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SALT LAKE CITY, SEPT. 14, 1907

SCHISMS AND THE REMEDY.

Professor Briggs who, some years ago, was declared a heretic and who is said to have shown symptoms of leaning toward Roman Catholicism, seems rather to be in favor of a grand reunion of all the divisions of the Christian world.

In an article in the North American Review, in answer to Archbishop Ireland, he sets forth what he considers to be the chief obstacle to such unity. He suggests that the Roman church be given a written constitution, defining the jurisdiction of the Pope. Archbishop Ireland, he says, limits this jurisdiction by ruling out "jurisdiction in civil affairs, and dominion over civil governments," and by agreeing to a number of other limitations. I cordially accept the Professor's suggestion, the statement of the Archbishop that "if purely civil matters are in issue the Pope has no right whatsoever to give directions to Catholics." Dr. Briggs admits "that the question changes when issues under consideration are such as appear to the religious conscience, and demand solution in the light of religious principles." He also endorses the proposition that "the papacy possesses no right to determine questions of science and philosophy, of sociology and economics." The realm of the papacy is faith and morals—that much and nothing more. The situation changes, of course, when speculation, clothed in the garb of science or philosophy, of sociology or economics, soars into the domain of faith and morals, and challenges the church within its own sphere." A written constitution embodying these and similar limitations, Dr. Briggs holds, would materially aid in the work of removing the barriers that now prevent a general reunion of Christendom.

But difficulties would still remain. Papacy would also have to restore, he argues, to the episcopate its historical and Biblical rights, and to the people their rights which were formerly exercised through the Christian emperors and other sovereigns. If this were done, "we may hope for a speedy removal of all the other minor difficulties, and the unity of Christ's church, for which He prayed, and died and now reigns, will be secured."

This is very interesting as reflecting the views of an eminent divine on the obstacles to Christian unity, and the remedy of schisms. But, is it probable that a constitution, as suggested, would remove the real cause of dissension?

The spirit of division operated long before papacy had established itself in Christendom. It is found in the days of the first Apostles. When the Apostles, however, were no more, and the light of revelation had been extinguished in blood, shed by the persecutors except for the inspired writings that were saved from destruction, this spirit operated more freely. Early Christian writers spend much of their time and talent in refuting heresies. The Bishop of Brescia, Augustine says, discovered not less than 123 in the Christian church. The theologians were busy defining the nature of Christ and His work; the relation of spirit to matter; and other similar questions. They had, very often, but poor opportunities for studying the Scriptures, and were forced to rely largely on traditions and their own speculations. The Apostles being removed, and with them the Priesthood they held, there was no sure and speedy way of settling disputes on doctrines. The consequence was that each philosopher maintained the view that seemed best to him. Even the decisions of ecumenical councils failed to settle disputes. The dicta of a majority were found to be a poor substitute for the Apostolic interpretation of the mind and will of the Lord; "It seemed good to the Holy Ghost and to us" (Acts 15: 28). Consequently schisms flourished. The onward unity of the body became but a dream. This condition was a result of the destruction of the divine organization of the Church. The Lord "gave some apostles; and some prophets; and some evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ; till we all come in the unity of the faith." If this is not the divine remedy against conflicts on matters of faith, we fail to understand why the Spirit of the Lord made this part of the inspired record.

Dr. Briggs rounds his reasons of historical facts when he says:

"The primitive Church does not favor, but condemns with no uncertain voice, the claim for an unlimited jurisdiction of the Pope. The bishops of Asia did not recognize the sovereignty of the Pope, when he strove to impose upon the Orient the adoption of the elevation of Easter. Nor did Irenaeus of Gaul, when a Gaulish Victor, by fittingly admonished Victor." Victor was in this respect guilty of an intrusion into the rights and privileges of the bishops of Asia. Dionysius, the Bishop of Alexandria, wrote to the Bishop of Thessalonica as to a letter, seeking advice. "I am to superior looking for a command. Cyprian had very excited ideas as to the episcopate and the human see, but he refused absolute authority. He said: 'For neither did Peter, whom first the Lord chose, and upon whom He built His church, when Paul disputed with him, make any claim to his supremacy, nor arrogantly assume anything as to say that he held the primary, and that he might be obeyed by novices and those lately come.' (Ep. viii: 1-3.) The Popes now claim the exclusive

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right to summon Christian councils; but all the primitive councils, all recognized as valid by other Christian Churches, were summoned by the Emperors and not by the Popes; and none of them recognized the supreme legislative and judicial function of the popes, but exercised these functions themselves, even to the extent of condemning a Pope as heretical."

