States—Edward C. Billings, Fifth Judicial District.

United States Attorneys—Alexander M. Brysen, Idaho; Asa W. Tenney, Eastern District of New York; Elliot F. Shepard, Southern District of New York.

United States Marshals—George W. Atkinson, District of West Virginia; John W. Jacobus, Southern District of New York.

Consul-General—Lewis Richmond, Rome.

Consuls—Phanor M. Elder, at Guayaquil; Emilio Constade, at La Union; Edward Backers, at Para; Albert Rhodes, at Rouen; Abbot L. Dow, at Aleppo, India; Arthur B. Wood, at Belfast; John F. Jenne, at Nuevo Laredo; John Frisbee, at Rheims.

Surveyors General of the United States—Orlando H. Brewster, District of Louisiana; Henry Espersen, District of Dakota.

Surveyors of Customs—David N. McClurg, at Cincinnati; John F. Dravo, at Pittsburg.

Collectors of Customs—J. Mason Rice, at St. Marys, Ga.; Sherman C. Slade, at Passo del Norte, Texas; Rodney W. Daniels, at Buffalo Creek, N. Y.; George P. Fowler, St. Marks, Fla.; J. Nathan Henry, at Alexandria, Va.; Horace W. Trumbull, at Stonington, Conn.; Thomas M. Broadwater, at Vicksburg, Miss.

Collectors of Internal Revenue—George C. Everett, Fifth District of North Carolina; William Umbenstock, Fourth District of Texas.

Registers of Land Offices—Henry M. Dwight, at Lagrange, Oregon; William M. Kelly, at Prescott, A. T.; Henry Cousons, at Florence, Wis.; Eben Smith, at Vancouver, W. T.

Receivers of Public Moneys—Aaron Newton Kimball, at Jackson, Miss.; Charles C. Goodfough, at Tracy, Minn.; William H. Somers, at Beatrice, Neb.; Moses M. Bane, at Salt Lake City, Utah; Edwin S. Withers, at Evanston, Wy. T.; Henry H. Griffith, at Des Moines, Iowa; Henry R. Pease, at Watertown, D. T.; Hiram Barker, Jr., at Mitchells, D. T.; Robert F. Munstin, at Helena, Montana; James W. Wilkinson, at Ironton, Mo.

Indian Agents—Samuel E. Mehan, at LaPointe Agency, Wisconsin; John H. Sullivan, at Moquito-Pueblo Agency; Benjamin G. Cassles, at New York Agency, New York; William H. H. Lewellyn, at Mescellero Agency, New Mexico.

Appointment in the United States Navy—Geo. W. Jones, Jr., Assistant Paymaster.

Promotions in Navy—Commodore John Marston, Rear Admiral on the retired list; Captain Richard L. Law to be Commodore; Milton Haxton, Captain, for promotion by date of rank.

Promotions in the Marine Corps—Captain Geo. S. Houston to be Major; First Lieutenant William S. Muse to be Captain; Second Lieutenant Louis Gulich to be First Lieutenant.

DEMOCRATIC SENATORIAL CAUCUS.

THE COMMITTEES.

Special Telegram to The Inter Ocean.

WASHINGTON, March 6.—The Democratic Senators held a caucus yesterday afternoon, at which a committee, consisting of Messrs. Pendleton, Davis of West Virginia, Hill of Georgia, Harris, Garland, Ransom, Farley, Lamar, and Cockrell, was appointed to arrange the majority membership of the select Senate committee. The Republicans are to be accorded four members out of nine, or three out of seven, according to the total number of Senators on each committee. The Democratic Senators, who, by the rule of promotion, may become entitled to the chairmanships of two or more committees, will be given their choice, and the new Senators will be assigned to vacancies thus or otherwise created. The caucus decided to retain the present officers of the Senate. Mr. Pendleton was elected Chairman of the caucus, in place of Mr. Wallace, whose Senatorial term expired yesterday. There was much talk at the meeting of the advisability of deferring a complete organization of the Senate until the filling of the vacancies in its membership, and a definite knowledge of the attitude of Senator Mahone shall positively determine what basis of organization may be relied upon as permanent. A motion for an adjournment of the Senate to March 15 will probably be offered by some Democratic member to-morrow, and it is thought quite possible that the proposed adjournment may be ordered.

IOWA PEOPLE.

SERENADES.

Special Telegram to The Inter Ocean.

WASHINGTON, March 6.—A large number of residents and visiting Iowans assembled Saturday evening at the Iowa headquarters, on Thirteenth street, and organized, with W. W. Belknap as chief marshal of the occasion. Carrying Chinese lanterns and headed by the Clarinda (Iowa) Band, they proceeded to the residence of Senator Allison, where a serenade was given. After the music the party was received with true Western hospitality, and brief speeches were made by the Hon. W. P. Hepburn, Colonel Clark, and others, to which the Senator responded.

Congressman Sapp and family at the Hamilton House were the next recipients of a call, where the visitors were welcomed by Misses Sapp and Thompson. After refreshments, the home of Senator Kirkwood was visited, where a large concourse of friends and citizens had already gathered in anticipation of the coming guests. The visitors were presented to the "War Governor" of Iowa by Mr. Hepburn, Congressman-elect from the Eight District. The new Secretary of the Interior responded in feeling terms, expressing thanks for the kindly greeting of his Iowa friends upon the honor which had just been conferred upon him by President Garfield, and closing with an assurance that he would do his best, as he had always endeavored to do in public life, to faithfully and honestly discharge the duties of the new position to which he had been appointed, and confirmed that day. The party were then admitted to the parlors, and tendered their congratulations to the Secretary and family, after which they dispersed.

ARCTIC SEARCH EXPEDITION.

FIRST ACT OF THE NEW SECRETARY.

Special Telegram to The Inter Ocean.

