

man who gave it greatest prominence was David Livingston, the great African explorer. He was a devout Christian. His statement was received as a wise and practical one. The missionary may be a teacher. If so he will see the importance of preliminary common education as a basis for theological education. In fact this is the course pursued now I believe by most missionaries to "the heathen."

What Mr. Ingersoll doubtless intended was that the civilization of the United States should be carried to those islanders. But there I think he wrote without reflection. Spain was once a civilized nation. Nobility: that is, titles, families, royalty, priest craft and greed overcame her civilization. Greed was the most degrading influence under which she lived only to decline. She carried her civilization to savages in various parts of the world and everywhere the weak went down before the strong. But how much better has been the effect of presenting the civilization of France, Great Britain and later the United States savages? The North American continent has been taken by force from the Indians because the weak go down before the strong. We have long boasted of our Christian civilization, and yet we have cruelly disregarded the very foundation of Christianity as presented by Jesus of Nazareth—the Brotherhood of Man!

Why has it been forgotten? Because English-speaking people are as much controlled by greed, by worship of mammon as the Spaniards ever were. The North American Indians have been driven back and down because the whites wanted their lands, their fishing and hunting grounds, and Christianity has been powerless, even where some of its professors protested, to prevent the wrong, the crime. Love of money, land and opportunity to increase wealth will people Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines with white men who care no more for the weak islanders than others cared for our Indians. In the end the fate of the natives of all the islands that seem to be coming to us will be the same as that of the poor creatures who once welcomed the whites to the new world as people from heaven.

It is a horrible thought to contemplate, but it will prove to be the truth, unless Christianity, if it be the saving grace of God for the elevation of mankind, can first convert our Christians to a Christianity that sincerely accepts the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man as an eternal truth! At present our Christian civilization is carrying out Darwin's idea of "the survival of the fittest." Not the best, but the strongest, regardless of right or wrong. We are but little in advance of Spain as the guardian of men and women who are wholly incompetent to hold their own against men whose lives are devoted, not to the good of mankind, but to the acquirement of wealth by any means.

If law of nature and law of God are the same, then I see annihilation for all the weaker portions of the human race, for as the strongest grow stronger, the weaker become less competent to withstand them. If, on the other hand, it is the will and purpose of God that injustice and unrighteousness shall be overthrown and a time come when the weak shall have the same protection as the strong can command, then, without meaning any irreverence, I beg to say that, in my opinion, it is time something should be done; and I say again that the first thing to do is to convert Christians to Christianity; that is, persuade them that Indians, Cubans, Porto Ricans and Philipinos are just as

much the children of God as are the sons and daughters of the United States, or any other so-called civilized nation.

Robert Ingersoll will never raise his voice to wrong the weakest of the earth, and I believe he would agree largely with the thoughts I have presented. He is not an enemy of religion so far as it stands for rational thought and practical efforts for good. He is the opponent of the sham, pretence and fraud in so-called Christianity, and God knows there are plenty of them everywhere.

Poor islanders, I grieve for you! Civilization stands armed around the world and floats iron-clad on every sea waiting for opportunity to become your guardian, and yet it is only the old fable of Little Red Ridinghood become a fact. Civilization is the wolf of avarice, and if God cannot help those who fall into its merciless jaws, their fate is already settled. O, if we only were, as a nation, to take the hand of the weak and stand for Humanity! But, alas! we are only following in the footsteps of every nation that has risen from poverty to power.

