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Absurd.

It is difficult to make those who are dissatisfied with Religion, as it was understood for years, understand why it is that those who cling to Religion in its ancient forms do not take to "modernism."

The followers of the newer ideas are so hazy in their own ideas and so frothily educated that they do not realize the absurdity of their own standpoint, judged in a cold philosophical frame of mind. Indeed, it is apparent that these modernists have little conception of philosophy or logic.

These modernists wax angry when one of the old school tries to quiz them for a satisfactory answer as to why social centers, brotherhood of man organized charity, moral uplift, social settlements, Hull Houses, night schools, and a thousand and one side adjuncts to the work of the Church should be substituted for the church itself, or that all the pretty and pleasant parts of Religion may be hugged to one's heart and the unpleasant ones discarded.

Not content with making all sorts of other "breaks", ex-president Charles W. Eliot, of Harvard, has undertaken to formulate a new "ism" which he would have Mankind adopt in place of the ancient Religion. The Post Express, in a scathing editorial refreshing to read in a secular daily, takes Dr. Eliot to task. It appears that Dr. Eliot would eliminate authority from his "ism." This the Post Express observes is not any improvement on the old forms. Dr. Eliot says that the skillful surgeon would take up with his new religious panacea. That is illogical, says the Post Express, because the surgeon's work is only with the body, while Religion deals with the soul.

Another tenet of Dr. Eliot is that he will have no elicitation of remarkable human men. The Post Express remarks that it is difficult to have Christianity without Christ and that all Christians worthy of the name are compelled to regard Christ as divine. In conclusion, the Post Express reads Dr. Eliot this cutting lecture:—

"When Dr. Eliot says that the new religion (rejects the idea that man is an alien or a fallen being, who is hopelessly wicked) he is not merely unorthodox—he is shutting his eyes to the facts which not only ordinary observation of human nature, but also the irresistible evidence of history clearly establish. Man is naturally in a fallen and wicked state. Original sin is no theological hypothesis. It is a lamentable reality and the function of the Christian religion—and to a limited extent of every religion—is to raise, purify, and regenerate fallen man.

It is idle to talk about the improvement of social and industrial conditions as if that were the real purpose of religion. The changing of men's hearts from enervation to passion and brute instinct into self-control, love of virtue, and the subordination of

the things of this world to the great interests which are eternal is incomparably more important than any mere material betterment.

"When it is said finally that the new religion (will make Christ's revelation more wonderful to us,) it is forgotten that the great Founder of Christianity declared that His religion was (not of this world.) Dr. Eliot is no doubt, absolutely sincere, but his (new religion) is only veiled materialism. He may imagine that his ideas, if carried out, would leave the Christian religion intact, but he is wrong. They would end in making us progressive and intellectual pagans."

"No Flowers."

In several of the large cities of the country the invitations to graduating exercises sent out by this year's schools conducted by the Christian Brothers bore this announcement: "No Flowers."

An interview with one of the Brothers brought this explanation: "Well, at our academy we have noticed, for several years, that some of the brightest pupils are poor boys. They come to school shabbily dressed, compared to others, and often wear poor clothes on commencement day. Their parents cannot afford flowers and because of this the poor boys invariably feel beaten and discouraged when they see the sons of wealthy parents, young men who often accomplished far less in school than they receive ing crates of roses simply because their parents can afford them. We have decided to save these upright young fellows a lot of heartache from this course hereafter by prohibiting entirely the handing up of immense bouquets or gifts of any kind."

Few will say that the decision was unwise.

Climb On.

True, the sentiment may smack of commercialism but it is a bit refreshing to read the following interview with a non-Catholic citizen of Helena, Montana, who is helping Bishop Carroll to raise \$50,000 with which to complete the Helena Cathedral:— "I am not a member of the Catholic Church, or of any church for that matter, and I look upon the proposition as a purely non-sectarian and business standpoint. Fifteen or twenty years ago, if I recall rightly, the people of this city helped to locate the Wesleyan university here. It was established and has contributed since largely to the business of Helena. The construction in Helena of a great Cathedral means a great deal to this city, because in connection with the other institutions under the direction of the Catholic Church, it will draw, as has been the case elsewhere, many families."

Upon this the Milwaukee Catholic Citizen comments: "Why not, in many ways, take advantage of this civic feeling, rise with the ground swell, grow with the communities' growth, and let 'em all know that we are with them as brothers, so that they, in turn, will be with us as contributors and sympathizers and possibly, believers. This is 'Americanism,' as we understand it in the attitude of the Church towards its environment; a spirit which never contemplates minimizing faith or principle, but a spirit always broad in its charity and optimistic in its program. Climb on."

Sir Edward Morris, Catholic, is to be the new premier of Newfoundland.

Rochester's ball team will have to be on its best behavior for the rest of the season.

Bert Lytell may be a "matinee idol" but he has some splendid advice for stagestruck girls which they would do well to heed.

The Difference.
An opera singer, having snubbed another of her kind, was approached by a reporter in quest of information. "Will you deign to tell me," said the reporter, bowing low, "why a songbird invariably has a nasty temper, ruffling her feathers and pecking at the rest of the flock?" "Your question," responded the opera singer, "arises from the ignorance of the lady who are unable to distinguish between the temper of a virago and the temperament of an artist."

Girl Has Remarkable Voice.
A 16-year-old girl who sings bass was heard in a London hall the other day. Until a year ago she had the usual soprano voice of a girl of her size, then the voice grew deeper and deeper, and to-day it is as low as a man's. A specialist who examined her throat found the vocal chords to be singularly large and broad.

Baker Theater.
For the ninth week of his successful engagement at the Baker Theater Bert Lytell and his company will be seen in "Tyde Fitch's brilliant comedy The Frisky Mrs. Johnson," a play in which Amelia Bingham was very successful and one which should prove a fine vehicle to re-introduce Miss Ida Adair to her Rochester friends as Mr. Lytell's new leading woman.
The play is full of the character types for which Mr. Fitch is noted. Mr. Lytell will be seen in the role originally played by Wilton Lackaye. Miss Adair will assume that of "The Frisky Mrs. Johnson" in which Miss Arnelia Bingham was seen. Mr. Warren H. Emerson who played Count Max Dindeau in the original production has been specially engaged for this production to play his original part. The balance of the company will all be seen in congenial roles and a bright and spirited performance may be looked for as is usual with the Bert Lytell Company.
The usual matinees will be played on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

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