WASHINGTON, March 6.—The law making an appropriation of $175,000 for the purchase of a vessel to be fitted out as an Arctic search expedition, will be carried out as soon as the new Secretary of the Navy takes charge of the Navy Department. One of his first acts will be to appoint a commission of eminent officers to develop the plan and purposes of the expedition which is to go in search of the Arctic exploring steamer Jeannette and the missing whalers Vigilant and Mount Wollaston. The owners of the steam whaler Helen and Mary have already sent a model of her to the Navy Department, which will enable the Chief of the Bureau of Construction and Engineering to determine here in Washington just what is needed to make her most serviceable on her arctic cruise. Besides the necessary improvements to the vessel, the commission will determine upon a plan of action for the search party, and it is understood that data of a very important nature will be furnished the Navy Department in a few days, which will enable the commission to definitely fix the instructions of the commander of the expedition, so far as the course relates to the Jeannette. It is the opinion of naval officers concerned, and of those who have had experience in whaling matters, that the most certain way of fulfilling the purposes of the appropriation will be to first search for the Jeannette, as the impression prevails that either the crews of the whalers are with the Jeannette, or that that vessel had the latest information regarding their fate. As had been published, Rear Admiral Rogers, Superintendent of the Naval Observatory, who commanded the Vincennes on her Arctic voyage thirty years ago, will be chairman of the commission. The other members will probably be selected from the heads of bureaus in the Navy Department, and perhaps two or three civilians acquainted with polar research will be asked to serve in an advisory capacity. Nothing official can be done until Judge Hunt, the new Secretary, is sworn into office, which will be some day next week.

THE OLD CABINET.

THE LAST MEETING.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—A special Cabinet session convened at 1 o'clock. Present, Secretaries Evarts, Goff, Ramsey, Schurz, Postmaster General Maynard, Attorney General Devens, and Acting Secretary of the Treasury French. President Garfield informed the Cabinet that he would probably send to the Senate about 3 o'clock the list of nominations comprising his Cabinet. In making the announcement the President spoke very feelingly, assuring the gentlemen present that it caused him sincere regret to part with their valuable services. Referring to their respective resignations, which had all been tendered, the President hoped each one would do him the service of remaining in his position until his successor should qualify, which would probably be several days. After some further remarks on this subject, the President inquired after the business of the several departments in a general way. The only matter of importance brought to the attention of the meeting was presented by Acting-Secretary French, being a request from the national banks, recently received at the Treasury Department, that they may be allowed to redeposit the bonds withdrawn, and take out of the Treasury the legal-tenders deposited for the retirement of their circulation. The subject was discussed to some extent, without reaching a conclusion. Acting Secretary French said it was not at all probable any decision would be made by him which would change the regulations of the department regarding the withdrawal of legal-tenders by national banks; that the question would require thorough consideration before it could be finally determined, which could not be given it during the short time he will be at the head of the department.

FACTS AND OPINION.

CHICAGO UNITED STATES MARSHALSHIP.

Special Telegram to The Inter Ocean.

WASHINGTON, March 6.—The United States Marshalship at Chicago continues to be actively discussed among the Illinois politicians, who are here in full force. Mr. Stillwell has friends here who are pushing him for the place, but it is thought that A. M. Jones has the strongest influence and is most likely to receive the nomination.

THE INAUGURAL BALL

was a big financial success. There were 4,400 tickets sold. The concert last night was also largely attended, but the receipts have not been counted yet.

THE NEW CABINET

will be sworn in to-morrow morning at 10:30 o'clock.

VICE PRESIDENT ARTHUR

is one of the popular figures about the capital. Wherever he goes he is besieged by people who want to shake hands with him. Autograph hunters and the ladies especially take a lively interest in and admire him. When he entered the Senate Chamber to call the body to order he was loudly applauded by the full galleries, which so embarrassed him that he hadn't the nerve to order them cleared. Blame was received in like manner when he bustled in with that air of business about him which he wears lately.

MR. WILLIAMS

goes to Wisconsin Monday with the late Senator Carpenter's remains.

PRESIDENT GARFIELD

settled down to business yesterday morning, and his clerks opened several bushels of fresh mail, mainly congratulatory, and from men who want something for themselves or somebody else.

Yesterday, just before Garfield announced his Cabinet, and being the first day he had spent in the White House, he sent for an intimate friend. The friend rushed over, thinking perhaps there was a crisis in the affairs of the goverment. The President talked about the weather, the success of the inaugural ball, and then asked bluntly, "Colonel, what time do they have dinner at this house?"

AT CHURCH.

President Garfield and family attended church to-day at the Little Christian Church, on Vermont avenue, where he has been long a worshipper. The building, a small frame affair, was crowded to its utmost capacity, and overflowed into the yard and street. A still larger crowd congregated in the adjacent streets to see him come out. The old members of the church are very proud, and there is talk of enlarging the size of their hats so as to be able to accommodate the magnificent contributions which will roll in hereafter.

OHIO MEN,

Just previous to the starting of the Ohio Legislature for Washington, invitations were received by the House and Senate from Senators Sherman and Pendleton to receptions at their houses, which are contiguous on K street. Last night the members of the Legislature and Governor Foster, attended by his staff and State officers, called upon the Senators in a body and spent the evening very agreeably from 8 to 11, between the two residences. The whole force of Ohio Republicans present regret Secretary Sherman's retirement from the Treasury, but look forward to some good work from him upon the floor of the Senate.

EX-PRESIDENT HAYES,

accompanied by Mrs. Hayes and their family, left here at 12:30 o'clock yesterday morning in a special car, tendered by Manager Lang, of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad. While waiting for the train to start Mr. Hayes received quite an ovation from the soldiers and citizens assembled. From 11 o'clock until the time of starting he was compelled to stand on the back platform shaking hands with the soldiers and others who crowded to the car. Although it was raw and cold, Mrs. Hayes stood at the side of Mr. Hayes and shook hands with fully as many as did the President, having a pleasant word for everyone. While this was going on the Cleveland troop, the escort of President Garfield, arrived and took seats in the next car to escort Mr. Hayes home and a number of the ladies who have been guests at the White House recently, joined. At 12:30 the special train left the depot amid the cheers of the assembled crowd.