Some literary gaberdunzie may cite the war of rebellion in which four million slaves were given freedom. But not one slave obtained freedom because the nation, the people, knew it was right; knew it was the will of that power we in our ignorance call "God" and feel in our hearts more than we can know, but because the nation was compelled to give the slaves freedom in order to save its own existence. The soldiers and sailors of the regulars and the navy went into the present war because they were ordered to do so. The volunteers placed themselves in position where they might be ordered into it doubtless thrilled with the thought that they were risking their lives for the weak ones of Cuba and for the honor and glory of the nation. But the nation's glory was not imperilled, and a few years will demonstrate that humanity has not been greatly improved. The war will be campaign thunder for two years in national politics, and greed will grow upon it for a long time. The poor people of the conquered islands will disappear and the world will more and more become the property of a few who by wealth are strong. Religion, that ought to elevate mankind, will more and more stoop to acquiescence in the rule of the strong; God will more and more become the almighty dollar, and humanity will, in the mass, still struggle for life on the earth that should belong equally to all. Hence, I say that if there be on earth a religion destined to make matters right for humanity it never was more needed than now, and those who need it most are not the barbarians, but the alleged Christians of the world; not the heathen, but the civilized nations. They, being the leaders, are the blind leading the blind and both must fall. No civilization can endure that is not based upon a practical realization of that social science that has been the dream and hope of the best for ages as the Brotherhood of Man, a condition in all men will refuse to do other than the right, not through fear of God, but because God is in them a living and developing power for good.

CHARLES ELLIS.

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

The new diving dress of Mr. Wm. Gordon, of Melbourne, consists of a copper head piece and jacket, screwed by simple joints to a body constructed of strong spiral metal springs imbedded in layers of rubber and cloth. The legs and arms are quite flexible, yet are so constructed that there are not the slightest water pressure on the diver.

In a recent dive, the diver reached the great depth of 200 feet, remaining under water 51 minutes, with no renewal of air for 12 minutes, and suffered no inconvenience.

The use of cork as a paving material for roads has been under test for several years in London and other cities, and is now reported to have given highly satisfactory results. The pavement not only affords a good foothold but it is practically non-absorbent and noiseless. The cork is ground, mixed with bitumen and a suitable fibrous material, and formed into blocks under a pressure of 600 pounds per square inch; and these blocks are laid on a cement concrete foundation of suitable depth.

The prevalent notion that vegetarianism affords freedom from digestive derangements is disputed by a British surgeon, who asserts that a year's residence in India, where the natives are mostly vegetarians, will convince the most skeptical that no class of diet confers even partial immunity from disorders of digestion. Severe cases of dyspepsia in strict vegetarians are not uncommon at the general hospital of Madras. In one of these, a man who had weighed but 52 pounds was fed with peptonized milk and essence of chicken until he reached 104 pounds, when he was dismissed.

Duodecaplex telegraphy has been receiving the attention of M. Mercadier, a French electrician, for many years. In experiments now being made on the Paris-Bordeaux line, twelve Morse transmitters are worked simultaneously on a single wire, each sending its signals to the proper receivers at the end of the line. This result is attained by means of interrupted currents. Each transmitter receives its current through an electrically-vibrated turning fork, whose vibrations are of the period necessary to cause resonance in the proper receiving circuit, which has its self-induction and capacity correspondingly adjusted. The receiver, called a monotelephone, is also acoustically adapted for damping out undesired signals, the combination effecting so complete a sifting that only a slight and not troublesome murmur comes from the unintended signals. The sounds are brought to the ear by rubber tubes.

Few American perfumes were made forty or fifty years ago, according to Mr. O. B. Salisbury. The annual product is now about \$2,500,000 worth, while the imports reach \$1,500,000 worth, and Greater New York uses \$1,000,000 worth. For this billions of billions of flowers are consumed. The importation each year of all of roses is about \$250,000 worth, and each pound of this requires about thirteen tons of roses, the pearls of 400,000 roses being computed to be necessary for an ounce of oil! The gathering of the roses employs 750,000 people in southern Europe from the middle of May to the middle of July. The odors are obtained from the roses, violets, jasmynes, tuberose, mignonettes, and other flowers, by absorption in fat, distillation, or extraction with ether, sulphide of carbon, or chloride of methyl. Artificial synthetic perfumes are blended with the flower pomades or essential oils, musk, ambergris, or civet, to form vast quantities of fashionable brands of perfumes. The more important of the artificial perfumes are terpineol (lilac scent), salicylic aldehyde (meadow sweet scent), vanillin (vanilla scent), cumarin (new mown hay scent), eugenol (clove scent), ionone (violet scent), cinnamyl (alcohol hyacinth scent), anisic aldehyde (hawthorn scent).