression; we wonder what would happen to a Christian Missionary trying to convert a colony of Turks, what arguments he ~~would~~ would use to turn them from Mahomet to Jesus, and how much of a success he would make, and whether the Turks would become angry, or laugh at the attempt; it never enters the

Christian mind that religion is entirely a question of birth and locality; a person born in Turkey, of Turkish parents, is a Mohamedan, the same as an Irishman born in Ireland of Catholic parents, is a Catholic, or a man born in Berlin is a Lutheran, religious belief is born in the child, and from infancy the child is taught one creed, it is hammered into his head for years, until at majority the person actually believes he is of that religion, from conviction, while as a matter of fact, he would be a member of a faith he positively hates, had he been born of different religious people and had different instructions in faith in childhood: when a fanatic vehemently asserts he is off his faith through firm conviction, he is only fooling himself, for circumstances alone planted that faith in his head, and under other circumstances, he might be as assertive and positive in defending an opposite faith; religious clamor and noise does not fool any sensible man who can usually tell when religion is a deep conviction or a loud noise.

Christianity has made no headway in Africa - in the Northern part which is as a rule Mohamedan, the Missionaries have not the courage to try to make converts, as they know in advance their efforts are doomed to failure and in Southern Africa, amongst the natives, the effort is wasted for the natives are satisfied with their native Gods, and could not comprehend the Christian Creed if they wanted to, how could they comprehend it, when highly educated people cannot accept or understand it; as missionary fields the South Sea Island and Australia are impossible; plenty of effort has been expended on the attempt to convert the natives with no results, the only good in the whole scheme is that it gives jobs to preachers who have failed as church ministers, and are shunted away to some foreign post to get rid of them.

Instead of wasting all of this time, money and effort in trying to convert the savages, or members of the Eastern Creeds, why do not the Christian Churches try converting in their own countries; why do not the Christians try hard to convert the Jews and Catholics, and why don't the Catholics try to convert the others? Each claim to be right, all are supposed to be intelligent, so why not bend the effort towards converting each other, it looks like the answer is plain, neither one of them could convince the other after a thousand years argument.

What astounds the profane, is that Christians cannot agree on their own Creed, the New Testament is supposed to be the inspired word of God, and if it is, any one should be able to understand it, yet in spite of that, there are four great divisions of Christianity in Europe, the Roman Catholic, Greek Catholic, Lutheran, and Episcopal, and each and every one of them, interpret the Bible differently, each claims to be right, and the others all wrong. Now if the Christians themselves cannot agree upon what is right or wrong in the Christian Creed, how do they expect the profane to believe that any one of them is right.

It is impossible for a deeply read student to quietly and friendly discuss religious creed with a Catholic Priest or a Protestant Minister; if you do not interrupt them they will talk by the hour on their belief and creed, but the instant you ask a pertinent or searching question, they will lose their tempers, and either haughtily denounce you for profaning the deity, or they will abruptly terminate the discussion, but in no case will they readily attempt to convert you or, by ^{prove} pure reason that their creed is the real truth, this has been tried time and again, and in a good many cases has actually ended in personal abuse, and an outburst of clerical anger.

Instead of sending Missionaries to foreign countries, it would be far better to send them into the slums of big cities and have them try to convert the gunmen, racketeers, beer-runners, gamblers, and white slaves, traffic dealers, this would be a far greater benefit to this country than trying to convert some benighted savage in Africa; why don't the Lutherans try to convert the Calvinists? The Calvinists the Episcopalians the Episcopals the Baptists, the Baptists the ~~Methodists~~ Methodists, and all of them joined together in converting the Catholics; the answer to that, is very plain, none of them will surrender their fanatical dogmatism.

The Four grand divisions of the Christian Churches in Europe have accomplished nothing for humanity, nothing for science. nothing for the real uplift of the human family; Voltaire did more to benefit humanity with his pen than all of the preachers in Europe did with their talk, he did stop torture in prisons, and it is sad to relate the Christian

Churches practiced the torture which Voltaire denounced with a pen of fire and vitrol; the real benefactors of mankind were men like Capernicus Kepler, Galileo, Sir Isaac Newton, Darwin. and Huxley who taught men how to think, and not clergymen who do all in their power to prevent knowledge from entering the minds of men.

The most ambitious attempt of any church to make converts of other religious people was made by the Methodists who established a Methodist College in Rome for the purpose of converting Italian youths from the Catholic faith, and educating them to be protestant minsiters, and then sending them about Italy to convert the natives to the Methodist faith; we do not think this has been a grand success for the reason that the Meethodists have been rather silent about it, and we failed to note any loud boasting over what they have accomplaished by this effort, but it is very easy to guess that the effort was not crowned with great success.

We would now like to see Rome build a Catholic College in Richmond, Va for the purpose of converting young men of the Methodist Episcopal Church South to the Catholic faith, and then turning them loose in the South to make good Catholics out of Methodists Episcopal; We are much afraid this would not be very successful, but it would be exscruciatingly funny and diverting to those who enjoy a quiet laugh, and yet when you come to thing of it, it would be no funnier than the metho-diststrying to convert Italian Catholics.

Ireland is a country that shows us a queer mixture, the larger part of Ireland is Catholic, and one part in the North is Presbyterian, and how they do not get along together, is terrible to contemplate, an Irish Catholic despises and Rnglishmen, & but he hates with a deadly hatred the Irish protestant, and this also runs the other way round, it is far easier to mix fire and gun-power than it is to mix Irish Catholics and Protestants, for believe it or not, the deadliest hatreds in this world are religious hatred, national hatreds can be forgotten, but religious hatreds - never; This reminds us of the story of the Irish laborer who told his friend he had the best job in the world paying him \$3.00 per day, and he liked the job so well he would be glad to do the work for nothing, and upon inquiry, he said it was a job tearing down a protestant Church.

A long while ago, the Protestant Church reached the ~~zenith~~ ^{zenith} of its power and influence in religious matters, and in almost all countries has declined; this is especially true in Europe, and in all other educated countries, except the United States, which is really the last fighting ground for that Church; they are bending every effort to hold their ground in that country, for there seems to be no help elsewhere. The sight of so many Protestant Religious groups in Europe is alone enough to cause men to lose faith in it, for when the pious disagree the profane doubt, this is so true that hardly any argument is necessary to prove it, for the old saying is true, that a house divided must fall, and the division multiplies and increases, and no real method is ever tried to solidify the different Protestant creeds; Why this is true, is very hard to understand, for it looks like the Churchmen themselves should be able to perceive the vital necessity for a united Protestant Church with one creed, yet in spite of that plain necessity, the division ever widens.

There is hardly any doubt but that the influence of the Protestant Church on the religious thought is on the wane, slowly but surely it is losing its hold on the public mind, and its end is approaching year by year; Protestantism will survive in Europe, and the United States for some years to come; the balance of the world will have none of it, for there is nothing natural, or attractive in the Creed, it is preached and taught year after year, but in no country at no time is it practiced, it is the one greath faith in the world that cannot be practiced, for a man trying hard to live up to the Christian Creed in his daily life, would be considered a plain fool even by the Protestants themselves.

You cannot preach, and practice the Christian doctrine of brotherly love without removing greed, and selfishness from humans, and as greed and selfishness are the predominant characteristics of man, he has no room in his heart for brotherly love and charity, the idea of almost all men, is every man for himself and grab all you can; the time will come in world history when our posterity will look back upon our civilization with surprise and amusement, they will have cause to wonder at our loud boasts of progress, and our terrible conceit and ego-mania, and x future students pouring over our history, will classify us with the men of the stone age.

But one thing will possibly survive, and that is the Christian Bible, and in the ages to come, the little children will be taught the Fairy Tales of the Twentieth Century, Fairy Tales that the men and women of that Century actually believed to be facts, and the fairy tales of the children of the somewhat distant future will be the fairy tales and miracles of the Christian Bible; all of that time for agreement on the Truth of that Divine inspired Book, and not a particle of progress in agreeing what is God's Truth; a book that all men should readily understand, and no man understands it; that alone is enough to cause educated thinking men in the future to lay the Protestant faith quietly to rest, together with all of the other old dead faiths of the ancient world.

CHAPTER XIXUnited States

The population of the United States is a conglomeration of all of the peoples of the earth, and it is the melting pot of all of the modern religions of the World; in writing of the religions of this country, it is utterly impossible to separate them from business, finance or politics, for they are all so inextricably mixed up that no man can separate one from the other, for religion mixes in politics finance, business, legislation, army and navy, and in the morals and daily lives of the people; the first settlers in the United States came from the best countries of Europe, England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Holland and France, sent the first settlers; Spain had very little to do with the early history of the country, the Spanish confining their efforts to the land further south, so they have a very small part in United States History.

So the first class of settlers were a strong vigorous race of men, who were well qualified to conquer the wilderness, and make new homes, and a new civilization on the newly discovered continent; some left Europe to escape religious persecution and to enjoy religious freedom in the new world, some to improve their fortunes, and some were sent over as convict servants, but there was a vast amount of virgin land with immense natural resources, so all who came with a desire to work found it easy after a very hard beginning to become prosperous; the first religionist to reach the country were the Presbyterians known in our history as the Pilgrim Fathers who arrived and located in Massachusetts, this party was from England where they had been persecuted for their convictions, and left England for the purpose of settling in the new world where they could enjoy religious freedom.

They settled in New England, and they built homes, raised crops, and made a new colony of English speaking people; the natives received them kindly and well, and when hard times came, and the colony was in danger of starvation, the natives fed them, and showed them how to raise the native crops of maize, mellons, beans and other edibles.

The Pilgrims were pious folks, and had their minds firmly set on two things, their bibles and rum, the Bible could cure any mental lapse while the rum not only warmed their stomachs but helped them wonderfully to rob the natives for the natives not knowing alcohol could easily be befuddled, and while in that condition could be piously robbed; the Pilgrims did everything they could to the natives, except make them slaves, which they could not do, because the natives were too wild and shy, but the Pilgrims made up for this later on for when they were able they sent ships to Africa to steal the negro from his home and bringing him to this country as slaves, and when they found out they could not use the negro in the north they piously sold him in the south at a good profit; let it be said here and now that the most deplorable blasting curse that was laid on this country was the bringing of native African negroes to this land; it was an unnatural crime against the negro, and has caused more real trouble in the United States than any other one single crime, or mistake could or did accomplish.

Such then were the first religious settlers, the Pilgrim Fathers, a crowd of sniveling, pious hypocrites who committed every despicable act of which man is capable; a Bible in one hand, a Bottle of Rum in the other; The Spaniards openly robbed the natives by force, the Pilgrims did the same thing hypocritically by booze, and there are numbers of snobs in New England today, who actually boast of being descendants of these soulless cheaters, it seems if a man or woman had any pride or self respect instead of boasting of such contemptible ancestry, they would in decency try to hide it.

The Pilgrims came to this country to obtain religious liberty and gained it, but did they grant it to the others? They certainly did not. They tolerated the practice of no religion except their own; they cut off the ears of the Quakers, run the Baptists into the woods, and would probably have burnt at the stake any Catholics who dared to enter their saintly colony; they prospered all right, but were they satisfied? Indeed not, they began to make their Blue Laws so severe that a man could scarcely sneeze without offending the Divine Pastor, ~~xx~~ or a man was not ~~x~~ permitted to kiss his wife in public at any time, nor in his own house on Sunday; some of these insane laws are still on the books in New England, and are the remains of a perfect barbarism.

197

Another terrible outbreak was the discovery that there were witches in New England - actual witches riding through the air at night on broom sticks; probably anticipating the airship, but these pious frauds really believed this, and a grand witch hunt started; poor old women, grey haired and ailing were arrested, and tried as witches, and upon conviction were piously burnt to death, the Pilgrims must have been taking a leaf from the Spanish Inquisition; this witch belief and abject fear frightened the minds and held the beliefs of these benighted people for a long time; untold misery, torture and death was inflicted upon innocent people caused by the craven cowardice, and abject fear of these brainless brutes; when the balance of the people in the surrounding colonies began to frown upon this horrible practice, the Pilgrims came to their senses, and began to act and behave like civilized men.