THE FOUNDRY METHODIST CHURCH,

where President Hayes and family have been members and attendants the past four years, was quite as full as usual, owing to its being the last Sunday of Dr. Lanahan's pastorate. The members of this church have formed a strong attachment for the President, and especially for Mrs. Hayes, who has been very active in church affairs and in extending courtesies to the pastor and his people. Every Sunday she has sent plants to the church to decorate the stand, and flowers from the White House conservatory have been frequent. She has been quite regular at the church prayer-meetings, and took an interest in the Sunday school. The President gave $260 per annum to support the services, and he and Mrs. Hayes were both liberal when called on for other church beneficences. In his absence to-day many eyes were directed to the seat usually occupied by him, and it was filled by strangers for the first time in four years.

AN ORDERLY CROWD.

Notwithstanding the presence of many thousands of strangers in the city during the inauguration, there were comparatively few disturbances, and the few there were were due to bad whisky, which flowed freely. There were some complaints of pickpockets at the railroad stations and other points where there were crowds, but they were checked by prompt arrests. There was 97 arrests made Thursday by the police and 186 Friday for various causes; but very few arrests were made of the military visitors, only a few having indulged too freely in bad whisky. Some of the Harmony Legion, from Philadelphia, occasioned a few disturbances along the line of march for this reason. By the prompt and determined action of one of the officers a serious row was prevented by the rescue of a man who was pursued by them for harrahing for Hancock.

DONN PIATT.

In a personal article to-day in the *Capital* Donn Piatt announces his permanent withdrawal from that sheet. He has retired to the green fields of Ohio: He says: "I have built to myself a fortress whose heavy stone wall—cool in summer and warm in winter—bid defiance to political bores. Here, with 'no admission except on business,' painted upon my gate, I propose smoking my cigar in peace, to let the blind old world move on as it may."

SENATE PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The Senate met at noon, but took a recess until 3 o'clock, to await a communication from the President, which Mr. Pendleton stated would be received at that hour.

GENERAL HANCOCK.

Mr. Hoar offered a resolution extending to General Winfield S. Hancock the privileges of the floor during his stay in Washington. Adopted unanimously.

BLAINE'S RESOLUTION.

Mr. Blaine, in accordance with a notice given by him some weeks ago, submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That a special committee of five Senators be appointed by the Chair to take into consideration the mode of voting for President and Vice President of the United States, and the mode of counting and certifying the same, who shall report such propositions for a change in the law and Constitution as may seem expedient; that said committee have power to sit during the recess of Congress, and that they be directed to report on or before the second Wednesday in January, 1882.

Temporarily laid on the table to be printed

Recess.

Upon calling the Senate to order at noon, Vice President Arthur was vigorously applauded by the galleries.

PETITIONS.

The Vice President stated that he had received for presentation a number of petitions for special legislation, but his own opinion, based upon rules and precedents, was that these could not be presented at an extraordinary session of the Senate. He submitted the question as to the disposition to be made of the communications. After remarks by Messrs. Harris and Hill, it was ordered that the petitions be retained by the Vice President, to be submitted by him at the next legislative session.

AT THE REASSEMBLING

the galleries, which during the day had been visited by numerous sight-seers, were densely crowded, and, upon the entrance of Senator Blaine, the more demonstrative of the visitors gave vent to their exuberance by way of compliment to that Senator in loud applause. The demonstration was repeated upon the appearance of Vice President Arthur. As soon as the Chair called the Senate to order, Mr. Anthony called attention to the matter. He presumed that many occupants of the galleries were strangers, unacquainted with the rules. They should be made to understand that any manifestation of approbation or disapprobation was an insult to the body, and would lead immediately to the galleries being cleared.

The Vice President instructed the Sergeant-at-Arms to see that order was maintained.

A MESSAGE

was received from the President of the United States, when Mr. Cameron, of Pennsylvania, moved that the Senate proceed to the consideration of executive business.

The motion prevailed without objection. The galleries were cleared and the doors closed.

THE CABINET.

President Garfield sent to the Senate the names of the persons he has chosen to form his Cabinet, as follows:

Secretary of State—James G. Blaine, of Maine.

Secretary of the Treasury—William Windom, of Minnesota.

Secretary of War—Robert T. Lincoln, of Illinois.

Secretary of the Navy—William H. Hunt, of Louisiana.

Secretary of the Interior—Samuel J. Kirkwood, of Iowa.

Postmaster General—Thomas L. James, of New York.

Attorney General—Wayne MacVeagh, of Pennsylvania.

BISHOP JAGGAR'S PASTORAL.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, March 6.—A pastoral letter from Bishop Jaggar, virtually forbidding church members from attending the Unity Club Sunday lectures, was read in the pulpit of the Protestant Episcopal Churches to-day. The Unity Club is composed principally of members of the congregation of the Unitarian Church in this city.

QUIET nerves and Balmy Sleep in Hop Bitters, for sleepless Ladies and Invalids.

FLATS AND SHARPS.

Or, at All Events, Prime Favorites of the House-renting Throngs.

A General Disposition to Add, Say 10 Per Cent, to the Landlord's Bills.

The Situation in Full, as Set Out by Three Prime Authorities—Prospective.

"It never rains but it pours." It is not enough that Chicago is afflicted with the small-pox, Mayor Harrison, the diphtheria, and the snow, all at once; it is now threatened with a pest which, for a time at least, will produce a greater aggregate of uneasiness and discomfort than any one of the others, except perhaps Harrison. The temporary bad health and bad government of the city go such a little way toward destroying its irresistible attractions that citizens have to face, in addition to their other afflictions, an unexampled increase in the demand for house-room and an impending panic in rents. Nothing, except the Mayor, could cause so much anguish.

