

As soon as the Theocrats, Monopolies and their bosses can be made to allow the people to manage the Republic for the freedom and welfare of each and all, the difficulties which they only cause, will fall away.

That such a government has never been realized is only to say that the despots, priests and robbers have generally had the upper hand and so defeated the normal social order. But Evolution by its natural selection will assuredly weed them out as "not the fittest to survive" in the future.

Every Republican and Democrat will be false to those names unless he aids this national process.

This subject is brought forward now in the Torch, because it is timely. The first foundation of government in the past was the order and "Law of God." Next Deists placed it upon the "Creator's endowment" of natural rights. These foundations have been broken up and forced to be unreal or meaningless. The scientific foundation of Secular Sociology above intimated is not generally understood by the people. And because it is not, the Theocrats, Imperialists and Monopolies are drifting into a half unconscious conspiracy which is likely to be fatal. Indeed if the Republic is not "to go," every lover of his own liberty should learn at once what its solid foundation really is, and what the conditions of its continuance really are. The death of the Republic is the end of Liberty.

That the views of this article fulfill the real intentions of "the Fathers" we show by quoting "Evolution Selects The Republic" in another column from the Torch of August 2nd.

#### The Necessity of Faith.

All people, Liberals included, are not going to fight, work and sacrifice for anything, unless they want it bad, and feel sure they can get it. These are the only people who have moved the affairs of the world, and who will continue to move them in religion, politics or anything else!

For this reason, we confess to much sympathy with Marie Harold Garrison in her comparison of views about Agnosticism with our venerated friend and co-operator, George Jacob Holyoake; for which read the first article in the Free-thought Magazine for November. She says this big word means pretty much of anything or nothing, and so has become a "cover for dodgers,"—and that all we ordinary folk need to do, is to corner them right in and 'make them tell,' as children say. She certainly has "cornered in" a mature child in Mr. Holyoake, and his "tell" is

quite interesting, and he is quite willing to leave others to judge of its sufficiency. He says: "Theism, Atheism and Agnosticism denote attitudes of thought in relation to the existence of a Supreme Cause of Nature." And the last he defines thus: "Agnosticism is judgement suspended, from lack of capacity, to solve the mighty problem of eternity."

It puzzles us to find that "the Scientific Correlationist" is not included in his possible "attitudes of thought." He is like the colored brother who refused to be a party to any judgement, damnation and hell because his darkie kin "took to the woods." That is, he simply says, the Supreme Cause of Nature was, is, and ever will be NATURE ITSELF.

That is what the endless law of correlation means; and it ends those three attitudes by a fourth which demolishes them at once. We need not to be tagged by either of those names. It is only a phase of anthropomorphism to try to impart our concepts of cause, "Eternity," Time, Space, Mind or Person to the Universe, which we can only conceive of, as endless correlation, i. e. the eternal process of cause and effect. As Haeckel says, "We cannot conceive of a violation or end of equivalent correlation, through all the stars and starry spaces it prevails and is synonymous with our concept of existence. How this law operates as to the Nebular and "world building", and countless other problems, is a matter of hypothesis. But that the law exists, there is no possible doubt, nor is there any doubt that it ends the "suspended judgement of agnosticism." Nature is the all of all. The supernatural is not, because Scientific correlation cannot be conceived of as other than endless.

This being so, we are relieved from the "suspended judgement," and rejoice greatly thereat, for such "attitude" is a bad thing to build on, as we commenced by saying. It does very well for the old denying negative and iconoclastic phase of Liberalism; but for the new and constructive phase, it lacks inspiration. We can only build on certainties, not doubts. If we thought that a Deistic or Atheistic "supreme cause of nature" was lying back of the L. U. O., ready to wipe it out by some caprice beyond Law, now could we work and sacrifice; and above all have the cheek to ask and take money from Mr. Holyoake and his friends to complete and operate it? No! Our judgement is not "suspended" a bit, about the continuance of this correlating universe, as far as we can conceive of Cause, Time or Space! We believe as surely in the heliocentric Astronomy, and its theological crushing consequences. Also in

the correlative origin and evolution of man: the individual, and of MAN, the Race, as his Savior and "Christ which is to be." And finally we believe in the betterment of Mankind on this earth, and the glory continuous of "the Earthly Paradise," instead of the sky heaven.