The Southern part of the Country was more fortunate in the quality of its first settlers, most of the settlers in the South were what more nearly approached in conduct the term gentlemen of that period, a term that can hardly be applied to the New England settlers; there was hardly any religious hypocrisy in the South; the settlers were usually men who attended strictly to their own business, and did not torment his neighbor, so we hear of no religious troubles in the Southern part of the Country.

In the Eighteenth Century, the United States was a prosperous new world of plenty, with new settlers arriving continuously, and all was happiness and contentment until the war for Independence broke out - a war to end the political rule of England over the American Colonies; this war brought out some splendid political and military leaders for the Colonies, men who gave their all for Liberty, and who displayed ^{unexampled} ~~unexampled~~ courage and endurance for the cause of freedom.

One man amongst others, a well educated brave citizen, volunteered his services to the Colonial Army; the Commander General Washington, knowing this man's talents, offered him a commission in the Army, which he modestly declined, for the reason that he thought it better to serve in the ranks as a private, as an example to the other men; so this brave patriot shouldered ^a musket and fought bravely, enduring all of a private's hardships, and at the winter camp at Valley Forge, where the Army was freez-

ing and starving, he wrote a pamphlet called "The Crisis" which was read to the Army, and this great paper at once instilled courage and determination into the hearts of all, it was the one thing needed to keep the ranks of the Army intact; after the war, this patriot went to France where he offered his talents to the cause of liberty in that country, as he was really a world benefactor for the right and justice; this man Tom Paine wrote a book called "The Age of Reason" in which he denied the doctrine of three Gods in one, or three times one is one. The fundamental doctrine of the Christian Church.

When this Book was published, the Clergymen of the Christian Church, instead of praying for him, for his eyes to be opened to the Truth, at once united in a crusade of personal abuse, unequalled in modern history; every act of his life was condemned, he was cursed, abused, villified and every vicious spiteful, lying infamous piece of villainy was heaped upon him for daring to write his opinion upon a matter of creed, which he chose not to believe; it must be remembered that Paine's Book was not abusive, nor was it racy or written in impolite language, in fact it was written in choice English, moderate in tone and temper, and a work that even women and girls could read without blushing, and yet although Paine has been in his grave for over 100 years, the clergy are still damning his soul and bones to hell for daring to criticize their creed. This is a fine example of Christian charity, brotherly love and Truth; We wonder if Jesus would have heartily cursed Paine, or would he have tried by quiet means to show him his way of what was the proper road; from what ~~was~~ we can read of Jesus in the New Testament, we are inclined to believe Jesus would have made a friend of Paine, at least we are sure of one thing- he would not have cursed and abused him.

After the war an assembly of able men was called together for the purpose of forming a new government for the free colonies, and these wise men made a constitution to govern the country, and they took particular pains to leave God out of the New Constitution, for these men well knew that free government and religion would not mix, but wise as they were, they could not foresee the craft of the Clergy, they could not see by what insidious means the day would come when the religious finger would be poked into every part of government.

199

An instance of clerical craft can be recited: A wealthy Merchant of Philadelphia dying left a will in which he provided a large sum to be used for endowing a college to educate young men for their advancement through life, it was expressly stipulated in the Will that no part of his money should be used for religious purposes, and that under no circumstances should his college be used for teaching or practicing religion; in spite of his expressed Will, the clergy by chicanery and trickery got possession of his college, and turned it into a school for turning out half-baked preachers for the Christian Church, violating every Will and Command of this good citizen who was termed by them an Atheist, and although they damned him personally and religiously, they did not hesitate to surreptitiously filch his college and his money for their own use and purpose, for to the Church men ~~xxx~~ even the dirty money of an Atheist is welcomed, no matter by what subtile trickery it is obtained; this man's name was Stephen Girard, and the man's name is a monument of goodness and charity, while the violation of his Will is a monument of clerical trickery.

Wise as were our forefathers in making a constitution, they made one vital mistake in the new Government, they made a Republic, when they should have made a Democracy; possibly they could not have made a Democracy to rule so vast a domain, nor perhaps could they see the vital blemish in the Republican form of government, and yet it exists; that blemish was the lack of any central responsibility in the government itself, the same old story - a Trinity, three in-one, and no one the real head, the Congress to make laws, the President to veto or approve, and after that the Supreme Court to nullify or approve at the will or temper of nine men who do not even have to agree. A majority of the Supreme Court only is the real ruler of the United States, something not even contemplated by the makers of the Constitution; the Constitution was ^{adopted} ~~accepted~~ by the States, Washington was elected the First President, and a new nation was born on the Western Continent which was in time to become one of the vital nations of the world.

The first decades of the United States were prosperous, some wars were fought, but they did not vitally effect the nation's boundaries were extended, more land added to the public domain, new states were admitted into the Union, and the country advanced in power and wealth with powerful strides.

Slavery was established in the South from the very beginning; the first slaves brought to the colonies were white men, they were convicts sent over from England, and leased out to the planters as servants; in time they gained their freedom, but for a stated period, they were slaves; in the meantime, the pious New Englanders owning ships sent them to Africa, where they abducted the native negroes by force, and brought them to this land, and sold them into chattel slavery; this did not succeed in the North, the climate was too cold for the Negro, so they sold him in the South, where the planters could use them in the mild southern climate to till their soil and raise crops of cane, rice, ~~corn~~ and cotton, thus chattel slavery became an institution in this country.

Strange to relate all of the Christian Ministers in the South gave their approval to slavery; they even found justification in the Bible for it, and the strongest defenders of slavery in the South were the Christian churches; the bringing of native African Negroes to this land, and making them chattel slaves, was the worst calamity that ever befell a civilized country and was the cause of most of the social and political evil that followed; slavery was at once injected into politics, and became the bone of political contention for decades of United States history, which finally culminated in the Civil War which spread death and destruction over a large part of the country; the end of the Civil War was the end of slavery; but the beginning of a more terrible and calamitous ~~trouble~~ ^{trouble}. The Civil War had engendered bitter hatred in the North against the Southern people, and the ending of the war did not end their hatred and bitterness, but on the contrary, seemed to increase it.

At that period the politics of the Federal Government ^{was controlled} by two men, one in the Senate, and one ~~a~~ in the House of Representatives, and no two men ever did more real evil than these two; Ben Wade, controlled the Senate, ~~and~~ an oily ~~hypocritical~~ hypocritical scoundrel with a heart of gall, and the mind of a hyena; the house was controlled by Thad. Stevens, a man with the mind of ^a skunk and the disposition of a rattlesnake with the bellyache; this soulless wretch openly lived with negroe prostitutes in his Washington home, and the Legislation of this Grand Republic was in the hands of these two wingless buzzards.

Unfortunately for the country, the President ^{was} ~~was~~ assassinated

by a lunatic, and the whole country North and South was plunged into grief, but the political jackals did not grieve, they actually rejoiced for the crime gave them their opportunity to work off their deadly hatred, and spleen against the Southern people; Wade and Stevens, the two human devils set to work and out of their cobra poison minds they concocted the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the United States Constitution which not only made the negro free, but gave him equal citizenship with the white man; these two soulless brutes, tried to change a law of nature by an act of congress, this was not done through love of the negro, although they may in their way have loved negro prostitutes, it was done as a deadly insult and injury to the Southern people, for these two brainless asses imagined they could force social recognition of the negro upon the southern citizens - which we all know was doomed to failure from first to last.

The Negroes obtained their freedom and the ballot, so were legally placed upon a political and intellectual level with the whites, this must be so for it requires intelligence to vote, but instead of settling anything it at once caused political chaos; the South became a mad house of political and drunken fiendish debauchery, and state governments, backed by Federal power became a farce; this was the time when ^{The} Ku-Klux Klan was formed by a Southern Soldier; this movement was started to deliberately instill fear and terror into the minds of the Negro, and the thieving carpet bagger, and office holders who were robbing, and draining the South of its last resources; the Klan succeeded, the Carpet Baggers were defeated at the polls and driven out of the South, and the negro was again compelled by force to obey the law; since that time the negro has been mixed up in politics, his vote is the balance of power in close states, so he has been petted and coddled by politicians for his dirty venal vote, which has caused stench in the nostrils of all decent citizens; a political party has for decades depended almost entirely upon the ignorant negro vote to keep that party in power, consequently they have loved the negro like a brother for strictly political reasons, and to the shame of all educated white people, the political ballance of power in this glorious Republic is in the hands and votes of ignorant negroes.

The politicians of the North now claim that the negro is morally and mentally fitted for the ballot and citizenship; that is a foul contemptible lie; the negro is not now, nor never will be, morally, mentally or physically

fit for citizenship in this country; we do not allow the ballot or citizenship to the Asiatics, and yet they are in every respect superior to the negroes.

Miscegination has been a blighting curse to the white race, and to the nation; in some states we are sorry to say it has been legalized but in most parts of the country, it is illicit, and it has caused the spread of ^{sypphilus} ~~sypphilus~~ all over the country, so that it has become a public menace to the health of the people, and to generations of the people who will come after us; it has bred bastards by the thousands, the lowest form of human being on this continent, for the white and ~~the~~ black blood will not mix. The result of this union is that the object born inherits the very worst qualities of both races, so we allow the breeding of mongrels that will be a burden and a disgrace to this country for ages to come; The fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments should be voted out of the Constitution at once; they never had any place and do not belong there, and there never was a good reason why they should have been adopted, and there is every good reason known to man why they should be abolished.

At the time of the Civil War, had the nation bought the negroes outright from their owners, shipped them back to Africa, and then bought each family a plot of ground with the tools to work it, the cost would not have exceeded the terrible cost in life and wealth, the Civil War cost, and we would have been well rid of a problem that is unsettled today; the same can be said of the cost of the world war, even that gigantic sum would have been well spent in delivering the negro back to his African home.

That is the only real solution for this vexing problem, and it will have to be met some day if not now, we may postpone it, but we are only putting off the difficulty year after year, yet it cries to the very sky for solution, and the day will finally come when we must shoulder the burden - cost what it may, and the longer we put it off, the more difficult, it becomes; some claim the negro has a right to be here; that is false, the negro has no inherent right to be here, he belongs in Africa, his racial and climatic home, he has no more right here than the Chinese

fit for the ballot, and citizenship

the negro has no inherent right to be here; he belongs in Africa; if he comes: some claim the negro has a right to be here: that is the burden - cost what it may, and the longer we put it off, the more difficult and costly will it be. The day will surely come when we must shoulder only the burden of the difficulty left after death. But it comes to the fact that we have to be met some day if not now. We shall postpone it, but we are that is the only real solution for this vexing problem, and African home.

It is now would have been well spent in carrying the negro back to his home: the same can be said of the cost of the world war, even that African cost, and we would have been well rid of a problem that is unsolved. It has exceeded the terrible cost in life and money. The civil war was a failure. A lot of money was spent to work it, the cost would outweigh from their owners, shipped them back to Africa, and then brought

At the time of the civil war, had the nation brought the negroes to be protected.

been adopted, and there is every good reason known to man why they should not belong there, and there never was a good reason why they should have voted out of the constitution at once: they never had any place and no right to come: the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments should be repealed or amended so that they will be a burden and a disgrace to this country. Both races are the very worst qualities of both races, so we allow the black blood will not mix. The result of this union is that the colored lowest form of human being on this continent, for the white and the negro will come after us: it has been predicted by the thousands, the menace to the health of the people, and to generations of the people. The negro is a curse to the country, so that it has become a public enemy in most parts of the country. It is illiterate, and it has caused the death of the nation: in some states we are sorry to say it has been legalized

Miscegenation has been a disgusting crime to the white race, and to the negroes.

Citizenship to the natives, and yet they are in every respect inferior to the negroes in this country: we do not allow the ballot or

Japanese, or any other race we keep out, or the aliens we deport at will; no one has a right here, save one who is morally and racially fitted for citizenship, and blood mixture with us.