To illustrate, Delia and Seraphina are trembling with anxiety lest, after the 1st of May, they may be banished to some doleful suburb, where there is not a ghost of a show for matrimony or sparking. Jennie and Maggie, who work in factories, and cannot afford to patronize the horse-cars, are wondering how many more miles the next two months will add to their daily tramp. Augustus and Harry, who married last spring, and who took their wives to live with mother's-in-law, promising them they should go to house-keeping in a year, are now beginning to hedge, and to catch it. Mrs. Noodles, who hates a flat, with "unknown horrid, vulger people" over and under her, and who with great difficulty became reconsiled to the prospect of living that way, is nearly crazy because she can't get a flat. Jones, who has shipped an immense stock of goods to Chicago, with a view of opening a store, and with a prospect of getting rich in two years, wants to know if it is possible that he and his wife have got to sleep on the counter. And Mr. and Mrs. Highflyer, who dote on society and style, are biting their nails with chagrin, at the inevitable humiliation of moving out of a swell front into a cottage, in "charming May," now near at hand. These are troubles which people do not always mention to each other, and which, when mentioned excite little or no sympathy: but, in time, they make people's hair drop out, and their faces look as wrinkled as a fluted Corinthian column, all the same.

ASCERTAINING THE FACTS.

With a view of ascertaining the exact dimensions of this new horror, a reporter of THE INTER OCEAN visited three of the leading house-renting agencies in the city, one in each division. And his interviews with three close observers of the residence market can hardly be called a solace to those who "have got to move" on the 1st of May. He first visited the establishment of Mr. J. C. Magill, at No. 86 Washington street, and was directed to Mr. Wilder, the clerk, as the most intelligent informant present.

"Mr. Wilder," he said, "is there an unusual demand for residences and house room in Chicago at present?"

"Well, I should say there was," he replied, emphatically.

"How great is it?"

"Great enough to make advertising unnecessary. I suppose any renting agency in town can have thirty applications for residences a day without so much as putting a card out."

"On which side of the city is the demand the greatest?"

"On all three sides; there is no difference."

"How far out into the suburbs does it extend?"

"It extends twenty miles beyond the suburbs. I do not know of a single residence for rent in any suburban town within twenty miles of Chicago."

A real-estate agent from Englewood who was present remarked, at this point, that he could rent fifteen residences in Englewood that day, if he had them, and that he would guarantee any capitalist a return of 10 per cent who would buy and build in that town. He also said that the city people in large numbers were seeking suburban residences to escape sewer-gas.

"Mr. Wilder," said the reporter, "for what class of residences has the demand increased the most?"

"As far as I know," he said, "there is no increased demand for costly residences. The rush is mainly for flats, and for houses which rent for $40 and less."

"What is the increase of rents over those of last year?"

INCREASE OF RENTS.

The rent of stylish houses has not risen at all, so far as I know. The rent of houses that rented last year for less than $40 a month has increased about 10 per cent. But the rent of flats has increased, in many cases, as much as 50 per cent."

"Who are the applicants?"

"An unusually large proportion of them are newcomers to the city, people from everywhere on the globe. You would hardly believe it, but they come here from the depots, with their carpet-bags in hand, before they go to their hotels, in their haste to rent homes."

"Then you attribute the increased demand to an increase of population, do you?"

"I certainly do."

"And how rapid is the increase of population, according to your observation of the demand for houses?"

"Well," he said, "I can't tell that, of course. But the business in this office has impressed me with the opinion that our population has increased 20 per cent in the last twelve months."

The reporter then wended his way to the office of Griffin & Dwight, at the corner of South Halsted and West Washington streets, where the leading salesman, Mr. McNulty, kindly undertook to give him the information he was seeking.

"Mr. McNulty," said the reporter, "is there any marked increase in the demand for houses?"

"Yes," he replied, "a very wonderful increase, in the past year."

"In what class of residences?"

"In every class."

"Are not the stylish residences less in demand?"

"Not on the West Side; I know very little about any other part of the city."

"How much have rents advanced over last year's rents?"

"From 10 to 15 per cent."

"Did they not advance that much last year over the preceding year?"

"They did."

"Then where is there anything wonderful about their advancing that much this year?"

UNPRECEDENTED DEMAND.

"It is wonderful because it is now only the beginning of March. On May 1, 1880, rents had increased 10 or 15 per cent on those of 1879; but they hadn't done so on March 5, 1880. You see we are as yet only on the beginning of this advance. It is certain to increase greatly during the next two months. We have now from 100 to 500 people in this office every day inquiring for houses. But if you will come here a month or six weeks hence, you will see not less than 1,000 here every day on that business."

"Have you any residence property for rent?"

"Only a few inferior pieces, at present. Why, we have rented several houses months ago that will not be vacated until May. We have rented a new flat-tenement four months before it was finished, and received the rent for four months cash down in advance. If we had 1,000 flats we could rent them all at once without any trouble whatever."

"Then, why don't capitalists build more flats?"

"I don't know; it is a mystery. It is the most profitable investment that any man could make. The demand is unlimited, and increases all the time. Biedler's new tenements on West Madison street, between Halsted and Green, not yet finished, cost him about $50,000, around and all, and they are already rented for $10,000 a year."

"Where do applicants for residences hail from?"

"Everywhere on the rolling earth. We received applications on the same day from San Francisco and London, England. But there is a perfect hegira from St. Louis to Chicago lately, and we have multitudes of applications from that city."

"Do people ever come here straight from the depots, sachels in hand, before they go home?"

"They do, very often. A great many of our customers are strangers, who are in the city for the first time."

"Then you think our population is increasing?"

"Very rapidly."

"As much as 20 per cent in a year."

"I shouldn't wonder at all."

"What makes the St. Louis people so anxious to get away from there?"

EXODUS FROM ST. LOUIS.

"The reason they give us is that there is no business in St. Louis, and that there is a plenty of it in Chicago. And they are right, too."

"Have you any residences in the suburban towns for rent?"

"No; they are just as hard to get as anything else, and the rent of them has risen more than the rent of city property. I have just rented a little place in Austin, possession to be given in May, for 50 per cent more than it rents for now."

"How does the demand for houses now compare with the demand soon after the great fire?"

"The demand is greater now than it was then. All our small hotels, like that one across the street, for instance, are just stuffed with families, who are watching for a chance to move out, and to have a home of their own. There never was anything like it in Chicago."

The reporter next called at the real estate agency of Knauer & Brother, at the corner of North Clark and Kinzie streets, and had a long interview with Mr. Knauer on the same subject:

"Mr. Knauer," he said, "have you any residence property for rent?"