On these four cornerstones, the L. U. O. is being constructed. We do not believe that Mr. Holyoake has really any doubt as to them. He only imagines that he is an Agnostic. Nor do we believe that anyone abreast with Modern Science can long suspend his judgement as to them. Those who feel sure about these conclusions, will begin to forefeel the light, warmth and glow of that SECULAR Earthly Paradise, and join hearts and hands for its realization. They are the ones to move the new world.

#### Politics are Over.

For the present, at least, the worry and anxiety of Politics are over. We may congratulate each other that candidates were honorable men; that the canvass was generally conducted honorably, and that peace reigns. This being so, let other fundamental matters have their inning now. The first of these to all should be that of progress out of superstition and ignorance, and the defence of liberty which they make impossible. The harvests may seem to be reaped at elections but what they are really worth, is determined by the seed-sowing and education before the canvass begins.

These are reasons why the Liberal and Secular congress at Cincinnati should occupy general attention, and be attended by every friend of Liberty, Progress and Secular education. We write this just as Mr. Geer and the editor are picking up things to go, and we hope to find that a rousing congress will give new life to Liberalism in America. Make it a sure thing to be there.

The next thing that engages attention must be the means by which the Liberal cause can be advanced. Among these, the support of education emancipated from superstition is certainly second to none. The Liberal University, (L. U. O.) has obtained a position which is rare indeed in Liberal affairs. A small fraction of the money squandered by the advocates of Sectarianism on indifferent institutions, would put the only Liberal University now in sight, on a paying basis; that is, on a basis to stand as one of the most leading and controlling educational influences in America. Shall not this be done? Send for a catalogue and let us know what can be done and what you can do.

#### Evolution "Selects" the Republic.

What is the effect of evolution and natural selection in Sociology, Politics, Government? Why, all that Paine, Franklin, Jefferson, Washington and their countless helpers did for the Republic, and Republicanism, as the true, scientific and human [instead of divine and despotic] Government of mankind, has been confirmed, improved and rightfully to be extended over this plane, just as the Science of Newton has been discovered to extend over the Universe. Therefore republics should be organized for the benefit of all people by themselves. We should extend, as far as practicable, the Monroe Doctrine over the whole planet, as the home of home-governing peoples.

The republics thus formed should be federated by treaty or conference, for general protection, intercourse, trade and welfare into the "Republic of the World," as Paine originally proposed with the approval of every republican then in existence. That is the true evolution of human history, governments and society in Sociology. It was, and is, a logical consequent of the true evolution of Science, up to a knowledge of the laws of the boundless impersonal Universe.

The Fathers of the Republic were not mistaken; there is nothing in the modern Sciences of the world, or of human nature or history, that requires any material change to be made in their program, except more confidence in our onward Evolutionary growth and progress. We merely need to change a few of their words. Where they say, "God, or Creator," we read "World or Universe;" where they say "principles," we read "laws" as to the objective world, and "purpose, policy, conduct, etc.," as to human affairs. Where they say, "All men are created equal," we say "born under equal needs of protection, and consequent equal rights before the law." Thus the transfer of the old Deistic and metaphysical words and phrases to those of modern Science and Sociology are readily made, but their real purpose and meaning is only strengthened and enlarged thereby.

The old foundations thus become the new and remain more firm, solid and extensive than ever; and more surely than ever, will they prove to be the true cornerstone of "The Republic of the World,"—the only guarantee of the liberty, welfare and triumphant progress of the Human race.

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