There is no personal hatred or will will against the negro, on the contrary, the feeling for him is one of helpfulness and protection; while this is a social problem, it is far more a racial problem, and the feeling is not against the negro personally, but against the race problem as a whole, for while all of us are ready to help and assist all negroes in distress, we are all more vitally interested in solving a world problem that reaches the very vitals of the people of this Country; the real obstacle to ending this trouble is the craven cowardice of our politicians; no member of the Senate or House has the courage to denounce this outrage against civilization, none of them have the courage to move that those insane amendments be abolished, the negro removed from politics, and from the land; not one will raise his voice in denunciation of this horrible crime for fear he may lose a few votes, or his party a few seats in the Houses of Power; so they ignore the greatest, most pressing problem of the age; they let the negro remain here to poison our politics and poison our blood, until perhaps nature itself solves the problem by absorbing the Negro Syphilitic blood into our veins through Miscegenation, and his race and blood is absorbed into our veins to poison our own race for a thousand years.

The end of the civil War saw the commencement of other evils in our public lives, which have remained with us; the end of the war saw the real beginning of corruption, bribery, robbery, perjury and other national evils; Grant's administration was a disgrace, public officials were corrupt, bribery flourished, and every sort of political thievery was brought to perfection; the whisky ring was exposed - a ring of thieves who were robbing the government of revenue due on the sale of whisky; when this ring was exposed, a United States District Attorney in the West discovered evidence that would convict the thieves; he wired Washington for instructions, and was ordered to prosecute all without fear; this man started to prosecute, but to his astonishment, he found the trail led to Grant's door, and when this was discovered, the prose-

204

cuter was called off, and dismissed from office, and although a good brilliant man, he never again could obtain public office, this story explains itself.

The new era ushered in the new state and political boss, the boss was only possible because all politics in the United States was based upon corruption; all was corrupt, Congress, Legislatures, City Councils, and everybody in authority was bought and sold like cattle; the first large steal pulled off in the new era was the open unblushing stealing of a National Election; this was in 1876; one party the Democratic clearly elected its candidate to the Presidency, but the other party accustomed to the fleshpots of office holding would not let go of their grip on the Treasury, ~~x~~ so they openly stole the election and planted their candidate in the office, they had had their snouts in the swill trough so long, they could not be kicked away from it.

At that time the boss of Pennsylvania was Matt Quay, State Treasurer; one day the governor and Auditor examined Quay's books, and found him \$600,000.00 short in his cash; the governor asked him what became of the money, and Quay looked up at him with a grin, and replied "Governor it has gone where the woodbine twineth". For this piece of splendid humor, they elected him to the United States Senate, so sending this big state thief to join the big national thieves; another national Scandal took place in 1896; in that campaign Mark Hannah, a common political Ruffian openly and brazenly bought the election out right for his Candidate McKinley; every crooked means was used in this election, corruption, bribery and everything low and base was resorted to in order to win, and win they did to the National disgrace, and everything decent in public life, and yet they showed the way to put an end to such low, vile political proceedings.

In the meantime, the public began to awaken, men ~~to~~ began to rave against crooked dirty politics, some newspapers and magazines attacked corruption, and exposed it in all of its filth, to the public gaze, so at last regulations set in- the Interstate Commerce Law was enacted to curb the rapacity of the Railroads, anti-trust laws were passed to curb the big bribing and thieving corporations, and ~~then~~ a resemblance of order and decency began to be shown in public life.

The Railroads had been the worst offenders of all; they bossed the states, gave illegal rebates, bought and sold public officials and nothing was too low or corrupt for the railroads to pull off but the new law practically put an end to that condition and the railroad managers have been forced to obey the law.

For years the large corporations had their innings, controlling congress, the Courts and Legislatures, riding rough shod over the citizens, and usually bossing the national government itself, but the anti-trust law cut their beaks, and claws to some extent, and all the harm they have done lately is through legal trickery; the elections in the new century have been unusually clean and decent, and the parties are more and more appealing to the intelligence of the voters, money in elections is now used for legitimate purposes, and corruption is now left as a rule, to the petty thieves in office in large cities, corruption in paving contracts, street lighting, and small and mean thievery has taken the place of stealing on a grand scale in state and nation.

The World war put a temporary end to public corruption; every man put his shoulder to the wheel, and the public good became the aim of all citizens, who gave a splendid example of patriotism and loyalty to the Nation; no sacrifice or self denial was too much to support the army and navy, and to back the government to the limit, we freely gave our sons, our money, and our every effort to uphold the President and the nation, and that is one period in our history of which all citizens may take just pride; after the war one period of our political history soiled it with the black pitch of corruption; Harding was elected President, a man not fit for the office of town constable and at once surrounded himself with the most corrupt indecent crowd of loafers that ever assembled in the Capital; all men remember what followed; the gang stole everything they could, except the buildings, and would have ^{stolen} ~~stole~~ them piece-meal had they remained in office long enough.

A Cabinet Officer for a bribe of \$100,00.00 handed over to

the briber a lease of the Public Domain valued at \$500,000,000.00; some honest public spirited man and officials in the Capital discovered what was going on, and exposure took place, and the whole dark plot was laid bare to the public gaze, and the thieves were lashed by the Senate, the Press and the Public, the guilty were gradually driven from public life, and some of the stolen loot was recovered and some well known names were placed upon the black scroll of public infamy; it is a page in our public records so dark and sinister that it is hardly possible that such a run of events in public life will ever again take place, the Citizens have been awakened to the danger of corruption of office holders, and so wide spread is this knowledge that dishonesty in public office holding is becoming more difficult year after year, so we are cheered up with the hope that official corruption by office holders will in time be a thing of the past, and we shall look upon the men whom we trust with ^{our} ~~with~~ civil and political affairs as servants who are too honorable, and proud to betray us.

Our government machinery is slow and cumberson, and it is very hard for proper legislation to be put into effect by congress, except after painful delay, and sometimes ~~and~~ underhanded means are used to block very necessary legislation; one of the causes of this, is divided authority, which prevents the will of the people being carried out promptly; a bill is placed before Congress, and after a long debate is passed; it then goes to the Senate ^{after} and further and longer delay, it is passed Congress and is sent to the President for veto or approval, the President vetoes the bill, and it is returned to the Congress and again put to a vote, and if the bill has a two-thirds majority, it becomes a law in spite of the President's veto; should the veto be sustained it is dead, and that is the end of it for the time being; but should the bill pass the Congress and be signed by the President, it is still not the law of the land, for it can be brought before the Supreme Court, and there it can be declared unconstitutional by a bare majority vote five to four, and that law is killed as dead as Adam; so that Congress and the President are not the real rulers of the United States, the real rulers are five members of the Supreme Court; who are not elected by the people, and who are not responsible to them; who, or what gave five members

207

if the Supreme Court the right and power to rule and govern this people and Nations; does the constitution give them this right, or have they usurped it, by what right does this Court nullify the will of the President, of Congress and 120,000,000 people.

Let us recall something that took place in the Supreme Court some fifty years ago during Cleveland's time; the first income tax law passed the Congress, and was signed by the President; a howl went up from the wealthy men of the Country, and as soon as possible, they carried this law before the Supreme Court to be adjudicated; when the decision was rendered to the surprise of all it was a tie, four for and four against; there was a vacancy on the bench at this time, so another Justice had to be appointed to fill the bench, and the President appointed a southern lawyer to fill the vacancy; this new appointee was known to be against the new income tax law, so the rich carried it again to the Supreme Court to have it nullified once and for all; after the arguments the Court proceeded to ballot, and to the surprise of the Court itself, the new Justice decided to vote to ^{us}sustain the law which would make it the legal law of the land; the Rich were aghast, but they had one good and faithful servant on the Bench - a Justice named Shiras, on the first decision he voted in favor of the law, making it legal, but when he discovered the new Justice was also in favor of making it legal, Shiras changed his vote, and from being in favor of the law, cast his decision against it; thereby making the law unconstitutional null and void.

Why did Shiras change, why was he in favor of it one day, against it the next; was he actually bribed, was he corrupt, or what was his reason for changing his mind, and absolutely nullifying the will of the President Congress and the people; at one time or another, there has been some harsh criticism of the Supreme Court, some criticisms that have assailed the Honor, and the honesty of the members of that august body, but no criticism at any time, or by any man has been as severe a criticism as that pronounced by Shiras himself upon that body in his infamous decision upon that second vote on the income tax law; his base conduct in that case can never be satisfactorily explained; ~~xxxxxxxx~~ for in no manner, shape or form was it right, and it was so low in moral and public decency that any citizen has a perfect right to believe that Shiras was a corrupt Justice of the Supreme Court.

Ocasionaly a mental outbreak occurs in this country which ^{usually} ~~causes~~ results in the birth of some ism, which is a peculiar human rash that spreads and causes plenty of excitement amongst the populace; such an outbreak was the rebirth of the Ku-Klux Klan a few years back; a smart crowd of men in Atlanta Goorgia ~~hoping~~ ^{hoping} to make some easy money conceived the bold plan of reviving the old Klan which was forgotten, dead and buried; the scheme was to make the people believe the new Klan was a continuation of the old one with the same ideas and Principles; they announced themselves 100% Americans, and all the rest of us were base imitations; Jew, Catholics, Negroes, and so called foreigners were to be rigidly excluded and none but the ^{pure} ~~heart~~ ^{of} heart could be members, an initiation fee of \$15.00 was required, and when the applicant sent the money and received his membership card, he also received a nice white night-gown which cost about 50¢.

The membership grew very rapidly- especially in the South where the moss-backs were still fighting the Civil War, but examining this new order closely, it was discovered the new Klan had nothing to do with the old Klan, and had not one of its principles, it was a secret order based upon religious and racial hatred; naturally it at once began to interfere in politics, and in the very personal lives of peaceable zitizens; in some places it inaugurated a reign of terror, and in the end, it grew into a secret, financial and religious organization that was a menace to law and order.

The heads of the Klan made vast sums of money out of the membership, for we must bear in mind that it was organized for that particular purpose, but some of the officers became involved with the police and some were sent to jail, the public saw through the whole scheme, and finally public opinion began to form a firm decision to put an end to this nonsense based upon secret force and hatred, and so the Klan began to fade out their political offices one by one - were ^{defeated} ~~defeated~~ at the polls, membership rapidly declined, and today the Ku-Klux Klan with all of its high sounding titles, and its terrifying secrets is dead and buried, and its deluded members have again gained their sanity.

Some times a new crusade starts in this country- a crusade for the public good, and for the benefit of humanity; it is born in the

brain of some good man or woman, or perhaps in a group of good, well meaning people; such a crusade was started some years ago, advocating the use of contraceptives a knowledge which should have been implanted in the minds of women ages ago; as a matter of fact this should be taught by the state, and all men and women should be given sound and rigid instructions in the use of contraceptives; at once a howl was raised against teaching this a very necessary branch of needed instruction; legislation was passed forbidding instruction of this needed knowledge amongst men and women, and churchmen railed and reviled it as harmful and sinful, and contrary to the express commands of their God.

Men and women today who can think and reason know that it is a crime to humanity and to the human race to permit the uncontrolled and unlimited breeding of children, and bringing unnecessary children into the world; not only is it a crime against humanity it is also a crime against the children themselves who are brought into a hard, cruel world without their own consent, and are thrown upon the world totally unprepared to battle with life, not properly trained and educated to bear life's burdens, but are left to fight life's stern battles without a single chance to succeed, but are doomed from the first to be one of the submerged- one of the 90% of Life's failures.

Let us take ^{an} example of this serious matter, as an illustration of one of the points involved; a young healthy couple ignorant uneducated without trade or profession marry, as they are permitted to do by the law of the Church, and the law of the land; without check or hindrance this couple can bring into the world a child every year as there is nothing to stop them, or to prevent them having all the children they either want or have; now let us see the result after fifteen years of married life, they have a family - let us say of ten children - boys and girls.

