

(CONTINUED FROM FIFTH PAGE.)

The Future of Orthodox Theology.

outcome of scientific knowledge. Says the Tribune: "The startling discoveries of science during the last fifty years have filtrated down gradually from the investigators into the colleges and high schools, where they are taught to or read by the rising generation of young men, and by them spread and disseminated among multitudes of young men, while the same discoveries have reached the great mass of organized wageworkers through the discussions in their lodges and in the columns of the papers and magazines which they patronize. They are informed that the Jewish belief as to the age of the earth is wholly incorrect, and that instead of being about 5,800 years old, it has been untold thousands of years, if not eons, as the testimony of the rocks shows, and that man has lived on the earth many thousands of years before Adam. They have been affected by the Darwinian ideas of evolution and development. They have come to believe that man was not created "a little lower than the angels," and has been gradually degenerating, but that he began at the bottom of the scale and has gradually risen to his present mental development. They have found that some races have risen more rapidly than others; that some, like the Chinese, and Africans, and Indian tribes, have advanced to a certain point and remained stationary, while others, like the Europeans, have made enormous advancement.

Because of the widespread promulgation of those scientific views the organized wageworkers have also lost the faith they once had in the so-called Mosaic account of the origin of man and his fall on account of Adam and Eve's eating of the tree of good and evil. The higher criticism has told them that Moses did not write this account, but that it is an ancient Chaldean belief, accepted by the Israelites when they came in contact with the Chaldeans.

"Being therefore in doubt about the origin of the human race, they have come to disbelieve in the existence of a hell prepared for the punishment and torture of the human race because of Adam and Eve, whose existence is in dispute, committing a sin 5,800 years ago, when there were savage races on the earth perhaps 100,000 years ago. They are all the more disinclined to believe in this alleged place of eternal torture for faults that they are not responsible for because they don't hear it but rarely preached in the city pulpits any more. They find that this old hades doctrine is now quite gener-

ally avoided or slurred over by the clergy. So from doubting the "fall of man" in the garden of Eden, it is but a step to doubt the incarnate atonement, for if there were no fall of man then there is no need of an incarnate atonement.

For these and various other reasons millions of trades union wage-earners in this country and Europe are not taking a lively interest in church matters. They leave the church to their wives. This is peculiarly true in large cities, but in the rural communities the old orthodox doctrine is believed, except here and there, where some young, educated man of influence has promulgated the Darwin evolution doctrine and the remarkable discoveries of science and applied the methods of the higher criticism to explaining the sacred scriptures.

In view of these facts, what are men like the Rev. Dixon to do? It is impossible to stifle these new ideas of science. The church cannot and the State will not prevent their promulgation in books and magazines. It is no longer possible to rear a generation in religious ignorance of the teachings of science. The revelations of astronomy, chemistry, geology, biology, medicine, surgery, and other sciences have opened up avenues of thought which cannot be closed or ignored. The churches must adapt their creeds to the truths disclosed by science, which will give them an opportunity to preach more about Christ's beautiful inculcations of honesty, right, morality, and charity, and our duty to our fellow-men, and to urge men to do unto others as they wish to have done to themselves, without fear of eternal hellfire. Science has left plenty of room for the churches to do a mighty work for humanity and leading reformed lives." B.

From Good Authority.

The following from the exchange editor of one of the most important national newspapers, speaks for itself: The TORCH OF REASON is a good thing. It is among the first I read of the 1200 exchanges that come to my desk every week." This with the remainder of a very nice letter shows that our work is not entirely unappreciated.

The universe is full of music, only our ears are often out of tune.

If I might control the literature of the household, I would guarantee the well-being of church and state.—Francis Bacon.

"The man who always agrees with you may be a pleasant companion, but if you want sound advice, you must go to some one else."



Unexcelled

Our Stock
Of Medium-Priced

Shoes

Mail Orders Given Prompt Attention.

Yours to Please

A. WOLF & SON
Silverton, Oregon.

J. E. Hammond

DRUGGIST

DEALER IN

Chemicals, Drugs, Medicine, Toilet Articles, Perfumery and Soaps, Stationary, Patent Medicines, Paints and Oils, Combs and Brushes, Etc.

SILVERTON, OREGON.

Cusiter & Davenport

—DEALERS IN—

....GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Corner Main and Water Streets

SILVERTON, ORE.

JOHN HICKS

SAMUEL AMES

Hicks & Ames

DEALERS IN

Hardware, Tinware, Stoves,

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

Guns, Fishing Tackle, Cutlery, Sporting Goods, Etc., Etc.

SILVERTON, OREGON.