The primitive church recognized only the sovereignty of the Lord and Savior in matters pertaining to faith and morals. From the day emperors began to meddle with ecclesiastical affairs, as when Constantine called the council of Nicaea, to settle a religious controversy because he needed a united Christian church to further his political schemes, the first great step toward a complete apostasy of the Church from the Lord may be dated. There can be no other remedy than the re-establishment of the divine organization by the Lord himself.

BURIED MANUSCRIPTS.

Some important discoveries have been made, lately, in Egypt at Edfu, near the site of an old Coptic monastery. According to an account in the London Times, a native clearing his ground of stones, accidentally laid bare a small tomb-like receptacle containing a number of parchment manuscripts bound in thick papyrus covers. He sold them to an Arab dealer for a few pounds, and the Arab in turn resold them to a Copt, and they ultimately became the property of Mr. de Rustafjeld, F. R. G. S., the well-known explorer, who sent them to England.

A close scrutiny of the manuscript revealed their character. They were Greek and Coptic writings, dating from the 9th to the 11th century, and a dozen rolls of Greek papyri from the 6th century. The following were among the literary treasures found: Twenty-five leaves of the apocryphal sayings of Christ in a Coptic translation of a lost Greek original, of which probably only thirteen leaves existed—twelve in the National Museum at Paris and one at Berlin. The discovery also comprised parts of the gospels of St. Matthew, St. Mark and St. Luke in Greek and Coptic, the Apocalypse of St. John in Coptic, the history of miracles by Cosmas and Damien (dated sixth century); a sermon by St. Psenethos in Coptic (this copy is unique), a sermon by St. Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem (A. D. 251-286), on the Sacred Cross in Coptic from an existing Greek original (this is the only complete edition), and a unique manuscript in the Nubian language dealing with the life of St. Menos and the canons of the Nicene Council. The volume is in an excellent state of preservation.

From a dedication in one of the manuscripts, the monastery on the site of which they were discovered is proved to have been named "St. Mercury of the Mount of Edfu," and one of the volumes is a history of the martyrs of St. Mercurius.

The fact that these literary productions, which, undoubtedly, were considered very precious by the original owners, were buried in a "small tomb-like receptacle," very much in the same manner in which the plates containing the Book of Mormon were put away in this country, in the 5th century, will not escape the attentive reader. A great many literary treasures have undoubtedly been buried in various parts of the world, to save them from destruction.

LITURGIC SERVICES.

The attitude of one of our local contemporaries on the proposition to close or bridge First South street north of the University grounds, is really surprising. In our judgment the Herald is very much mistaken when it says:

"A real estate company which is planning a very splendid improvement for Salt Lake City proposes to pave a street, lay out a park and otherwise beautify the ground north of the university plat, but is met with objections by the university regents and an effort to obstruct work on the new subdivision. Some of the regents' criticisms may be well founded, although it is not always seen how private property can be held subject to restrictions on grounds only, nor is it common for owners or property to defer altogether the wishes of adjoining owners who have been disconvenienced to their neighbors."

The regents of the University are, as we understand it, seeking to preserve the beauty of the surroundings, the purity of the air, the unobstructed view, and the regular wide city street that has always existed there. They have no personal interest to advance; they serve without compensation and labor devotedly for the welfare of the young men and women of the state.

What shall be said, then, of an argument that refers flippantly to the results of their prudent watchfulness of the interests of the State and the people, or that doubts their zeal and determination in protecting the University of the people? Is it too much to say that such an argument exhibits mere perversity or folly?

The Herald goes on to remark that: "The regents, however, in the university's attitude is the expression of the university's grounds as compared with the improvements which it is proposed to make by it. Whether it is due to the parsimony of the legislature in its appropriations, or whether the regents are so expeditious in finding money and outside improvements in foolish, the grounds of the university, a great educational institution are a joke, as a painful joke to those citizens who have to look upon the weeds, the dried sunflowers, the dusty vistas and unkempt meadow which compose the university's unique environment. The buildings are well built and properly maintained; the equipment is fine and ample; the library every year, the view of the valley, lake and mountains is unsurpassed on this continent, but the immediate surroundings are a disgrace to the state and city, a reflection on the enterprise of the people and an unnecessary blot on one of the most beautiful landscapes in the world."

There is some truth and much error in the foregoing caustic statement. A great deal of money, undoubtedly a fair and reasonable proportion of the annual appropriation made by the State, has been, or is being, expended upon the grounds of the University by the regents, and the grounds present a fair appearance, considering their vast extent (over 90 acres), and the few years that have elapsed since the University has controlled them. Over 6,000 forest trees have been planted and are mostly flourishing thereon. A large space is devoted to lawns and walks already attractive with grass and shrubbery. Many acres of lucern fill the wider areas, and the school gardens of the Normal school has six acres

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A rather strange rule obtained. If a citizen held that he was entitled to exemption from a liturgical service, and that another ought to perform it, he was at liberty to offer the expenses.