The fathers earning capacity being small, he is never able to provide the absolute necessities for ten children ⁱⁿ the way of privacy, clothing food, schooling, recreation, or anything necessary for childhood, or to properly prepare them for the success-

ful battle of life; the home is crowded, decency is almost impossible, the children themselves noticing they lack what others have, and what is denied them; there are no means to give each child a proper education, or to learn a trade, the home life is always overcrowded, and finally in sheer desperation at an early age, both boys and girls take to the streets, seeking some unknown means for peace and happiness, what is the result? The boys needing what they cannot receive at home, and not being taught to earn, soon learn from their elders that it is easy to steal what they want, and the girls lacking clothes, and means of pleasing adornment which other girls have, and having no honest way to obtain them, soon learn from older girls, women and men, that all of this can be procured at the expense of their bodies; the results of this condition are the recruits for the penitentiary and the brothels, which are never recruited from the upper-ten, but from the lower ninety, for world history proves that 90% of the world's people are failures, and only 10% successful; jails and prisons are filled, brothels flourish, and they both must have recruits and inmates, and where do they come from? Surely not from the upper-ten, so they must come from the submerged ninety.

It is far better, more human and more just that 100,000 girls should not be born than that one of them should be the inmate of a brothel; there is no earthly excuse for thievery, crime, or prostitution, no justification for it, under any rules of religion, humanity or common sense, and you cannot put a stop to those lapses of morality when the recruits for those awful conditions are bred by the millions without sense, check, or hindrance.; every care is used in the proper breeding and rearing of horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry, dogs, cats and all animals, yet not one single effort is bent towards breeding good men and women the so-called most important animal of all.

The prisons, jails, brothels and asylums are filled with the unfit, those who should never have been brought into the world, who never had a chance to succeed in life, and who are a public charge and expense to the country; the parents who brought them into the world, are not held responsible, yet the citizens and nation must pay, so if the public must pay the terrible cost for the indiscriminate bringing of

211

unnecessary children into the world, has not that same public the right to demand that evil ^{be} regulated by the State? Ten times more care should be taken in the breeding of children than in the breeding of hogs, and the hogs do not fill the prisons and the brothels, and how any sane man or woman can oppose the preventing of bringing in to the world unfit, unwanted, unnecessary children doomed to failure and sure to become public charges, is more than we can understand.

From the very beginning of this Nation wide problem brought to the attention of thinking men and women by some of the best and most patriotic men and women of the nation, the Catholic Church and its clergy have fought this splendid idea with every means in their power; it is the only large organized opposition to it in the whole country, and we can only attribute its opposition to the fact that the Church wants more members, not well educated intelligent members, but a very large number of them; quality is lost sight of by the Church and its priests, and quantity is strictly predominant, the more Catholics, the more money, the more money the more power; dropping the moral side of the question, let us look at the economic aspect of it; children in large families, born of poor parents ~~xx~~ ^{are} as a rule doomed to be laborers if they remain honest and morally good; do we not all know that there is far too much common labor in this country? And as mechanical devices improve, there will be a continual decrease in the demand for laborers; even today, millions are walking the streets idle with no chance for employment or means to earn an honest livelihood; are we to increase this terrible condition year after year? ~~xxx~~ Why increase the large population of this Country with larger and larger numbers of useless laborers when we cannot keep employed those we now have?

The plain facts of the matter are, that the country is overpopulated, as it is. This is shown by the fact that the National Government has found it necessary to restrict immigration from other countries, as we have too much idleness amongst our own population, and yet the crowding in of outside labor is no more harmful than an over-breeding of our own people; the labor market is over crowded, whether by an influx of outside labor, or by the overwhelming birth of pauper labor of our own; [#] there is no excuse for any couple bringing children into the world unless they

~~they~~

can properly provide for them, can instruct them and raise them to manhood and womanhood properly equipped for the battle of life, able to hold their own in this machine age, able to become good and useful citizens and without the almost deadly certainty that they will become charges and a lifelong expense to the community; less children and better children is what we need; all good men and women want children, but why should not poor people be satisfied with let us say - two children, two can be far better reared than ten with a far better chance for them to succeed in life, so ~~why~~ spoil the chance of the first two born, why not stop at the two, and devote your life to them; if parents thought in that sensible way, the state should assist them in carrying this out by educating the father and mother in ~~contraceptives~~ ^{contraceptives} in spite of the facts that clerics claim it is against the ~~express~~ commands of their God, which is all nonsense for no good God ever commanded any man or woman to bring more children into this world than they could decently raise; if that is the command of God, then one can say that it is only another one of his many mistakes; this is not a religious question, but a social, moral, financial government and human question, touching the welfare, lives, happiness, peace and security of every citizen of the United States; The United States Congress should take up this problem, and authorize the proper instruction of all people in the proper use of contraceptives for the welfare of children and their proper education and bringing up should be the most paramount question before the citizens of the ~~United~~ Republic, with the aim in view of giving each child brought into the world an equal opportunity with each and every other child to succeed in life's efforts.

Another theme on this subject should be thoroughly explained, it is whether a man and a woman can marry, live the normal physical married life and yet have no children; this has been provided for by the medical fraternity by the operation called vasectomy; by this simple operation a man can marry and live the ^{one} rational healthy physical condition of marriage and have no issue; in ~~what~~ state of the union Indiana, this has been ~~made~~ made a state law and in some cases it is

~~are~~ made compulsory; habitual criminals, insane, idiotic imbeciles deaf and dumb, and those who are not fitted mentally and morally to have children are ~~also~~ vasectomized, and made impotent for fatherhood; this is a splendid law, and should be on the statutes of all state law books. This does away with a grave menace to unborn children, and to the public in general, for it stops the breeding of unfit children who might not only be born into the world helpless cripples, but might also become public charges useless and a public expense as long as they live.

A man meeting a woman he loves who is not sure he can live a happy normal life, without her, and he is afflicted with four plus syphilis should tell her the plain truth that he is not fitted for fatherhood, and that there would be grave danger to any child he might father, could if the woman was satisfied have the operation ~~xxx~~ vasectomy performed on himself, then marry and live a normal life, as the operation does not impair man's physical vigor that would be the sensible thing to do, and would not be a menace to the future?

The law should read that all couples desiring marriage should give the public authorities one month's notice to that effect; they should then be examined by a competent State Medical Physician, and if pronounced mentally and physically sound, the marriage could proceed, and if they apparently needed instructions, it could be given them upon the proper use of contraceptives, but should the couple not prove to be fit subjects for parenthood, the marriage should be strictly forbidden unless they willingly submit to ~~xxx~~ vasectomy.

The Church claims through its clergy that man has an inherent right to parenthood, this is flatly denied; no man has an inherent right to bring children into the world that will from first to last be a public charge and expense, the public good is the greatest good to the greatest number, and the state has the same right and can use the same force to protect the public health and morals as to protect by force the invasion of the country; does any man whether a cleric or a layman claim it is the inherent right of

any man to father an imbecile or an idiot? That claim is preposterous on the face of it, and if a man is in such a physical state that it is certain he cannot father a normal child, it would be nothing short of criminal to let this man assume the sublime duty of fatherhood; to father a child when the parent is known to be unfitted for the responsibility is a crime against the child itself, a crime against the state, and an actual crime against humanity; We all want children, but we want strong healthy intelligent children to fill their positions in the world with honor and credit to us; no sane man wants a child who will end up in jail, in a madhouse or in a brothel; one good strong healthy man, or woman is of more value to the state than one million idiots, that is plain common sense.

Some people think that the more population a country has the richer and more prosperous it is, that is plainly false, for if it was true, China and India would be the greatest, most prosperous countries on earth, while on the contrary they are the poorest; to illustrate in another way- would a family of six people be better off living in a tenement containing sixty rooms, housing two hundred people than would a family the same size living in a five room house on a forty acre farm? Are the overcrowded tenements in a slum in a large city signs of prosperity? And do the inmates of those slums give life to good healthy children, and give them proper raising, education and a fair chance to succeed in life?

To sum up the matter contraception should be taught as a matter of course, so that healthy people could have families they could properly rear and educate, and that would be a help and a benefit to the country and state; vasectomy should be enforced by law upon those who are not qualified, morally, physically and mentally to be parents; the criminal and insane should be vasectomized by force, so that all danger to the public good is removed; the Church should have no more to do with the population of the country than it has with the army and navy which the government uses to protect all of its citizens and the nation itself. and at the same time the nation can use the full force of the government to see that the public health is not impaired, and that untold thousands

of children are not brought into being who will be a burden and a cost to the general public; it is not a sign of ~~any~~ sense or prosperity when the prisons and the asylums of the country are crowded to the doors; the laws should so regulate birth, that the prisons and asylums should gradually empty of their inmates, and be used for better purposes, but this can never happen if we keep on indiscriminately breeding more inmates to require prisons and asylums; the way to prevent crime is to stop breeding criminals, or to stamp out the conditions that make criminals; it is the same with prostitution, remove the conditions that make it, and stop bringing children into the world who may find no other means of obtaining subsistence except through that terrible unnatural path to a bitter end.

Will a Catholic Priest say that it is proper right and just for a man to father ten children even if all of them are idiots and imbeciles that it is his inherent right and that the Church supports this and strictly forbids him using means to prevent conception? And is that the attitude and teaching of the Catholic Church? Now what have the medical fraternity to say about it? Would a good physician advise a man to have all of the children he possibly could regardless of whether they would be healthy or not? Or would he advise the would be parent to be careful, and bring into life only children who are strong and healthy and who would make good citizens.

When this is made a political question, we will find the clerics all on one side, and the physicians on the other; the clergy will take the old religious views, the more the merrier, no matter even if they are idiots, imbeciles, cripples, blind, deaf and dumb, or harlots, just so there is an immense number of them to be ground down in toil and want, while the good physician will take the view that a restricted population of good sound, healthy men and women are a blessing and a benefit to any country.

In the early days of the Republic, the population was scant and grew slowly, but the men and women were hardy and strong; they cleared the wilderness and made homes, and made a good government; There were no slums, no red light districts, no organized crime, no

216

National paupers, no epidemics of ~~the~~ venereal disease, no asylums, nor jails filled to overflowing, but all lived a normal life with ~~under~~ a rude abundance, and now times have changed, the government has found it necessary to stop immigration as the cities are overcrowded with the criminal, the idle and the vicious, and it is high time the government put an end to conditions, that year after year filled the ranks of the vicious, criminal loafers by ignorant uncontrolled breeding; the government cannot permit any church or any self-appointed board of clerics to interfere with any function of the National Government, which is put into effect to protect the moral, social and financial security of the entire population of this country; the birth and rearing of future citizens of the Republic is as much a government care as the protection of its citizens now living, in fact a far greater responsibility.

At times there has been agitated in the Public Press ~~the~~ having the asylums and institutions of Churches yearly inspected by duly accredited representatives of the state, and every time this subject is mentioned, the clergymen of the country immediately fly into a blind rage, and attack this proposal with ~~all~~ all their hate and fury, why is this? Have they anything to conceal? If not why do they so strenuously object to public inspection; these Church institutions are all protected by the Police and fire departments, and ~~as~~ those are paid by the tax payers, the whole populace are paying the cost of protecting this Church property, and yet the Church claims it is insulting and unlawful for the state to require inspection.

All national and state institutions are subjected to yearly inspection, why should not the Church submit to the same rule; the church institutions are no more sacred than State Institutions, and should be subjected to the same regulations; do the churchmen fear the blinding light of publicity? Are they so conducting these institutions that they cannot afford to have their conduct opened to the broadlight of day? If private and Church Institutions are conducted on broad lines of good sense, good health, and good humane

management what need they fear; no church has an inherent right to secrecy in those matters simply because they are churches, they only have the right to conduct these institutions through public consent, and not through any church permission.

The government and the States should at once pass state and national laws demanding that all private, and church asylums and institutions should be thrown open yearly for inspection, by accredited agents of the state; the public have a perfect right to know how all of these institutions are conducted, the fire and police officials should be allowed to enter upon demand, and the light of publicity should be turned upon all that goes on in these places, how they are conducted, and if they are careful and are as good and safe as those of the state and nation.

The Churches maintain parochial schools which require the pupils to pay for their education in spite of the fact that the public schools are free to all without cost; the Catholic Church claimed at one time that their parochial schools were entitled to a part of the State School fund raised by taxes, in fact that they were entitled to receive a part of the state taxes, but this claim of theirs met with such wide-spread, and instant opposition, that they did not dare press it, the Catholic Clergy were too wise to raise the real temper of the public; it was certainly impudent of the Catholic Clergy to ask for public money for the benefit of their schools, for which they were making a money charge for tuition, when as a matter of fact the state should tax these parochial schools for they are business institutions being conducted for the purpose of making money.

