

LITTLE TORCHES.

By W. E. Johnson

Tithing makes God a partner in our business.—[Christian Standard.

Perhaps that would be true if God got the tithes. The fact is that the priests get the tithes. God does not figure in the transaction and gets none of the ducats. He is simply a stall to scare dollars out of the pockets of both rich and poor.

The Catholic church in these United States must lead in the emancipation of the people from the present social and economic slavery.—[Father Thos. J. Ducey, in his sermon in New York, Nov. 22.

While you are about the emancipation business, why not strike off ecclesiastical shackles and begin by freeing the human mind from the slavery of the Catholic church?

Those who were unable to get off to conference still have the privilege of praying for it.—[Richmond Christian Advocate.

Very true, and those who have nothing to eat still have the blessed privilege of "praying for" grub, but that is all the good it does. By the way, if God wants his barkers to "go to conference" why don't he provide a chariot or free railway passes?

It is hard for us to look upon the afflictive dispensations of God's providence as we ought to do. We have known people speak of the trials through which it has pleased God to lead them as judgment for their sins.—[Baptist Outlook.

But the trouble is that God has no moral sense. He afflicts the righteous with the same generous portions as the wicked. "The rain falls equally upon the just and the unjust."

Jesus' giving of thanks when he fed the four thousand with seven loaves and a few fishes indicates the spirit in which the church's problem of supplying all nations with the gospel is to be worked out.—[United Presbyterian.

Jesus himself hustled up those fish. If he was man, why should he thank somebody else for what he did himself; if he was God, was it not a fake piece of monkey business for him to thank himself for what he had done himself?

God and the Golden Calf.

A railway is to be built to the top of Mount Sinai. This mountain, it will be remembered, is the place where God once consulted with Moses upon various matters of state. While the cabinet meeting was in session the people of Israel became wearied, and amused themselves for a little while with a golden calf. God was on the mountain; but he knew all about what was going on, and was so enraged at the success of his gold standard rival that he

broke up the cabinet meeting. He then told Moses to let him alone, that his wrath might wax hot enough to consume everybody; but Moses would not take the hint. He reminded God of what he had promised a few years ago; and God immediately cooled down and "repented of the evil which he had thought to do unto his people." Then Moses took two tablets of stone on which God had written some testimony taken before the committee on coinage, and started down the mountain. Of course the cars were not running, and so he had to walk. Probably he was tired and cross when he reached the camp; for as soon as he saw the calf of gold and the people dancing around in a manner it will not do to describe (see Exodus xxxii, 25), he became just as wrathful as God had been, smashed the tablets with all the testimony, and jumped onto the Israelites with both feet. After a while Moses went up to another cabinet meeting and secured duplicates of the coinage testimony; but the people noticed that ever after he had a leaning toward the silver; and Aaron said that after all, you can hardly blame him, especially as God plagued the people about the calf (see Exodus xxxiii, 35). Now the moral is this: If the car had been running up Sinai at that time, everybody might have gone up to see God on special trains, and the trouble about the trains would have been averted.—[Boston Investigator.

John P. Guild's Lectures.

John Prescott Guild is on the war path in full feather. He spoke on "Giordano Bruno, the Poet, Prophet, and Martyr of Science, his life, death, and lesson for today", before the Lowell, Mass., Liberal Association the first Sunday in October, repeated it to the Common Sense Club, Nashua, N. H., November 21, and is to speak there again on "Bible Guideboards" December 12. Patriots Hall at 7 o'clock p. m. His theme for Ingersoll Society, Pain Hall, Boston, is "History, Mystery and Mission of Music" Sunday afternoon, November 28, which will be repeated to the Lowell Liberal Association Pilgrims Hall, Palmer St. December 5, 7.30 o'clock. The "Bruno" lecture appears in full in the Boston Investigator of November 6. The Investigator and the Lowell and Nashua papers all speak highly of Mr. Guild's platform efforts. He may be addressed in regard to engagements, for these and other lectures, at 30 Elliot St., Lowell, Mass.

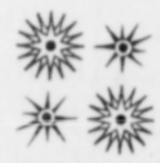
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