

Religio-Philosophical Journal

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Religio-Philosophical Journal.

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CHICAGO, NOVEMBER 23, 1871.

A SEARCH AFTER GOD.

The Chicago Controversy - That Proclamation - The Cause of Crime - A Strange Vision.

(NUMBER LXXI.)

The fire which destroyed to a great extent Chicago, has taught an important lesson... The religious world have gazed on the ruins of Chicago, as they did on those of Athens, Nineveh, Babylon and other ancient cities...

In view of the recent appalling public calamity, the undersigned, Mayor of the city of Chicago, hereby earnestly recommends that all the inhabitants of this city observe Sunday, Oct. 29th as a special day of humiliation and prayer...

What a lesson! We gazed upon her, listened to her quiet breathings, and impressed upon her mind the shadows of her once happy home...

Mayor Mason, no doubt, is a religious man. Perhaps he prays, not as the New York officials pray, but as Jesus did when he left his apostles and sought a retired place...

The Mayor charges the citizens of this city as being guilty of grievous offenses against God, but fails to specify wherein. Come, Mayor Mason, don't deal in general terms...

existing for ten generations, but were not fully developed, until she has brought into the world? No!

Our soul, as we were taught this lesson became grandly illuminated with a light divine! We were brought in close communion with the illustrious dead...

In this city where the fruits of crime. Dark holes of licentiousness stood by the side of the churches, and while the ministers were interpreting the Bible, making exhortations or preaching a sermon, but a few feet away were the low and vile, the gambler, the buffoon, the harlot, collected together enjoying themselves on their plea of life...

What a lesson! We gazed upon her, listened to her quiet breathings, and impressed upon her mind the shadows of her once happy home. Oh! she is now dreaming - the impression has had an effect upon her exceedingly plastic nature...

It will hardly do to say that these stories were fallacies, believed in only by our grandfathers and grandmothers, so long as the same doctrine is preached from almost every popular pulpit of the present era...

receive such teachings, inasmuch as it is backed up by Holy Writ without questioning? Nay, more, is it to be wondered at that millions who have questioned the infallibility of the Bible have been tortured by the rack and flame...

Such has been the case in all ages, so far as the world has any knowledge. The ushering in of the Christian Era was commenced (so says the record), with the sacrificing upon the cross the life of the Nazarene...

Calamities; their Author or Cause. Is there a Compensation?

In our last issue we announced our intention to discuss the subject of so-called Evil. Recent calamities throughout the world have aroused a spirit of inquiry among the masses...

With almost one accord these religious teachers predicate their replies upon the idea of an angry God, against whom his creatures have sinned, and against whom he gratifies a revengeful spirit...

Next we find that for the sins of the people the God of the universe got angry, and drowned the world. Again he, for like causes, burned Sodom and Gomorrah. For similar purposes he caused whole nations to be blotted out of existence...

If God used to so deal with mankind it is doubtless true (he being unchangeable), that he does the same thing to-day.

It is to be wondered at, that those who pay a preacher to do their thinking, are content to receive such teachings, inasmuch as it is backed up by Holy Writ without questioning?

upon every individual. It aids in presenting the best men and women for official duties. It exerts its influence in liberalizing public sentiment. It is inconceivable in showing the fallacy of all religious organizations based upon the errors of priests, who persist in teaching the dogmas of a vicarious atonement...

No, friends and brethren, let us stand above all such ephemeral combinations. Let us clasp hands with the intelligent denizens of the Spirit World, and with each other, in the open investigation of truth. Let us war manfully against error, and have no fear of any greater calamity befalling us than that of ignorance, superstition, bigotry and idolatry...

If these premises have been true during the whole history of religion in regard to the attributes and practices of an Almighty God, then it is doubtless true that God burned up Chicago, including innocent children and so-called houses of God to avenge himself on the wicked inhabitants of the city...

They hold as sound the Divine Word, and yet dare not preach in accordance with its teachings, because it conflicts with science, philosophy and common sense. "Consistency thou art a jewel."

Old theology rejoins and says, however plausible the liberal Christian's argument may be it is not consistent with the "Revealed Word," which they adhere to and read from every Sabbath.

ANOTHER ORGANIC MOVEMENT. Mysticism.

Bro. JONES: The day is come for all to work. I know you will do your duty in helping on the glorious work now begun.

1776! Continental League of 1876!!

D. O. Y., II, D. T., T. A. W. O. U. Y.

We received the foregoing from Col. R. D. Goodwin, a very devoted Spiritualist, of St. Louis. We give it place in the JOURNAL for those who appreciate it or want to know more of it than appears upon the surface.

For ourself we frankly say, we recognize nothing in this great movement called Spiritualism, that is not open to the free investigation of every thinking mind.

All such movements have, thus far, been not only ephemeral, but a burlesque upon common sense, and generally conceived and brought forth by Rev. gentlemen who want position and have but little conception of spiritual philosophy.

While we have no fellowship for God Goodwin's movement, we think it quite as sensible as the resolves of the American Association of Spiritualists, at their late meeting at Troy...

Let it be distinctly understood that we raise no objections to, but have ever favored local organizations based upon such liberal articles of association as will enable communities by a joint effort to raise means to build halls, and support lectures and lyceums for the development and cultivation of the higher faculties of old and young...

One of the most important demonstrations of spirit power both in modern and ancient times, is the diagnosing cases of sickness and curing the same by the laying-on of hands, or in some other remarkable manner, with a certainty that is entirely beyond the power or even comprehension of any of the schools of medicine.

Curing the Sick.

The reports of so-called marvelous cures by the Nazarene and his followers, is abundantly sustained by parallel cases of the present day, through a multitude of healing mediums.

While all healing mediums are more or less successful in their profession, some seem to have the power developed to an extent bordering upon the miraculous. It being so strange to us observers, that a lady like Mrs. A. H. Robinson, of Chicago, who has had no medical education, and in her normal state, is entirely destitute of the ability to diagnose or prescribe for the sick...

That class of healers are frequently being developed, and millions of sick people have been cured by spirit power.

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