The state should take a leaf out of the law of France which permits the Catholic Church to conduct Parochial^{schools}, but compels them by law to give exactly the same course of instruction as the state schools^{do}, this gives all of the children of France the same course of schooling, and if the Catholics prefer to pay for this, in their own schools rather than accept it free from their government schools, why that is the choice of the Catholics, but the French government sees to it that all children are given a proper education, while in this country, we do not seem to care what the parochial schools^{teach}, but the state should insist on inspecting parochial schools as well as church institutions, for the education of the children should be looked after by the state with extreme care and attention, and no church should be permitted to interfere with public

218

officials in their attention to this very necessary public duty; this country of ours is the melting pot of all religions, so we have a sample of all of them, and when people cannot find what they want in the numerous religions, what they think they may need, why they start a new one and no difficulty is encountered in ^{gaining} ~~gaining~~ recruits, for people here quit one creed and join another about as often as they follow the change of styles in clothing.

All churches and creeds are simply a licensed form of beggary; all churches and creeds are supported by contributions which is a polite form of begging, and they may resort to all kinds of schemes for raising money, for money, and not religion is the paramount issue with all creeds; the churches have permeated all of the corners of our life, and have even eased their way into the state and national government; the fathers left God out of the Constitution, but that did not prevent the clergy from insinuating themselves into the government; for instance, in the Senate, and the Congress, in the State Legislatures, and in the Army and Navy, you will find what are called Chaplains, professional Prayers, who are paid good salaries for the express purpose of praying.

The Senate is open with Prayer, and closed with Prayer, and let us ask what for? There is no record that any prayer ever prayed in the Senate ever stopped one piece of dirty legislation, or stealing in the Senate; all of the prayers of all of the Senate Chaplains could not stop one crooked deal; then why the contemptible hypocrisy of having a paid Prayerman, why spend the tax payers' money to give a fat salary to a smug Divine who is too lazy to work for an honest living; suppose the Senate appoints a Methodist preacher to be Senate Chaplain, all of the tax payers Catholic, Jew, Gentile, Pagan, and what not, are forced to pay this Methodist Divine for a very useless gesture made twice a day, while the Senate is in session, and to which not even the Senators themselves pay the slightest attention, is not this a small piece of political graft? Is not this a sop to the fanatical voters; the same thing in the House of Representatives where some very peculiar things are done, and when did any prayer by any preacher of the house put an end to vicious or crooked legislation; the whole thing is sly canting two-faced ^Rhypocrisy, nothing more or nothing less; the state Legislatures are smirched with the same dirty stick, the same sanctimonious

219
stealing of the public funds, if praying could save the tax payers' money, and prevent crooked deals, it would be money well spent, but there is no record of any and all praying ever being of the slightest benefit to the public, but the cowardly legislators in craven fear attempt to cover up their tracks by a cheap bribe to the churches to keep the churches from criticising their crooked work.

The same graft pertains to the army and navy; each regiment, and each ship must have a Chaplain who is paid a fat salary to pray, and what they are to pray for, we cannot see, ~~and~~ unless in battle they are to pray to their God to whip hell out of the other fellow; a nice piece of canting hypocrisy, to have to pay a cleric to intercede with Jehovah and have him help you to shoot the life out of your neighbor; all of this Chaplain business is church graft, and nothing more, it is cheap graft of the Legislators at public expense; men too lazy to earn a living by honest work, are ordained ministers, and go through life living a useless existence, producing nothing, consuming all, working one day a week, and loafing six days, begging for better salaries, begging for half-fares, and half-prices, public begging and perfectly useless, a blot on the nation, a drain on public and private pocket books.

Let any man show where all of the prayers of all of the Chaplains ever saved a dollar of public funds, or when their prayers ever stopped or prevented a war, or stopped a piece of any crooked legislation; there is not one known instance in the history of the country, and the farce goes on year after year; not one Senator, or Representative has the courage to rise to his feet in Congress, and openly denounce this petty contemptible clerical graft, not one has the nerve to try to put an end to the policy of permitting clerical grafters to put their saintly hands elbows deep into the public treasury.

Only one prayer is spoken of in United States history that is worth repeating, and that was prayed at the battle of Buena Vista by General Taylor; on the morning of the battle, five thousand of Americans found themselves confronted by twenty thousand Mexicans; the Adjutant called upon General Taylor to offer a prayer before the battle; so ~~that~~ ^{Taylor} mounted his white horse, and rode to the front ranks, raised his white hat, and prayed as follows: "O Lord be with us this day, be with us this day O Lord if you can, but if you can't just step aside and you will see the damnedest fight you ever saw."

That was the finest and best prayer ever recited on a battle field, and no Chaplain ever prayed a better one, or one more effective, and it is possible Jehovah paid more attention to it than he would to the effort of a paid professional prayer, it is hard to choose which is the most contemptible, the Legislator's cowardice or the Preacher's graft.

A preacher in a small town in a Western state drawing a salary of \$2,000.00 a year, received a call to a larger city, where he was offered \$6,000.00; upon his arrival at his new position, there was a love-feast amongst his new brethren; with loud rejoicing he proclaimed he had been called to his new pastorate by God himself, and this new place was to be his life-work by the call of the Lord; about two years after he received a call from a church in the East at salary of \$10,000.00, so he at once notified his congregation he must leave them, and go east for the Lord again had called him at an increase of salary so he must leave them; as it was the Lord had made a mistake the first time, and then rectified it, and if he is called again to some other location at a still higher salary, it will be another mistake of the Lord; you will notice that the Lord's call is always when there is a large increase in salary; there is not a single record of any preacher ever being called upon by the Lord to accept a call at a smaller salary; perhaps he would designate that a call from Satan.

In this country when Mexico is mentioned, we have a way of faintly smiling, shrugging our shoulders, and generally putting on a superior air, giving our judgment of the Mexicans as uncivilized, and we will say semi-barbarians; now the fact of the matter is, the Mexican Statesmen have more political sense and courage than we have, which they displayed during the past few years; the Catholic Church had dominated Mexico for hundreds of years in state religions and schools, until Dias was driven out of Mexico; patriotic Mexicans seized the ~~xxx~~ reins of power, and built up a good state government, and when the political power was firmly within their grasp, they sternly abolished the Catholic Church, foreign priests were banished, the nuns were forbidden to teach in parochial schools, they limited the number of priests and strictly ~~forbade~~ forbade the church mixing in politics; at one fell stroke, they did more for real liberty and education than we have in the past one hundred years, a monument to patriotism, unselfishness, and good government.

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We have ~~neither~~ the courage nor the good sense to follow Mexico's good example; we must stick to our old nonsensical position of non-interference in religions which really turns out to be religious license; we not only leave religion free, but permit it to practice all kinds of graft, not seeing like the Mexican statesmen that religion is a simple graft, and a blight on the country on education, and a stumbling block to sensible thinking; for a hundred years the preachers held the people in subjection by the fear of hell-fire; hell was shouted, and preached until one could smell the brimstone, but finally science made us smile at the mention of a religious hell, so the preachers gradually let hell alone, and began to bribe us with the religious heaven when we die; this worked too for some time until the people began to ask for some heaven on this earth during life; this put the preacher in a quandry until they discovered the one great scheme to re-habilitate their profession; they discovered, and brought into being prohibition, the last stand of the preacher.

This question had been agitated for a long time, but during the Great War while two millions of our sons were in the Army and Navy and could not vote, the preacher saw his chance, and forced this issue to the front; by working on the cowardice of Congress, they forced this legislation through the Congress, and it was courageously vetoed by President Wilson in a stinging message that exposed the canting hypocrisy of the whole filthy mess; Wilson pointed out its grave errors, but to no avail, the preachers were in the saddle, and they rode the horse of fanatical bigotry to destruction; the bill was passed over the President's veto, and became the law of the land.

Hell broke loose all over the country; homes were converted into saloons, booze was made in cellars, bath tubs, stables, allies, and beer-running and rum-running became big business; murder became an every day occurrence, all laws were violated with impunity, and all respect for law died out in the land; in ten years of prohibition the United States became the most lawless country upon the face of the earth; millions were lost to the country in taxes, and millions of the tax payers' money was spent in a vain endeavor to enforce a rotten law that could not possibly be enforced; where the prohibitionist made their big mistake was ~~xxxxx~~ in closing distilleries, and breweries only, for to enforce prohibition

properly they should also have closed the Groceries, for when a man can buy sugar and fruit in a grocery, he can make all the booze he wants in his own home.

The loss by prohibition in this country can never be estimated, the loss in revenue, the cost in murder and organized crime, in open disrespect for all ~~the~~ law, the actual loss is dumbfounding, and the blind fanatics who fostered this ~~a~~ pernicious legislation upon the nation did not realize that you cannot change nature by an act of congress.

While the preacher is to be blamed for this blot on twentieth Century civilization, the cowardly congress is still more to be blamed, for had congress the slightest spark of manhood, they would have defied the insolent Church demand, and killed the idea at once, but no, they were scared stiff at the Church threat to defeat at the polls all members who did not actively support this rotten legislation; so cowardly congressmen, and Senators voted Dry, and drank wet; booze by the buckets for the rich, and bath-tub whisky, and home brew for the poor, a civilized country gone mad, the asylums, and jails filled to overflowing, the boot-legger, the Big income Tax payer, murderers hired by the day, and paid by the piece at regular scheduled prices for killing; a population lost to all sense of decency law and order; and the Church and preacher perfectly satisfied.

You will notice one thing in the National Prohibition Law, and that is, no layman was permitted to buy booze; the President, the Members of the Supreme Court, and even the Congressmen themselves could not buy a drink, but take notice that the clerics could; by a nice smooth piece of sublime trickery, they inserted a clause in the prohibition law that a cleric could buy all of the wine, whisky and beer he wanted for sacerdotal purposes; was not that a nice slick trick on their part? Did not the preacher see to it that they could get all the booze they wanted regardless of the desires of the rest of us? And the preacher could buy and drink his booze, and as an excuse would say that he drank it for his stomach's sake, of course the rest of us took it to get drunk, and to add to our shame the United States Courts were converted into common police courts, having to set aside public questions of merit in order to occupy the time of the courts in trying police cases pertaining to boot-legging, and beer-peddling in homes and flats.

At last the public revolted; in 1928, the Democratic Convention nominated as its Candidate for the Presidency Alfred Smith, Governor of New York one of the very best men ever nominated for that exalted office; he at once boldly, and courageously denounced the prohibition law, and demanded that it be repealed; this at once made it a political issue, the most important issue before the nation, and it can be stated as a fact that had Smith been a protestant, he would have been elected President; but when the election was held, we beheld the most astonishing exhibition of fanaticism and bigotry, unparalleled in our history.

Smith was a splendid executive, a man of unblemished character a good husband and father, and without doubt would have left the imprint of his genius upon the pages of Presidential history, and in spite of that he was defeated at the polls; Catholics, Jews, atheists, pagans, philosophers, good citizens, all marched to the polls and voted for this man, and the good loving followers of the gentle Jesus rushed to the polls, and defeated this man for the sole reason that he was a Catholic; the Solid South, solidly protestant, solidly voted against Smith on account of his religious views, forgetting his fine principles, his fine personal character in their blind hatred of another Christian Creed; it almost makes one ashamed of being a voter in this country when men ^{qualified} ~~qualify~~ to vote sensibly stoop to such petty meanness; so that the biggots had their way, the Republican party won the election, and the whole government was in the hands of that party, and proceeded to give us the most disastrous, incompetent administration in the history of the Republic.

