

of this century than we have ever had in the world's history, and, as a natural result, we have more who are able to see the fallacies of dogmatic faith.

There is no period of time in the history of man that even compares with the number of great men of the present century, except the fifth century before the Christian era, at which time there were many brains whose mental vision penetrated away beyond the God of the Bible.

A man who cannot mentally see beyond the star of hope is to be pitied.

Faith is a diet on which one will starve for intellectual fact.

A man who lives on a hope diet will think hope thoughts.

A brain that is satisfied with hope and belief will produce photographs of hope and belief only.

A fact is not born of hope, but is the child of cause and effect.

The God of the Bible is a photograph of the brains of those who brought him into existence and is but little higher than themselves, supposed to be all powerful.

He was selfish, cruel and unmerciful to some; kind and generous to others.

He was the echo of the wish of those whose ideal he was.

They were perfectly satisfied with him, because he was their ideal.

He was the limit of their mental vision.

He was both good and selfish, the mental statuary whom his sculptors worshiped.

He does not satisfy the brain of the wisest, nor is he the fulfillment of the hope of the best.

He is not our ideal; he occupied an unnatural loftiness.

We insist upon having an ideal which is natural, and from the mental pictures of our brains we may create something far superior to the God of the Bible.

### C. C. Moore and the Price of Liberty.

The latest news from Lexington, the Freethought seat of war in Kentucky, is that Mr. Moore, the editor of the Blue Grass Blade is being seriously prosecuted on charges old and new, but which, from a rational point of view, are simply absurd. This is a prosecution to suppress Free thought and speech. The price of Liberty in such cases is not simply "vigilance," but vigilance must be in the shape of means to secure the best defence possible, and that means MONEY. Mr. Moore is now taking the right course. He has retained the best counsel, and Dr. E. B. Foote, Jr., No. 120 Lexington Ave, N. Y. City, is the treasurer of the defence fund. By all means send to him such funds as you can, from \$1 up, for it is the case of U. S. all. Remember that Mr. Moore was first prosecuted for blasphemy, and gained a signal victory in having that held to be no crime. Now they are trying to effect the same object by calling it "abuse of the mails", obscenity, etc. It is simply a Christian sectarian

prosecution and ought to be sat down upon with a vengeance. Do your part right away. There is no time to lose.

### Yes, Immortal—But How?

The immortalities of man have a singular interest for the average human, so we have to keep ventilating them. In this Torch you find the report, as far as we could give it, of Mr. Davenport's lecture, Mr. Wakeman's reply on the science of it, and some important extracts, all relative to the "immortal" subject. The extract from Winwood Reade is one of the finest touches of prose in the language, and beautifully states the question. The extract from J. B. Alexander gives the scientific answer, in which the some hundred authors, to which he refers in his preface, generally agree, and largely form the scientific world. But it is not by authority of numbers that this question is decided, but by the facts under the scientific method. Those who are special scientists or who abandon science and betake themselves to theology, metaphysics or sentiment, when they reach this question, can not be considered as having any scientific weight in regard to it. This is the case with A. R. Wallace and all of the "scientists" referred to by Spiritualists as on their side. The truth is that, great as they may be, they are not scientists on this subject, because they give up the method of science; just as the great Newton did when he went to speculating about "The Prophecies". The greater the intellect, the greater the darkness when it enters the shadow of superstition. This conclusive answer of science shows that spooks are not, and that ends the whole business. The trances of mediums may puzzle Prof. Hyslop, and the tricks of slates may amuse our Prof. Buff or Mr. Davenport, but all "spirit phenomena" are at an end, and become simply abnormal natural phenomena to be in time properly investigated and explained in the scientific method. Science has proved that there is no spook element in the business—only illusion, delusion or fraud.

The last extract is the verdict of French scientists and philosophers as to how the sentiments of the old Egoistic immortality should be transformed into the new—the Altruistic and human immortality. These words have the weight of the highest intellects of France back of them, and should be pondered accordingly as the fitting answer to the pathetic inquiry of Winwood Reade as to the loss of that "sweet hope," which has been the illusory main spring and consolation of so many—indeed of all of the past.

The fact that in Germany, France, England and America the scientific method is concordant on this subject, both as to the old and new Immortality, is the best proof of the coming Unity of Humanity, which closes Prof. Levy-Bruhl's beautiful and interesting work. The best heads and hearts of the race are now passing their existence into Humanity, and preparing the Earth to be their because its Heaven and Home. T. B. W.

P. S.—The extracts referred to are crowded out of this Torch. Next week they will challenge your attention.

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