

RELIGION OF MEDIAEVAL TIMES.

Essays by Members of the Liberal University Mediaeval History Class in Final Examinations.

The religion of mediaeval times would not be called a religion nowadays. It was even worse constructed and conducted than any of the different beliefs of the world at the present date. Then, if a man got tired of one religion, he took on another one of his own. If he couldn't get enough to join his church, he would buckle on his sword, call all of his godly people together and wade into the other churches, and with a hip hurrah, butcher and slash away until they conquered or were defeated themselves; and if the latter happened to be the case, they would have to give up and join that church and worship other little tin gods and do whatever they were bidden. Then they would join in with that church and help to swell their numbers by going out and bringing in a stray lamb from another church, or, sometimes, a whole army. The Christian brethren of today scoff at a person if he tells them that their religion came from some of those old-time fogyisms, but if they will but trace their sacred religion back to the time of the old crusades, they will find themselves pretty close to its old home with our ancestors of the dark ages.

CHARLES PAGE.

The religion of mediaeval times is far in advance of that of ancient times, and yet it seems incredible that human beings could possibly be so blind and ignorant as not to understand the cause of the pope's supposed divine character. But such was the case, and we find records in history of our greatest warriors consulting the pope as to the advisability of fighting a certain battle at a certain time. This does not apply to war alone, but every movement of that age had to be sanctioned by the pope before the common people had the required amount of confidence in themselves to even make an attempt. In fact, at one time the power of the pope was so great that a dispute arose as to whether he or the king should possess absolute power. When we notice the actions of Clovis, Mohammed, Joan of Arc and Peter the Hermit, it is nothing to be wondered at that men who did possess a small amount of brains, and but little knowledge of right and wrong, took advantage of the opportunity that offered itself. The majority of the people of the present day are more enlightened, but still they are capable of a much higher mental development.

LOUIS RAUCH.

By the laws of the United States the bone and sinew of the country not only builds its churches, but is compelled to sustain them, whether it has any use for them or not.—
[Ex.]

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