After twelve years of incompetence, the Hoover Administration by imbecile child-like ~~xx~~ stupidity, allowed the country to reach the brink of ruin, during the worst panic in the history of the Republic, a panic caused by the incompetence of ~~fx~~ three purile administrations, and during this panic, the President did nothing; he was so frightened and bewildered, and too timid to make a bold move to stop the panic, and had some childish hope - a miracle of some kind would happen to save him from his frightful dilemma; but the miracle makers were not on the job, so this weak President left to his own devices, gave the most sorry exhibition of purile incompetence ever seen in public office; the country

224

went from bad to worse, banks failed by the thousands, thirteen million men were thrown on the streets without work, and ~~men~~ became public charges; private charity had to feed the hungry, the capitalistic system of the country was proved a flat failure, and most of the evil was caused by the fanatical hatred of good Christians who ~~threw~~ ^{through} personal hatred kept a competent out of the Presidential office, and elected instead a mean tempered political clown.

The year 1932 saw the beginning of the end of the prohibition farce. The democratic nominee, a fine upright citizen, headed the ticket, a man brave enough to state his position on public questions openly and without fear; this man denounced national prohibition with all of his might, he did not straddle the question, and carry water on both shoulders, but boldly took his stand, and let the voters know exactly what he would do if elected; the result was, he won an overwhelming victory at the polls, and to his lasting humiliation Hoover found himself the worst defeated candidate whoever ran for the office in a straight decision between two candidates.

Since then, the wisdom of the voters has been abundantly proven, the panic is almost at an end, business is reviving, and one of the big helps to an increase in confidence was the wisdom of President Roosevelt in opening the Breweries at once, thereby putting thousands of men to work and creating a demand for all kinds of commodities, and a different spirit is already observed in people, there is again a friendliness and good fellowship when men meet, and we do not snoop around with long drawn faces, the picture of woe; the only woe, and doleful whining now, is observed amongst our prohibition preachers who see the hand-writing on the wall, and who know that the death of prohibition spells the death of the stranglehold of the Christian Clergymen upon the minds of the people, and the politics of the country.

The United States like all other nations, and all other races had to have their own God; there were several Gods here to be sure, but they were brought in from the outside, imported Gods as it were; that was all right in the beginning, but we waxed rich and prosperous, and became egotistical and boastful, so the time arrived when we must ~~have a God of~~ ^{have a God of} our very own like every other nation had in the past, and so we made our own God, and set him up to worship.

and when we did, we made the meanest, most contemptible God ever made by men, and like the Gods made by all other races; this God we made is an exact counter-part of ourselves, the God we made is the true American God- a true reflection of ourselves, of our national and private character- the God we made and set up to worship, is the great American God- Mammon; Mammon is our God, the Courts are his temple, the plutocrats are his Bishops, and the lawyers are his priests.

To us the Supreme thing in the world is the Almighty dollar, so we set our God Mammon upon the throne of the Wall Street Temple with a Dollar Sign as his halo; on his right - a statue of Morgan, a Stock Ticker in his hand, and on his left, Rockefeller anointed with oil; our Grand Trinity to whom all good Americans must bow in worship.

Since plutocracy took possession of the minds of the people and the function of government, personal character has been lost sight of; no man is respected for his honesty, integrity, politeness and truthfulness, he is only respected if he has a fat bank balance; no matter how he ~~xxx~~ acquires it, it may be tainted or stolen, that does not make a particle of difference, he is looked up to as one of our first and best citizens if he has enough of the symbols of Mammon; there was a period in United States history when good character was the hall-mark of a gentleman, but that is all gone by the board, the idea is now to grab all you can in any way whatever, regardless of whether it injures your neighbor or society in general, and whether you are slick and smooth enough to keep out of the penitentiary, even crime is respectable if you can make it pay, and the front page hero of our newspapers is Al Capone.

Standard Oil a book by Ida Tarbell crucifies John D. Rockefeller for the crimes committed by the Standard Oil Company, and yet that good Christian Organization, the Baptist Church, cannonizes Rockefeller; do the Baptist Pastors and Deacons care how Rockefeller acquired his wealth? Do they know his money is tainted, and do they ~~greedily~~ ^{greedily} accept his gifts, knowing it is tainted money? or does the gift of stolen money to a Church clean and sanctify it; did not Jesus scourge the money changers from the temple? And would Jesus receive tainted money were he here today? That is a question that our good Baptist brethren should answer.

Most of the evils in American life are caused by two pronounced

226

and vicious parts of our civilization; lawyers and courts, the outstanding failure of our country is our Court System, National and State, no nation in the world has more or worse courts than in this country; there are thousands of courts in the United States from ~~the~~ the United States Supreme Court, down to the Justice Court at the cross-roads; United States Supreme Court, District of Columbia Supreme Court, State Supreme Courts, City Courts, County Courts, and last of all, Justice of the Peace Courts; and of all of these, not a single court of the United States is a Court of Justice, they are all courts of law.

Do we understand the difference? Well a court of law is a place where all trickery, small lawyers can befog and befuddle a case before the court, using the court to give a display of their forensic ability in technicality, evasion, delay, confusion, and to show ~~x~~ how smart they are in having all cases decided not by the truth in the case, but by their ability to conceal the Truth; a court of justice is a court where truth and right prevail, regardless of precedent or technicality; a court where exact justice is rendered in all decisions, and when the court is conducted by the Judge, and not by tricky lawyers.

Note the difference between the Courts of the United States and the Courts of England; in the English Courts the Judge is appointed by the Crown; he presides in all cases fairly and impartially, he alone conducts a trial, he allows no needless delay, and the cases are conducted with fairness and dispatch, and the decisions are rendered on the merits of the case only, even and exact justice to all; while in the United States Courts, the lawyers run the courts, and even a murder trial in this country is sometimes turned into a monkey circus.

Technicality and delay, precedent, perjury, jury-fixing, appeal upon appeal. insulting brow-beating of decent witnesses by bullying lawyers are a regular practice in our courts, none of which are tolerated in the courts of England, and the result is, justice is lost sight of, and most of our citizens when they become wise, shun our courts like the plague, for places that should be our refuge in time of trouble, actually repulse us in fear and trembling.

In our courts a poor man seeking justice or protection from a rich man, is lost from the very beginning, for worshipping wealth as we do the rich man is a godly saintly man, and the ~~man~~ mantle of protection of the courts is thrown about him, besides he is able to hire a battery of high priced tricky lawyers who cannot only befuddle the case, but can cause endless delays with the assistance and contrivance of the Judge until the poor man seeking justice is driven to despair, and feels in the long run that he was lucky if he came out of the case alive; every law court in the United States should be abolished, and Courts of Justice set up in their place, and if we have not the ability to do this, to wipe out all of our old useless statutes, and tecnichalities, then we should wipe our slate clean of all of our laws, national and state, and substitute for them the Civil, and Criminal laws of Great Brittain.

The law is the one profession ~~in this country~~ in this country whose members prostitute their talents for dirty money; all other professional men take a personal pride in their profession considering it an honor to keep their standing in their profession a matter of personal dignity and honor, but not so the lawyer who considers that all fish that comes to his net are his to eat, even if they are so rotten they stink to the sky; a lawyer will defend a cold blooded murder with every kind of perjury, bribery, jury tampering, and trickery, provided the murderer pays him a large fee, notwithstanding the fact that the lawyer has taken an oath to uphold justice; a lawyer will take the money stolen by a burgler, and with that stolen money he will find any crooked loophole to keep the thief from being punished; lawyers always defending the criminal, never protecting the public.

There are differnt grades of lawyers as there are different grades of dogs; we have the ambulance chaser forcing his way into homes where there is trouble, sorrow and pain, trying to smell out a dollar; then there are the shysters who are continually planning fake injury claims against citizens and corporations; then we have the Civil Lawyers past masters in the art of delay and cost; and finally the Criminale lawyers, the masters of chicannery, perjury and delay; but the grandest of all, the High Priest of the Lowest profession is the Corporation lawyer. the arch hypocrit of all, the one who does more damage

to the population of the country than all of the rest of the lawyers put together.

The corporation lawyers as a rule begin at the bottom like the others with petty trials, in Justice and Civil Courts, and if it is discovered that he is slick and smart, he is retained by a Railroad, and if he shows marked ability as a railroad lawyer, he may be raised to the exalted position of corporation lawyer, and he has reached the top of his profession, and is paid the princely salary of \$100,000.00 per year; now is he paid that huge salary to show the Corporation how to obey the law? Don't fool yourself, he is paid that salary to ~~point~~ ^{point} out to the officers of the corporation how they can circumvent defy and nullify the law of the land by legal trickery, and to show the officers of the corporation how closely they can violate the criminal law of the land without danger of going to prison.

Let us see how things work out; lawyers are elected to the Legislatures and Congress to make our laws; do they make the laws so plain that any sensible man can interpret them? They certainly do not, they confuse the law in such a manner that no man really knows what it means the lawyers least of all, so out of this confusion, comes law-suits, contentions that are the body and the breath of the lawyers; these laws are so built up by lawyers that man can only guess what they mean, and any lawyer or court can interpret them in any way to suit his case or opinion.

Corporation lawyers finally land in the Congress, and proceed to make laws to govern the nation; a law is made in the Congress to regulate corporations, and the Corporation ~~lawyers~~ ^{lawyers} who made it, are very careful to leave loopholes in that law large enough to drive an elephant through; well the law is passed and signed by the President, ~~and~~ ^{and} at once the Corporations take the law to Court for a test case, and the search is at once made to find the loophole, and loo and behold it is there, conveniently placed there by the corporation lawyers in the Congress, the technicality is found, precedent is brought into the case, and some moss-back decision fifty years old is brought forward to settle the matter and the law as a restraint on the illegal practice of the corporation is declared null and void.

No lawyer should under any circumstances be elected or appointed

to public office; the constitution should be amended, prohibiting lawyers from holding public office, especially an office which permits them to have any hand in shaping laws for the government of the country; the very men who should be disqualified from making laws are the lawyers. For experience teaches us that lawyers should never be permitted to deliberately make laws which cannot be understood; all lawyers should be paid a stipulated salary by the state; they should be carefully examined before admittance to practice, and the examination should be conducted by the Government, they should be examined not only for legal ability, but for character, honesty and truthfulness and integrity, and when accepted by the State as practitioners, they should receive a salary the same as our Judges; they would then be servants of the people, devoting ~~their~~ talents to the cause ^{of} ~~xxxx~~ right, and not to the cause of injustice, wrong and crime.

Judges should also be appointed by the Nation for life during good behavior; they would not then be influenced by politicians, or by crooked wealth; ~~xx~~ the courts under those conditions would become marks of truth, justice and equity, and no citizen would then fear the law, or be afraid to take a just case to court, but the crooks and evil doers would shun the courts, and most of our public criminals would disappear.

The fear of punishment does not deter crime, it is the certainty of punishment that criminals fear, that is why over twelve thousand murders a year in the United States, and only fifty five a year in the Kingdom of Great Brittain; in the Unites States, the criminal has a ninety per cent chance of escaping punishment, while in England, punishment is as certain as fate.

There are entirely too many laws, state and national, in this country, and not only too many of them, but the Congress and Legislatures continue to grind them out by the thousands, when as a matter of fact, and good sense, they should put in their time wiping old useless laws off of the books; it would keep our legislatures busy a long time, cutting out old forgotten useless timber, in fact if all law was abolished, and the golden Rule made the law of the land, there would be far more just decisions rendered by our courts; civil strife between good citizens would cease, and abject fear would enter the heart of the criminal, and cause him to mend his ways; a spasmodic attempt to enforce the criminal law is useless and a waste

of time; the criminal should never be coddled, sympathy is wasted on him, and maudlin sentimentality is silly; a criminal is usually criminal through choice, or because he is too lazy to work for a living, and wants to steal a living at the expense of men willing to work for what they get; so the criminal should be suppressed by the iron hand of deadly certain & punishment; in that case we would not have gang murders on the public streets, bank robberies by force of arms in broad daylight, and the supreme crime of abduction which is a public disgrace to this country, and to civilization itself.

No criminal should be admitted to release on bond while he is already under indictment for a felony, that is the height of folly, he commits a felony and is arrested and released on bond, and is turned loose on the community to rob some good citizen at the point of a gun to steal money to pay crooked lawyers to keep him out of jail; a man committing his first crime, may be admitted to bail, but should he commit another crime while out on bond, he should be locked up to remain in confinement until he is tried acquitted or punished; when a criminal under indictment out on bond commits another crime, it is the direct fault, and is caused by the officers of the law, the law and the courts, a condition that cries to the skies to be remedied.

