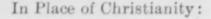


Six Tracts to Promote Scientific Wisdom



1 Can Sins be Forgiven?

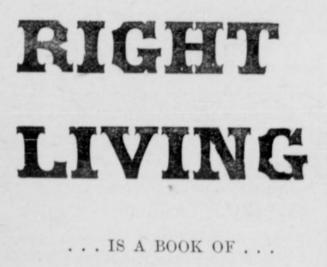
- 2 Does Christianity or Science Promote Civilization?
- 3 Is Religion or Science More Reliable?
- 4 Evolution and Comparison of Religions.
- 5 Does Belief in Miracles Benefit?
- 6 Immortality or Annihilation?

JUST THE THING

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Excellent

The Plea of the Ego.

In the case of "Egoism vs. Altruism", which was opened in last WGN. week's Torch, we now give the plea ard makes of the world as seen by an individualist - which he intimates is from the animal point of view; for if the social point of view is considered, Man is raised above the animal. As the poet, William Smith, says it:

"Man is not, but in Society, Man means Society."

Else he is the animal!---if he could live at all?

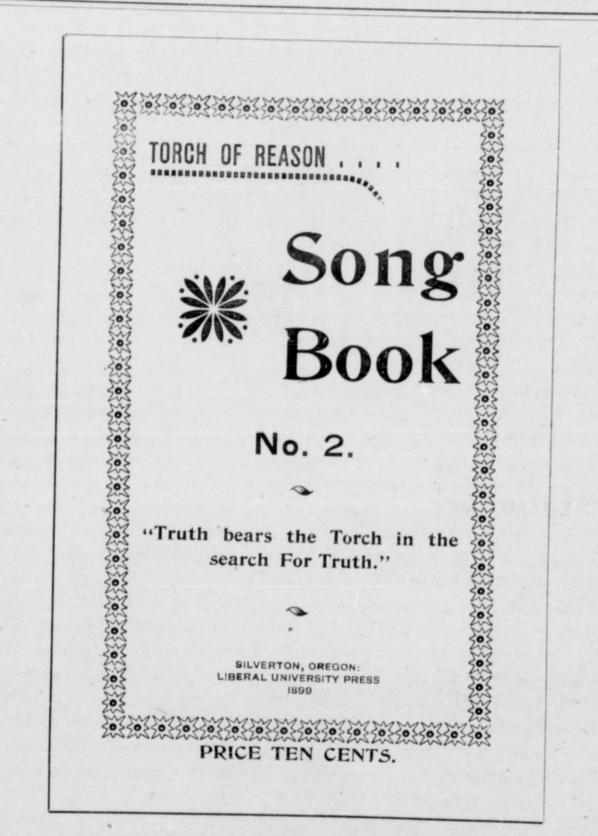
What the social man has to say will next appear; but let us all now Oregon stand up as enlightened animals, and take a look at the great Naturalist's scientific photo of our individual inner selves. For are we not all in it? Is there a trait in all that composite picture which might not at some time have come from our inner feelings or thoughts? Is it not true that most of us will begin at once to confess and justify in this wise:-Yes! I am doing just so, because others are, and because we all must, if we would live at all. We can never live by giving ourselves away. If I don't look after all my satisfactions, higher and lower, who will? You call me an "animal ego"! Well, isn't it a fact that Na-Chapters ture made me just that, and not much more? Why haven't I the right to make the most of my life to me? I didn't ask the world nor anybody to make me, and now the world has got me here, it owes me the highest satisfaction I can get out of it-that is my natural right! I owe it nothing. It is simply my oyster to open and enjoy, and I just mean to do it. As to the other fellows about me, just let them take care of themselves! I am not here to take care of them. My use of them is to increase my enjoyments. My rights are certainly equal to theirs, at least so I grant, because I must in order to get along with them at all; but I don't work with them for any result that will not end to increase the personal satisfaction of my appetites, pleasures, ambitions or vanities. And soon and on! Let us think how much of the good and necessary there may be in this individual view of life. Think, too, how this champion of self-interest will come off when things go awry, and when the sunset of life begins to throw the shadow and chill of the night, when the joys, ambitions, and even the hopes of the "self" FOR SELF must be no more? Is the Egoists view of life the best that can be taken? the best that can be done? T. B. W.

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