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CHICAGO TODAY.

Today, October 9th, is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the great Chicago fire. In 1871 the day is being observed as a holiday which, in 1871, struck terror to the hearts of thousands and awakened the sympathy of a world by the vastness of its destructive record. The metropolis on the shore of Lake Michigan was swept by the fire fiend to an extent that it almost seemed as though a full quarter of a century would be occupied in rebuilding the burned district and regaining for the city the position of its former greatness. But disastrous as was the holocaust of that October day, it was not an unmixed evil that fell upon the city; undeniable and lamentable as were the circumstances of the event, to Chicago it was really a blessing in disguise. Hence the holiday of today, while not the celebration of the great burning, is a rejoicing over the long and rapid strides of improvement and prosperity that have been taken since the visitation of fire. That visitation was the means of awakening an effort that has crowned the city to the top among the greater municipalities of the world and has given it a forward position which before seemed beyond reach in so short a time.

Long since, there disappeared every vestige of the great fire, so far as it suggested a prevailing calamity. The manner in which a newer and a better class of buildings supplanted the old ones was almost magical, and the way business increased and developed was equally marvelous. The city stands today a wonder in its growth commercially and industrially. It is a magnificent monument of human energy awakened to new life by having to face seemingly insurmountable difficulties, and is the more expression of the divine decree that man as the creature and offspring of Deity, should exercise dominion "over all the earth."

HEALING AND HEALERS.

Now that Arthur Sunrader, the "healer" as he is called and as he advertises himself, is to town, the rush to him of many with real or imaginary ills or claims may be looked for here as elsewhere. It makes no difference that many of his claims have been shown to be beyond the facts, just as they have been with Schlatter and others; a certain class of people will rush to him all the same. Perhaps he does possess some of what is known as "magnetic" power; many persons do, and are able to use it for good or ill purposes. But that he is a "healer" in the scriptural sense is entirely another claim. Perhaps some persons who exercise faith in him may be relieved of some ills; it is well established fact that heathens and some who would not like to be classed as heathenish or barbarian have been so relieved by their faith in idols, charms, and the like, for the mental powers of the individual have a marked influence upon the physical condition, and a strong will often overcomes pain and disease. But even this is not healing. Patients may be relieved of an affliction, and nature may heal them, just as a foreign substance, for instance a thorn or splinter, may be removed from the flesh, which will be healed afterward. Sometimes the removal of the cause is a good act; sometimes not, for it may be merely the cessation of an evil act. For illustration, one man may unmercifully beat another, and his stopping the cruelty is not a good act in the sense of being good; it is merely a cessation of the bad act, and the effect of his work is evil. He devils ill on people by sickness and is