There are numerous religions in the United States, and any man can join any one of them he might choose, and if he don't like any of them he can start a little religion of his own, that is what is known as religious freedom, and it is used by smart men to their own advantage as in the case of Joseph Smith, who made the Mormon Church and religion; Joseph like a great many others, started his religion with a fine miracle; an angel whispered in his ear where some metal plates were buried upon which were inscribed the ^{ETS} ~~Ten~~ of this new Creed; Joseph must have read the Old Testament, and how Jehovah gave Moses the Ten Commandments, chiseled out of stone; Joseph went that one better; his ~~six~~ instructions were on metal, possibly solid gold or platinum; at any rate he wrote his Bible. and made his religion, and people joined the new religion in droves, for it encouraged polygamy, and this permitted promiscuous unlimited sexual indulgence which seems to be relished by certain types of abnormal men and women.

The Mormons finally settled in Utah, and built up a rich, pros-

231

perous community, and to increase their revenue and keep out the profane, they formed a gang of professional murderers called Danites who robbed and murdered for years for the glory of the church, and to fill its coffers with stolen plunder, this church and its officers became so defiant that the government was finally forced to send an army to Utah to force these Criminals to obey the law, it took years of time and great effort to force the Mormons to obey the government, and even the Congress itself finally had to suppress polygamy; the State of Utah today is practically run by the Mormon Church, and the State is rotten to the core, for the Mormon Church is now known for what it really is; a vast heartless money making scheme.

A whole Library could be written of the large number of religions and creeds in this country, but it would be very dry useless reading; all of them are organized to make money which is the root and aim of all religions; should the government pass a law that all ministers and priests would be compelled to labor six days a week for a living and then be permitted to preach on Sunday, not a priest or minister would remain in the profession, none of them would remain in a position where they had to work all week and preach in the pulpit one day, when they now loaf six days a week, and make a pretense of working Sunday.

It is to be noted that from the beginning of religion, the clergy have been the most idle part of the population; never working, never producing, but always first class consumers, ever living on the fat of the land, always official public beggars, and every religion on earth has been conducted for the express purpose of money making and gaining political power.

An educated Frenchman visited this country, and after a month's stay amongst friends in the East, he was asked by a newspaper man, how he liked the United States, he replied: that he liked the country very much, but could not understand it, and upon being asked why, he said he had observed things closely in the United States, and that he could not understand why we had sixty seven kinds of religion, and only one kind of soup.

We lack culture, the art of painting, sculpture, music, drama, they are all beyond our capacity, our idea of music is Jazz, our idea of drama, is the leg show, the bedroom comedy, or the musical comedy;

we lack good manners, and common politeness, there is no respect for old age, or high character, but we do keep all of our sixty seven religions going, for we must always remain sanctimonious, smug hypocrits.

FAKE

CHAPTER XX

C O N C L U S I O N .

A question to be answered by all sane, sensible logically reasoning people is, has religion been a blessing, or a detriment to the human race; it is answered here and now, finally and decisively that all religions from the beginning of man until today have been a curse to humanity; all men-made Gods and man-made religions have been a detriment to their own country, or a curse to the country into which they have been imported.

No church or priest has ever ^{borne} ~~held~~ aloft the torch of liberty humanity, brotherly love, education or science, but all of them have instilled terror, fear, hatred and cupidity in the hearts and minds of the people; without the aid of religion or priests the ancient Greeks taught the world pure science, astronomy, architecture, geometry, and all clear ways of thinking, while modern philosophers have lighted the torch of knowledge and held it up to the gaze of man in spite of Holy Church.

The profane invented hospitals to heal the sick and poor, while the Church invented the torture chamber to wrack the bodies of men; which was the noblest, the pen of Voltaire that stopped torture in the prisons, or the Spanish Inquisition of the Catholic Church that invented prison torture.

A laborer who has fed a hungry man is entitled to respect far more than a man who has taught his fellow-man to religiously ^{ATE} ~~hate~~ his neighbor; why should a man fear a God, or why should a man fear the unknown; we can all fear and shun evil, we know that is a natural condition of man's mind; we avoid evil because we know it is harmful and will corrupt, but how can a man offend a God, for a God to be a God must be the Creator of man, and the whole universe, and ~~how~~ would a grand God the Creator of the Universe stoop so low as to torture an erring mortal? That idea is so ridiculous that it almost makes one burst into ribald laughter.

And why should the Supreme Creator of the Universe expect billions of men to pray to him and adore him; is he so egotistical, so

egocentric, such a pompous vain God filled with ego-mania that it flatters his vanity to have the crawling insects men ~~fall~~ fall on their marrowbones and abjectly worship him? If God was that narrow-minded, vain and pompous, decent men would turn from him in disgust, for all men shun a fool who seeks flattery, and fawning, and a God with a big job on his hands of running the whole universe would have little time on his hands to keep track of the errors of mankind who cannot help try as hard as they can from making mistakes; what would we think of the despotic emperor of a great country, who would burn a boy or girl at the stake for cursing him, we would certainly call him a blood thirsty demon, and yet that would be very humane compared with the threats of punishment, meted out by the great supreme God of the universe.

The trouble with all man made religions is that they are based upon fear, hatred and greed; none of them are based on humanity, brotherly love, or charity; a good many religions preach those lovely virtues, but they take mighty good care not to practice them; religions are made for the priests, all the real benefits of religion revert to the priests; if it was not for that fact, religion would have died out a long while ago, for no institution can survive a long time unless it pays, and the priests have made religion pay them a thousand fold, and mark it well when religion quits paying, as a money making institution, there will be no more priests.

One of the queer things invented by the religionists is sin, and in all nature there is no such thing as sin, that is strictly man-made; no animal, bird fish or insect can sin, no matter how much they damage us, it is not sin, it is only humans that can sin; what is a religious sin? It can only be an offense against a God, just that and nothing more, but to a sensible man, there are only two sides to behavior- right and wrong. We know when we do right, and we know when we do wrong, when man commits a wrong against a man, society or the state, he is punished for his wrong doing, if it is a criminal offense, he goes to jail, and if a ~~social~~ social offense he is shunned by his fellow man, but in all cases, he is punished.

How a man can offend the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, is a question no man on ~~earth~~ can answer, nor can a man try as hard as he may

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injure a deity, and for the Church to make everything we do a sin is laughable; besides the idea of sin violates every rule of human justice which proclaims that no man should be punished twice for the same offense; a man commits murder, and the law hangs him by the neck until he is dead, and then the Church condemns him to hell to be burnt for all eternity, this man is clearly punished twice for the same offense, is that a law of God? And if it is, is God fair and just? We should say decidedly not; if a man violates the moral code, he is punished either by the criminal law, which sends a man to jail for such an offense; he may be ostracised by his fellow men which is another severe punishment, or he may contract a bad personal disease which is still worse, at any rate he is punished, even if by his conscience only, and yet the clerics tell us he will be punished in the hereafter for the same offense; let us state here that there is no such thing as a sin, and sin is only a thing invented by priests for their own particular benefit, there is only a right and wrong, and wrong is always punished.

Prayer is another thing invented by the priests, and is far sillier even than sin, for a prayer is either an appeal to the deity to change his mind, a plea for some special favor, or a piece of gross flattery; it is dry in Kansas, God has made it dry, by shutting off the rain, so all the preachers and people pray to God to change his mind, and make it rain; it is raining hard in Ohio at the same time, and the people and clergy of Ohio, pray God to change his mind and shut off the rain; both sets of Christians praying to the same God, and at the same time to change his mind, as though God did not know the right thing to do at that time; God sends the scarlet fever to a baby, and all instantly pray God to relieve the child, and cure it at once, but if the child dies, it must be said that God deliberately killed that child by giving it scarlet fever and paid no attention to prayers for its relief; all the prayers on earth cannot prevent deaths by smallpox, but inoculation can; prayers cannot stop any epidemical disease, by serums can, if a child has whooping cough do we send for a minister, or a physician; all of this talk of the efficacy of prayer is sheer nonsense, all of the prayers of all of the people on earth prayed in unison would not save a single life, and there is no record of any prayer ever made which caused the deity to change his mind.

236

The laws of the nation and the states should strictly prohibit the teaching of fear and hatred to children; young boys and girls are sent to Sunday School ^{where} ~~when~~ ^{ei} ~~their~~ tender plastic minds are filled with the ^ohorror of burning hell fire, terrible devils and a vengeful angry God; these horrible stories are never forgotten, fear is instilled in to those children which follows them throughout life, and to their deathbed; the fear haunts them to their ^{dying} ~~eyes~~ breath; why permit this cursed practice of permitting the tender minds of our children to be poisoned by fear and horror, if the clerics want to instruct people in their religion why not wait until they are through the public school, and then give them religious instruction, but ~~but~~ no, the clerics are not satisfied to wait for fear they would have no success in hammering their nonsense into the heads of educated men and women; trap them when they are young, and innocent, that is the rule of the preachers and priests, and the day will come when the public will demand that the state put ~~an~~ an end to this vicious practice.

Religious organizations and ministers seem to think they have some inherent rights and privileges which belong to them alone, and simply because they are religious, while as a matter of fact, no religion is entitled to any privilege that cannot be enjoyed by any person, society or the state; the churchmen seem to think that they can operate hospitals orphan asylums and schools without supervision or inspection by the state; that position is entirely wrong; all religious institutions of every description should be rigidly inspected by state officials, for there should be no secrecy in the conduct of these institutions whether they are hospitals, asylums or schools; the health, teaching, feeding and medical care ~~of~~ of all inmates and pupils should be carefully watched by the state and ~~in~~ the full light of publicity turned on all institutions, religious, public and state; as all boys and girls are the future citizens of the nation, their up-bringing and education is of paramount interest to the nation, and the very best care should be exercised to see that they have proper instructions, proper nutriment that their minds are improved, nor filled with superstition, fear and hatred for their fellow-man, and all religious organizations should be compelled to recognize the authority of the state in governing and educating children, and in bringing them to manhood and womanhood good clean patriotic citizens, without fear, without super-

237

stitution, but with love in their hearts for all of their fellow citizens
a firm love of Country, and an abiding faith in humanity and brotherly
love.

The Churches so fear the light of reason penetrating the minds of
their communicants that they go so far as to prohibit them reading cer-
tain books, as though reading certain things would injure them; why they
do this is because they themselves fear the communicants of their churches
might become well educated, and ^{learning} ~~learn~~ to think for themselves, be able to
see through some of the nonsense taught as religious belief, what the
clerics fear is the light of science and philosophy entering the minds of
their dupes.

Each religion would abolish all other religions if it had
the power, they pretend to love one another, but that is rank hypocrisy,
they actually hate each other, and the only thing lacking to show that
hatred is that they lack the power to persecute, torture and punish; the
churchmen ^{backing} ~~backing~~ prohibition applauded public officers who murdered citi-
zens when making arrests for the violation of the National Prohibition
Law, and they insisted upon ~~sending~~ sending men and women to the penitentiary
for selling a glass of beer; this bears out our contention that clerics
are as ready as ever to use force and torture when they have the oppor-
tunity and to gain their own ends, and feather their own nests, for re-
ligions tolerate each other only, they are afraid to quarrel amongst them-
selves for fear the public would get wise and have nothing to do with the
whole fighting mess.

Read the news today from Germany, and note the religious hatred
injected into German Government and politics, and you will observe the
old religious hatred creeping forth because it has gained some temporal
power, all clerics would force all people to worship their particular
way if they could, and all of them would force us to attend a religious
service and contribute to the support of the clergy if they dared, but
they dare not, they are too smart to bring those matters to an issue, for
once the public is really aroused to the aims and dangers of religions
that will spell the end of all religions. ⁺ Lack of intelligence in the
voter was the cause of prohibition being saddled upon the country; as a
matter of fact 85% of the voters are not qualified to vote intelligently
and that is one reason why so many unfit men are elected to office;

most votes are decided by prejudice and ignorance; voters flock to the polls to vote the same old ticket every election, regardless of great issues involved, and the venal ignorant vote which is the great majority decides the elections in this country; there should be an educational qualification in all free countries, no man or woman should be permitted to cast a ballot unless they can read, and properly interpret the constitution of the country, and a ballot in the hands of the vicious and ignorant is a menace to the nation and to civilization.