"Not a blessed thing."

"How is that?"

"I don't know how it is; but it is so."

"Then the demand exceeds the supply?"

"Well, I should say so. I have fifteen desirable tenants on my books, for whom I am trying to find residences; but I have no residences on my books for which I am trying to find tenants."

"How much have rents risen?"

"From 12 to 15 per cent on the North Side, but more, perhaps on the other side."

"How about flats?"

"They are in greater demand than anything else. Any man who will build flats anywhere in Chicago can realize 15 per cent in rents very easily. It is the best investment that any man can make."

"Where do your customers come from?"

"From everywhere, and from every distance."

"Have you any suburban residences for rent?"

"Not one, within 20 miles of the city."

"Do you think it would pay to rent a vacant lot, and put up tents?"

"I think not. Nobody can tell what becomes of all the waste pins, and nobody can tell where we stow away all our increase of population; but they all get house-room at last, somehow or other. But, see here; you are not going to print these facts in THE INTER OCEAN, are you?"

"That's the programme."

"Now, take my advice, and don't."

"Why not; it will help your business, will it not?"

"It will kill it dead."

"How so?"

CHICAGO'S MULTIPLYING POPULATION.

"Why, you see, the population is just pouring into Chicago now, from all over the world, in swarms, and that makes us prosperous. But if you should let them know in advance how hard it will be to get a house to live in after they get here, they won't come; that's all."

"Oh! you are mistaken," the reporter replied. "It will result in the building of six miles of flats as soon as the snow melts; you see if it doesn't."

From these interviews, and from what he saw and gathered indirectly, and by the way, the reporter made up his mind, without any doubt, that, for this time in the year, there is a phenomenal demand for shelter in Chicago; that this demand has been steadily growing for a year past, and is not the mere excitement of the renting season; that an unprecedented proportion of this demand comes from strangers who desire to make Chicago their home; that St. Louis played her last card when she falsified the census returns, and has nothing before her but the blackness of darkness; that the small hotels are literally crammed with families who abominate that mode of life, but can't get a lodging-room anywhere in the city within reach of business; that there are millions in the erection of cottages and flat-tenements on our vacant lots; that Chicago is growing faster than ever before; and that the people realize fully that the slightest utterance of THE INTER OCEAN has an important bearing on the welfare of the entire community.

THE RAILROADS.

THE LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE.

Special Telegram to The Inter Ocean.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 5.—There are rumors current to the effect that the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Road was to be separated from the Louisville, Nashville, and Great Southern Railway. Ex-Governor Porter, President of the former, denies positively that such a thing had ever been contemplated, or that any action had been had with reference to such a movement. His road, he said, was being managed to the best of the ability of those in charge, and while its governors are on very friendly relations with the management of the Louisville, Nashville and Great Southern Railway, they maintain an independent control. There is no business reason, he said, for the advance in stock during the past few days, it being caused, he presumes, by stock-jobbers in New York. The visit of Vice President Alexander and General Manager Defuniak to Nashville yesterday had no connection with any divorce of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway, as reported. They simply came to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chattanooga Road, of which they are members, and whose action was telegraphed you last night.

AGAIN A CUT.

It is again reported that passenger rates east from Kansas City are being cut. The rate to this city is $5, but to Eastern cities a considerable reduction is made, so that the rate from Kansas City to the seaboard is but $2 or $3 more than to Chicago. It looks as if another passenger war was imminent, and it remains for the General Passenger and Ticket Agents who met in New York Wednesday to settle the matter.

DISCRIMINATION DENIED.

The Traffic Managers and General Freight Agents of roads entering this city will leave for Springfield to-day for the purpose of testifying before the Legislative Committee conducting the investigation of alleged discrimination preferred by various shippers. The officers claim that they have not discriminated between shippers. They will show by their books and records that there is no ground for the charges.

GOULD'S SCHEMES.

The New York *Sun* of Saturday says: "The scheme for consolidating the Gould roads in the Southwest has now assumed definite shape, and contemplates the amalgamation of the Iron Mountain, the International and the Great Northern, and the Texas Pacific in one system, and the Missouri, Kansas and Texas and the Missouri and Pacific in another. The basis of union of the roads in the former system will be 110 for Iron Mountain and International stock, and par for Texas and Pacific, and of the latter two shares of the increased capital stock of the Missouri, Kansas and Pacific to one share of increased Missouri Pacific. The consolidation of the first-mentioned roads will be perfected as soon as Mr. Gould returns to this city. General G. M. Dodge, President of the American Railway Improvement Company, which is building the Texas and Pacific, received a dispatch from Mr. Gould, and says that they had just completed the inspection of the Texas Pacific Road and telegraph, and found it superior to any work of the sort in the Southwest. Mr. Gould and party will reach St. Louis on Tuesday, and this city the last of this week."

THE SONORA RAILWAY.

BOSTON, Mass., March 5.—A private telegram received in this city to-day announces that the Mexican Government has accepted the first section (ten kilometres) of the Sonora Railway, and paid the subsidy of $70,000.

TOLEDO, CINCINNATI AND ST. LOUIS.

BOSTON, Mass., March 5.—The announcement is made by the financial agents of the Toledo, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad Company that, in response to numerous requests from parties who were unable to secure slices of the subscription to the Dayton and Southeastern Railroad, they have withdrawn from the London market a portion of the $2,000,000 subscription to the Toledo, Cincinnati and St. Louis Road now being negotiated for there. The circular states that the allotment will be made March 12, and adds that a consolidation of the Toledo, Delphos and Cincinnati and St. Louis will probably be effected, and the name of the latter company adopted for the permanent organization.

MINOR MATTERS.

Mr. J. R. Wood, of the Burlington Road, has returned from St. Louis, where he consulted with representatives of the Kansas City, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs, and Missouri Pacific Roads regarding Western passenger business.

Mr. W. H. Pettibone has been appointed chief officer of the traffic department of the Chicago and Grand Trunk Road. J. W. Fortune will be Chief Clerk, Jesse Robbins, Stenographer; Fred Zany, Clerk, and F. S. Capron, Stock and Claim Agent.