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Andromachus, the Bishop of Alexandria, wrote to the Bishop of Thessalonica as to a letter, seeking advice. "I am to superior looking for a command. Cyprian had very excited ideas as to the episcopate and the human see, but he refused absolute authority. He said: 'For neither did Peter, whom first the Lord chose, and upon whom He built His church, when Paul disputed with him, make any claim to his supremacy, nor arrogantly assume anything as to say that he held the primary, and that he might be obeyed by novices and those lately come.' (Ep. viii: 1-3.) The Popes now claim the exclusive

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His fortune with that of the latter. If he refused, the challenger could lock his house and demand an inventory.

The challenged could proceed in a similar manner with his antagonist. After three days the two inventories had to be delivered, and if there still was any dispute as to who had the most property, the courts were appealed to, to decide the controversy.

It has been asserted that the people of Athens invented this mode of taxation, the liturgy, in order to level the inequalities between the rich and the poor, by making the wealthy give up their money all the time for the amusement, or benefit, of the rest of the people. It cannot be denied that by this arrangement accumulated fortunes were largely at the mercy of the government, but when the laws governing liturgical services were followed, the burdens upon the rich were, presumably, not heavy beyond endurance, particularly as they were permitted to own slaves, and could wring out of this unfortunate class all the labor necessary for earning the money required for the performance of the public service.

It is very significant that the Christian church accepted the term "liturgy" to the accepted form or method of conducting public worship, and "liturgy" (Greek Leitourgos) to the one that leads public worship, or the officiating clergyman. If there is any inference to be drawn from the original meaning of the terms, as understood in Athens, it is this that the liturgy, as understood by those who adopted the word as an ecclesiastical term, was a service performed for the church by men called to fill that office without a stipulated salary. If the first leaders of public worship had been paid officials, what possible sense could there have been in calling them "liturgies," and their service "liturgy"—words that were well known to antiquity to mean public officers performing public services at their own expense?" But that was, undoubtedly, the practice in the early churches. The ministers were laboring for their own support, when necessary, or they were content with such contributions as friends would give toward their maintenance in more or less humble circumstances; or they would spend their own fortunes, if they were rich. The ministry was not a profession. It was the performance of a duty to the public, and to God.

We trust that wise counsels may prevail and that the University will never be directly or indirectly damaged by any action of the city council.

LEOPOLD'S EXPLANATION.

King Leopold of Belgium has been greatly criticized for permitting inhuman atrocities against the natives of the Congo state. There is no doubt that the methods by which the defenseless men and women of that territory have been forced to work for the white masters, were more criminal than any known from the days of slavery in the country.

The question has often been asked why the King should care to risk his reputation upon an enterprise of that kind. To a royal friend who not long ago ventured the same query, King Leopold promptly said: "I am the one who keeps you on your throne." This was explained as follows: "Belgium is so active a country, so permeated with socialistic ideas, so overcrowded for its space, some traveling

agents, some weighing many tons, some not more than an ounce or two; are countless myriads of bodies, mostly metallic, ever careering through the void at a velocity computed at about 20 to 30 miles in every second of time, (the speed of the swiftest projectiles in the former case in a moment transmute into incendiary missiles, and shoot out in a second.) And ever onwards and onwards through the wilderness of the illuminous these errant wanderers pursue their lightning career; until, coming within the attractive power of some sun or planet, they plunge headlong into its midst; in the former case in a moment transmute into incendiary missiles, and shoot out in a second.) And ever onwards and onwards through the wilderness of the illuminous these errant wanderers pursue their lightning career; until, coming within the attractive power of some sun or planet, they plunge headlong into its midst; hence the name thunderbolt—burying itself deep in the ground. In November, 1886, our earth passed through a meteorite aggregation, the stars being scattered by friction with the atmosphere; dust; large, probably exploding by the sudden and intense heat caused by that friction, or with a roar as of thunder—hence the name thunderbolt—burying itself deep in the ground. In November, 1886, our earth passed through a meteorite aggregation, the stars being scattered by friction with the atmosphere; dust; large, probably exploding by the sudden and intense heat caused by that friction, or with a roar as of thunder—hence the name thunderbolt—burying itself deep in the ground. In November, 1886, our earth passed through a meteorite aggregation, the stars being scattered by friction with the atmosphere; dust; large, probably exploding by the sudden and intense heat caused by that friction, or with a roar as of thunder—hence the name thunderbolt—burying itself deep in the ground. 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