All education should be in the hands of the state, all parochial schools should be abolished by law, and if the constitution does not permit that, at least parochial schools should be compelled to give the very same instructions as the Public Schools; this is the national law of France, and should be the national law of the United States; no parochial school has an inherent right to bind and fetter the minds of children; and all education and instruction to children should be in the hands of secular teachers; under no circumstance should religionists be permitted to instruct future citizens of the Republic; this is so plainly the duty of the state that it is surprising the government has not taken steps to put such a law and order into effect; we must always remember that good education is the very life of civilization; not a single function of Government should be of more importance than the proper bringing up of children, that should be the foremost and most important task of all nations, and especially of the United States where so many different creeds may sow so many evils in the minds of the young.

There are many failures in our civilization, our ^{La} religions are a failure, our laws and courts are a failure, and ~~our~~ worst of all our boasted capitalistic system is a rank failure; the terrible four years panic has proven this to be a fact, but the main cause of our failure is our corporation laws or lack of laws; what really caused the panic was watered stock, or in other words, business thievery; when a share of watered stock is issued and sold to the public, it is plain stealing, no matter if it is called business, it is nothing but theft; most of the value of stocks in the year 1929 was wind and water, and all who ever issued and sold those stocks, were public thieves; holding companies

were the same, only a legal method of ~~stealing~~ the fool public's money.

No corporation should be given a charter unless the full capital stock is paid in, and no further increase of stock should be permitted that corporation, unless new capital is placed in the business to the same amount as the stock issued; this would prevent watered stock being placed upon ^{the} ~~to~~ market, and prevent gambling in those stocks; and all corporations should only be permitted to do one certain line of work, and if it should attempt to do something not specifically permitted in the charter, the charter should be revoked, and the corporation forbidden to do business.

No state should be permitted to grant a charter to any corporation doing an interstate business; that is a function of the National Government; a state having loose incorporation laws can grant a Charter to a company for the express purpose of doing things that other states forbid; that is only another grave failure in our corporation^s and ~~have~~ ^{has} been the direct cause of a large amount of corporation thievery and trickery; one national law for all corporations, no watered stock, and no holding companies, and we may some day reach a state of sanity and honesty in our business world.

All dividends should be paid in cash; issuing stocks in place of dividends is simply a plain device for watering the stock; it adds more stock outstanding, but does not increase the value of the company's property one dollar, so it is plainly a device to fool and rob the public; at the same time, companies should be prohibited from voting bonuses to their officers, for that is money due the holders of the stock, which should be paid to them as dividends, and not voted into the rapacious pockets of highly paid officers of the company.

The question often enters ~~xxx~~ ^a man's mind and makes him pause and think, the question is who made the devils? Some one must have made them, or did they make themselves, and was hell made expressly for the devil, or was it made as a place to punish man; do the devils really enjoy tempting and torturing men? And were the devils created for that one particular purpose?

If devils were created for some other purpose, what could that other purpose have been; we cannot imagine, all we know, of them is that they are all around us, that they follow us day and night tempting us to do evil, so that they can have the fun of tormenting and burning us in their hell; and again we must ask who created them and what for? If Jehovah created them, he played a very ~~xxxxx~~^{shabby} trick on mankind; he could have left out the devils, and made more angels, horses and cows and would then have done a far better job of creating, and let man enjoy himself in peace, and not be tempted and bothered by countless devils; some times we are in grave doubt as to whether Jehovah created the devils or the priests did, and some even go so far as to give the honored credit to the priests.

We often wonder why when Jehovah made the angels, he did not make man an angel also, and an angel man who could not sin, then he would not have been put to the trouble of making hell and millions of devils; all men would then have gone straight to heaven, no hell, no purgatory; no religions, no priests and preachers, only peace, happiness and heaven for all; that would have been a sensible plan for Jehovah to have followed but for some reason he preferred to make a Pandora box of it. and he turn out the horrible mess this world of humanity is ; as a creator we class Jehovah as a rank failure, as almost any sane man could have made a vast improvement of the job.

Some times the memory of man reverts to childhood, and the deepest ~~xx~~ chords of memory are touched to their ~~pro~~^{pro}found depths, for the first impressions made upon the childish mind are never forgotten, they are indelibly stamped upon the brain, and they are the last clear memories we shall retain when the final summons calls us; we first remember hearing of an angry God who is always watching and spying upon a little boy, always trying hard to catch him doing something wrong, and threatening him with dire punishment; a God who loves you, and hated everything you did or wanted to do; and worst of all we were told we were born in sin, and were sinful by nature, so how could we hide from that awful frown-God who frightened us so we did not have time to love him, the love of God was not planted in our young hearts, but the fear of him was.

And there was satan and his devils who were everywhere, and laid all kinds of traps for us to make us sin, and make God angry,

241

so what could a poor little boy do, the devils tempted him day and night to sin which was natural, but if he did sin, he had to shiver with terror in abject fear of a very angry God; well do we remember the night-mares of terror when grinning demons sat upon the foot of the bed and drove us frantic with fear lest we should die during the night and the gleeful grinning imps would carry our poor little bodies down into hell for having told a little lie that day.

We can note the minister and his long drawn out prayers which did not seem to make us a bit better only sleepy and tired out, and how we had to put our money on the collection plate for no matter whatever else in the service missed that part of the serviced was as regular as the sun; then the stern admonishment to keep holy the sabbath, to be quiet, not to play, not to fidget when a boy itches on every square inch of his body, a day dull, dismal, dreary giving one the creeps, and bedtime was hailed with joy, for it was the end of the Holy Sabbath Day, and Monday was at hand and a boy could act natural again; the man who invented the Holy Sabbath was the first and most particular enemy of childhood, he and the fiend who invented the Sunday School should if the boys had their way, be hung, drawn, quartered and shot.

These memories continued through the mind until adolescence and then the change occurred, the ~~horrors~~ and fears had apparently lasted for ages and were ground almost into the bones, even the night dreams were at times filled with terror, for a devil is a real thing to a little boy who has been brought up on them, and the vivid imagination of a boy plays strange tricks on his mind asleep or awake.

But at last the brain formed, took shape, and reason took firm possession of the boy's mind, and then the day came when a flash of light penetrated the mind, and ~~and~~ after that, the whole world changed; A hand carelessly picks up a book, the book is read, and a new world is suddenly revealed; imagine a young keen searching mind reading Voltaire then Rousseau, Darwin, Newton, Huxley, Paine, and then another branch of knowledge is opened up, and the ~~youth~~ youth devours Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, La Place, and Pastuer a mental feast, and frantic search is made for more, and finally is discovered Pythagoras, Thalles, Archimides, Euclid, Plato, Homer, and the list of the immortals is almost complete.

From that day onward all fear, superstition, terror, and dread is vanished; no longer will the Horror of the unknown torture that youth's mind, which is now free, and can soar to the very heights of knowledge; no more does he dread angry Gods, or grinning devils, he feels sorry for the one and laughs at the other; God is placed in his proper place in the Bible, from which he never emerges again, while with a grin he sends the devil to hell.

When reason lights the mind, hate disappears, but scorn remains, that scorn which causes us to look with contempt upon all that is mean, base, tricky, superstitious and ignorant; that scorn for people who cannot, or who will not see, who deliberately close their mind to light reason and logic, who believe in every superstitious tale told them no matter how ridiculous, because they are not brave enough or courageous enough to do their own thinking.

Once let the light of reason penetrate a man's mind, can he change? Can he force himself to go back and believe in his childhood superstitions? There is not one chance in a life time of his doing so, for when once the light of reason enters a man's mind, it can never be expelled again as long as he is sane; for ten years hundreds of preachers can drive the devils and God into a boy's head until one would think those ideas were so deeply implanted they could never be forgotten or denied, and yet one day with Voltaire and the whole mass is swept into oblivion - never to return; that is the vital difference between superstition and fear, and pure reason; the one is accepted in fear and trembling, and the other is grasped with joy; the one narrows and closes the mind, the other opens and expands it, and fortunate is the youth who is able to come into contact with those sublime philosophers who taught us all world knowledge.

Let us see what the philosophers have given mankind; Astronomy, Physics, Geometry, Poetry, Music, Drama, Comedy, Medicine, Surgery, Hospitals, Government, Navigation, Education, and Hygienic, all human blessings have originated with the Philosophers, and what have the religions given us, superstition, fear, fanaticism, bigotry, torture, greed, cupidity, falsehood, ignorance, narrowness, dread, hypocrisy, all a blight and a menace to the human family, and not one single discovery for the

243

benefit of man ~~can~~ can be attributed to religion, the philosophers have done everything in the world for the good of mankind, and the religions have done everything they could to retard his progress, so which do we prefer, the philosophers and light, or the religions and blind darkness.

There ^{are} in the United States 204 Religious Bodies - just think of it, 204 different kinds of religions, each one preaching its own particular creed, and insisting that ^{theirs} ~~there~~ is the only true belief, and these religions own 241,690 churches, some of them costing as much as \$3,000,000. Jesus preached beneath trees, on a hill-side, or by a brook, but his clerics today must preach in costly churches, built at a great expense, a terrible waste of money, while millions of humans grovel in ~~the~~ filthy slums, living worse than animals; these religions support 231,358 ministers, all living in idleness, all non-producers, but all consuming the fat of the land; x just imagine it, 231,358 men perfectly useless, never doing a day's work in their lives, there are as many idle consuming ministers as there are inmates of our penitentiaries, and they are just about as useless, the only difference is we force the inmates of a penitentiary to do some kind of useful labor, while the minister may be as lazy as he pleases; the Bible says a man shall earn his bread by the sweat of his face, but the minister gets his bread at the expense of his fellow man; pay me a big good salary and -I will pray for you; my goodness what an easy way to make a living. Any good man will pray for any man who thinks he needs it without charging him a cent; that is the way the profane thinks about it, but not the minister, if he must intercede with God in your behalf you must pay him ~~the~~ the coin, for salvation is free in the imagination only, it is actually a matter of dollars and cents.

And ^a evil in modern life that is/cankercous sore on our home lives is the divorce court, it is only in recent years that divorce has increased to an alarming extent, indeed to such an extent that it threatens the very existence of family life; it is true that in some cases, divorce is a plain necessity, for no man or woman should be forced to remain tied to the intimate x bond of matrimony when conditions of temper and hatred become intolerable.

But divorce should be a government and not a state affair; a Federal law should cover the whole United States, and divorces should be granted by Federal courts only; where no Federal court is conveniently

279
located, a state court should be selected by a Federal Judge to try a divorce case, and submit the findings to the Federal Judge who alone should be given the authority to grant the divorce; when people ~~wish~~ rush into matrimony, make a mistake, and try to rush out again, they should be prohibited from so doing by the law, for people should pay the penalty for foolish, hasty marriage.

Marriage for money is legal, social prostitution; any woman who barter her body for money, with~~or~~ without matrimony commits prostitution the same as a street walker; those who marry indiscriminately, and divorce at will, and re-marry time and again, can only be looked upon as harlots; marriage is far too sacred to be used for mercenary purposes, and the welfare of the American home and the American children are of far more vital importance than the vicious sexual indulgence of neurotic half-wits.

We would like to make^{of} a list of all the Gods created by man, their names and titles, it would be well worth reading, but would take too much trouble, and be too much of a waste of space and material, besides it would possibly be something like the roll-call of a Regiment in the French Foreign Legion; so we will leave that task to some one else who may have the time, and the inclination to elaborate this study in man's imaginary genius.

The day will arrive when all religions will cease operating, when all ministers and Priests will have to work for a living, when all senseless, fear and superstition will be banished from the minds of the people, when education will teach mankind to really love his fellow men, ^{that} to really practice charity, benevolence, and brotherly love, and when time arrives we will find our heaven here on earth, the only heaven we can really hope for, so from the bottom of our hearts, let us repeat, PEACE ON EARTH AND GOOD WILL TO ALL.

V A L E