Commissioner Midgely announces in a circular that special class rates have been quoted on oatmeal in car-lots by the lines leading southwesterly from Chicago. The classification makes no provision for quantity. Flour, which is an analogous commodity and of higher value, is rated special class in car-lots. For that reason only, says the Commissioner, all lines in the pooling association are at liberty, from date, to quote special rates on oatmeal in car-lots, when destined to Missouri River points.

SURPRISED.

On Friday evening, Feb. 25, a very pleasant and enjoyable surprise party was tendered the Misses McLain at their home, No. 2430 Michigan avenue, under the auspices of Messrs. S. T. King and M. W. Teufel. The guests commenced to assemble at about 8 o'clock and were very pleasantly entertained by the hostesses, dancing being one of the principal amusements of the evening. After indulging in the "light fantastic" to the strains of Friedberg's orchestra, the young people were invited to the dining-room, where they found an elegant collation, presided over by Mrs. McLain, Mrs. Van Winkle, and Mrs. Mary McLain. Justice having been done this feature of the entertainment the guests presently dispersed to their homes, much happier for the evening's entertainment.

Among those present were the Misses Jennie Lincoln, Isabel H. Talcott, Susie McLain, Jessie Luse, Blanche Brayton, Bertha Underwood, Nellie Warner, Grace Cross, Maud Hammer, Alice Adams, Lizzie Adams, Lillie Price, Annie Low, Georgie Fitch, Edith Morris, Gertia Arnold, Cora Chapman, Flora Baker, Nellie Bowers, the Misses Barnum and Miss Strader, and Messrs. S. T. King, M. W. Teufel, Archie Van Winkel, C. Warner, A. Devore, E. Hall, G. White, E. Baumgrose, J. Adams, F. Barrell, F. Swegar, Rob. Hunt, Ed. Brewster, Ed. Wilkins, C. Smallee, Underwood, Harry Ledyard, John E. Landell, Watty McCully, R. S. Larrabee, C. Gaylord, Myron Pearse, and others.

THE OTHER SIDE.

Messrs. Shield & Goddard, of the Star Boiler Works, from Nos. 250 to 254 South Clinton Street, complains that in the reports of the strikes recently published some injustice has been done them, by reason of only one side (that of the discontented) having been given. Touching their own individual case Messrs Shield & Goddard say:

"We think we can show as sober, well dressed, and hard a set of men in our shop to-day or yesterday as have left us, and as we are not theoretical, simply but also practical boiler-makers, the quality of work will not suffer in the slightest degree."

THE SOCIALISTS.

At Yesterday's Meeting of the Trade and Labor Union the Aldermen Were Arraigned.

Then the Gathering Listened to Mr. G. M. Sloan's Statistical Lecture on Landlordism.

The Chicago Trade and Labor Union met yesterday afternoon at No. 54 West Lake street, with a full attendance of representatives of trade and labor unions. John Fossel was in the chair and Paul Ehman acted as Secretary.

Joseph Greenhut, from the Committee on Legislation and Election, presented the following resolutions, which passed after some debate:

WHEREAS, The Common Council now receives regular compensation of $3 for each Alderman in attendance at a meeting of said board, and therefore is likely to meet as often as necessary to consider the appropriation bill and the revision of the city ordinances; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Mayor and Aldermen be hereby requested to make sufficient appropriations for public bathing houses, for branch libraries for North Chicago and West Chicago, for regular sanitary and building inspection of tenement houses, factories, and all other places of service or work; for sewers, water-mains, and street-cleaning; for public schools in places where denominational schools contain over 25,000 pupils, and for other public improvements which benefit the great masses of the wageworkers and small shopkeepers, who depend entirely upon the taxing power of the municipality, and especially for a municipal bureau of statistics of trade, labor, and other employment.

WHEREAS, There is now a general rise in rent of buildings and grounds for tenements, lodgings, shops, stores, etc., a rise in the prices of victuals, fuel, clothing, and other necessaries and conveniences of life, while wages of employes and profits of shopkeepers are tending downward by competition and by an avalanche of emigrants from Canada, Europe, and all parts of the United States to this great business and labor center, therefore, be it

Resolved, That industrial and social questions be made matters of debate in the ensuing local election.

T. J. Morgan read a report on the condition of the coopers' trade in Chicago, stating that it is degenerating into a hooper's trade; the machinery doing all the work except the putting on of the hoops by the men, there being no machine invented to fit the hoops onto the barrels.

In the debate on this report it was stated that in most mechanical trades machinery was taking the place of skilled workmen, so that boys and young persons take the place of skilled workmen, who can no longer hope of supporting a family except by making their children earn some money as newsboys, errand boys, cash boys, and helpers in shops, there being no demand for apprentices.

A. O. Bishop read an obituary notice of Wm. Haller, the deceased native socialist of Cincinnati, Ohio.

G. M. Sloan read the resolutions relating to landlordism, which were passed three weeks ago by the Trade and Labor Union, and published in THE INTER OCEAN in full. He then delivered a lecture, of which the following is an abstract:

INCREASE OF POPULATION AND BUSINESS

made such demands for space and location. As land could not be expanded, its area was held to be worth more. This increased value was created by society as an aggregate. No man's share in its production could be traced. Remove the inhabitants of Chicago to-morrow and its lots and houses would as valueless as the temple of Belus. Heretofore society had at first intrusted the use of the land to those who obtained occupancy. Since then it had intrusted it to landlords, as its stewards, but had retained the right of absolute ownership. Society had always asserted that whenever and wherever the public interests—the good of the greatest number—required it, there existed an indefeasable right to deprive the landlord of his occupancy, and on such terms as might be equitable. In America society had always exercised the right when to the majority the public welfare seemed to require it, to take possession of land on the payment of the appraised value. Every student of history knew that every government of ancient times was, in its organization, tribal or democratic in constitution; that the aims of their founders was to promote equality. It was reserved to the feudal system to organize society upon the basis of landlord and serf. If communism should be the final result from the present movements to do away with the old relations between landlord and tenant, master and servant, it would be because man had so developed morally that government, other than that of public opinion, would be unnecessary. But no hard-headed and practical Socialist believed in the possibility of such a sytem to-day. He knew that the law of competition had so intensified selfishness in man that he was not fit for a system in which all must be equally willing to work that all may equally enjoy. As wisdom came to the world the surplus cogs in the machinery of the government were gradually dispensed with. The landlord cog was now under consideration. The landlord naturally thought that it could not be dispensed with. So had thought the slaveholder, the king, the lord, and the Jesuit. To incite the poor to use the ballot, which, if rightly used, would be more powerful than armies, was the way to give them the conditions of happiness. Society was now as fit to use the wealth it created as was the slave to use his liberty. Did the land stewards of Chicago sin? It was their duty as such land stewards to educate our youth, to care for the health and lives of our citizens. As landlords they had failed. In the Fourteenth and Seventeenth Wards they had erected three and even five houses upon single lots, giving their tenants no yards. They had rendered modesty a weakness; decency impossible. Eighteen persons in a tenement was the rule in 776 tenements in those wards where the death rate was 12 to 1,000. Of the children born in its tenements, 64 per cent died before reaching the age of 5. One person out of 88

DIED OF ZYMOTIC DISEASE.

The wealthy or landlord wards of the city had a majority in the Council. The government of the city had permitted this crowding of dwellings until the laboring classes lived packed like sardines; until eighteen more of their children to the hundred are born and die in infancy than among the landlords' children. The lecturer then proceeded to indict the landlords on other counts, among other sins accusing them of procuring the passage of laws at Springfield for their own particular benefit. Assessments, street railway companies, the Health Department, the Citizens' Committee, etc., were all duly noticed by the lecturer in uncomplimentary terms. In London, Paris, and Edinburgh there were no deaths from zymotic disease. In Chicago, out of 10,462 deaths last year, 3,903 or 37.4 per cent had died from filth and its concomitants. Out of 138,000 children of school age, only 50,000 went to public schools; 25,000 more to private schools. Outside of the boys engaged as newsboys, errand boys, etc., there were 53,000 children of whom statistics give no account. Many of them were attending the hoodlum kindergarten. The question of mortgaged homes was then touched upon. Next came the subject of the wages of the working-classes. In 1880 the average wages of the working-classes of Chicago were $415 against $408 in 1879, an increase of 2 per cent, while rents had increased 10 per cent, and the gross production 15 per cent. The lecturer then went at length into the possibility, or impossibility rather, of the workingman's power of saving enough out of his earnings to build himself a home.

The meeting then adjourned until 2:30 o'clock next Sunday.

FOOLING WITH REVOLVERS.

Louis Behrens, a watchman at the Artesian Wells, at the corner of Western and Chicago avenues, is another of those who will not learn that fooling with revolvers is a dangerous proceeding. Behrens res

school at Alexandria, made such frequent quotations from the gospels that his extant works are of great value in settling the true text. He not only claims in one passage that "the Scriptures which we Christians have believed are confirmed by the authority of the Omnipotent," but proposes "to evince from them, in opposition to all heretics, that there is one God and Almighty Lord, clearly proclaim d by the law and the prophets, and together with the blessed Gospel." Again he disposes of a reputed saying of Christ, quoted by certain heretics from an apocryphal book, by remarking: "In the first place, we have not that saying in the four gospels which have been handed down to us." Such language, and

SUCH A CONSTANT USE OF THE GOSPELS,

presupposes that they were in common use among the Christians when he wrote.

6. Tertullian, who was born at Carthage 160 A. D., writes as follows: "Among the apostles, John and Matthew form the faith within us. Among the companions of the apostles, Luke and Mark renovate it." Again, in writing to heathens in defense of Christians, he says: "Examine the words of God, our literature, which we are far from concealing, and which many accidents throw in the way of those who are not of our number." In this very connection he quotes two passages from these Scriptures, one from the gospels and the other from the epistles, with reference to the duties of Christians in respect to civil government. From this it seems that in Africa the gospels were not only accessible to believers but also to unbelievers.

7. Last, but not least, we have the testimony of Celsus, who wrote, according to the best authorities, about 177 or 178 A. D. It was the object of this brilliant heathen controversialist to destroy Christianity by argument. Mr. Norton shows conclusively that his attacks were based on our four gospels. In speaking of the remains of Celsus, which had been preserved by Origen, he says: "It appears from these extracts that Christians in the time of Celsus had historians of our Savior, whose historical accounts they believed to have been written by his disciples; and the genuineness of which was not controverted by him. Without mentioning their authors by name, he frequently quotes and refers to them. It has been observed with truth, that an abridgement of the history of Jesus corresponding to that in the gospels may be found in the remains of his work. * * * He calls Christ himself a carpenter. He speaks of His miracles. of His having cured the lame and the blind, fed a multitude on a few loaves, and raised the dead; and argues upon the supposition that these facts really took place. * * * The numerous objections of Celsus to the accounts received by Christians respecting our Savior are always made to accounts found in the gospels. * * * He nowhere simplifies the existence of any narrative respecting Christ, as believed by Christians, which is not related by the Evangelists. But in attacking these books, that is our present gospels, Celsus evidently considered himself to be undermining the foundations of Christianity; to be attacking books regarded by Christians as of the highest authority, as the authentic records of the history of their Master, composed or sanctioned by his immediate disciples. We have then the evidence of an enemy of our religion, that the gospels were thus regarded by the Christians of this age." It has been shown by Norton and others through quotations from classic authors that ordinary manuscripts could be produced very cheaply, so that one whom Juvenal describes as exceedingly poor was an owner of books. Marbial says that one of his books, containing 272 verses, could be had for two sesterti—about seven cents—and it will be remembered that in the book of Acts we have an account of the burning of magical books by converts which were valued at about $4,250, showing that certain manuscripts were not rare. It is probable that when Christians could secure a copy of the gospels for a few cents, that a great many copies must have been scattered among 3,000,000 of Christians. Now, we are asked to believe that four new gospels, differing from those which had previously been accepted by the church, were received without the slightest objection or debate in Syria, in Africa, in Italy and France, among Christians so diverse, in language and in their religious views; that they were received by Christians, who were neither held together by a supreme pontiff nor a general council, and that they were accepted by some of the most eminent scholars of the age, without discussion, and without the least ripple of excitement being occasioned by this momentous change. Other matters of inferior importance from that period have been transmitted to us, but there is nowhere even a hint of the adoption of these new gospels. Is such a hypothesis, in view of the facts, credible? Would not the introduction of our gospels for the first time in the last quarter of the second century be a greater miracle than the miracles of the New Testament, which unbelievers wish to banish from our Bibles? Is anything after all so credulous as unbelief? Let a man who knows nothing about Biblical criticism, who has been all his days a lawyer, write a book respecting the origin of the gospels, and there are at least some who will ask if the foundations have not been moved. Just as though the investigations and conlusions of learned men through the centuries were to be overturned by the ignorant theories of a man who does not know when it is not best to publish a book.

But to return to the assertion that the presence of the gospels in the last quarter of the second century, simply indicates that they were first written at that time; the absurdity of this supposition has been clearly put by Mr. Norton, who has been quoted with approval by Professor Abbott in the following passage: "About the end of the second century the

GOSPELS WERE REVERENCED AS SACRED BOOKS

by a community dispersed over the world, composed of men of different nations and languages. There were, to say the least, 60,000 copies of them in existence; they were read in the churches of Christians; they were continually quoted and appealed to as of the highest authority; their reputation was as well established among believers from one end of the Chris ian community to another, as it is to-day among Christians in any country. But it is asserted that before that period we find no trace of their existence, and it is therefore inferred that they were not in common use, and but little known, even if extant in their present form. This reasoning is of the same kind as if one were to say that the first mention of Egyptian Thebes was in the time of Homer. He, indeed, describes it as a city which poured a hundred armies from its hundred gates; but his is the first mention of it, and, therefore, we have no reason to suppose teat before his time it was a place of any considerable note."

We have already seen the absurdity of supposing that our four gospels could have been introduced for the first time in the last quarter of the second century, and no record left of their introduction. Such a supposition must also be reconciled with the fact that Christianity was, at that time, in its chief characteristics, a system with well defined tenets. There is certainly no more remarkable phenomenon in history than the origin and growth of the Christian church when explained on natural principles. Its founder died a shameful death. One would have supposed, humanly speaking, that this would have been sufficient to seal its doom. A party, numbering more than 500,000, who had joined a false Messiah, Bar Cochba, one hundred years after Christ's death, were stamped out, with their leader, by the Roman power, and not one disciple of that false Messiah, so far as I know, remains. But the death of Christ, although at first such a terrible shock to His disciples, seemed to be the beginning of new power to His followers. In a few weeks thousands were converted in a day, and that too, although the doctrines preached, humbled the pride of men in the dust, and went counter to their natural inclinations. They relinquished every worldly advantage. Covered with pitch they blazed in the gardens of cruel Nero. They were thrown to the lions; tender maidens were gored to death by infuriated bulls. Special tortures were devised; they were massacred until their persecutors became weary. And still they increased so that at the end of the second century, they numbered, as we have seen, more than 3,000,000, including persons of every rank, and men of the highest education. I will not ask whether there is anything supernatural in such a history. I simply ask, Did they or did they not know in whom they believed? Did they or did they not know anything definite in regard to His history? Had they or had they not any well-defined doctrines? If they had, is it probable that those facts and doctrines would be easily forgotten? Had they or had they not gospels, which had become the sheet anchors of their faith through long years of agony? Are we to suppose that they relinquished the dear old gospels after a hundred years for new and strange ones? The martyrs' gospels would be the dearest ones to the church, and Christians would almost as soon think of plucking out their right eyes as of relinquishing books which had been baptized in the blood of their loved ones. But we are not left to such suppositions, strong as they may be. We have positive proof that Justin Martyr, who was born about the end of the first century, and wrote the treatise from which we quote in 147, was acquainted with gospels which he once designates as such, but usually terms them "Memoirs of the Apostles," or "Memories of the Apostles and Their Followers." It will be seen at once that the force of our argument carries us to an earlier age than that of Justin Martyr. It is utterly inconceivable that the gospels mentioned by Irenæus are different from those spoken of by Justin. We are not, however, left to this argument, for critics are substantially agreed that Justin Martyr was familiar with our gospels. It has been urged that he never mentions them by name, as Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, but it must be remembered that he was arguing in one treatise with a heathen, and in another with a Jew. They neither knew nor cared for the opinions of Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, nor could they well understand the term gospels, which was not current among them. It was therefore most natural that Justin should allude to the gospels as memoirs, or memorabilia of the Apostles. It has been objected to that Justin's quotations are not exact. This failing was not uncommon among the early church fathers. It is not uncommon in this day of concordances, and of chapters and verses. In order to verify a reference in the gospels it would be necessary for him to hunt in a roll where there were neither divisions into chapters and verses, nor even into words. A man might be excused therefore for quoting passages in the gospels according to the sense, especially when it was not necessary that he should give the exact words to his opponents. Now, in view of these facts, the following citation from Justin Martyr is very significant; he says: "On the day called Sunday all who live in cities or in the country gather together to one place, and the memoirs by the Apostles, or the writings of the Prophets, are read as long as time permits." It will be seen from this quotation that the memoirs of the Apostles, which in another place he calls the gospels, occupy the same honorable position as the Old Testament, that they are publicly read in the churches as our gospels were in the time of Irenæus, and that the circumstances in the case do not admit of their having been different books from those which forty years later were so extensively circulated in the churches. Such a supposition is in the highest degree improbable when we remember, as Norton suggests, that "Irenæus was in the vigor of life before Justin's death; and that the same was true of very many thousands of Christians living when Irenæus wrote. But he tells us that the four gospels are the four pillars of the church, the foundation of the Christian faith, written by those who had first orally preached the gospels, by two apostles and two companions of apostles. It is incredible that Irenæus and Justin should have spoken of different books. We cannot suppose that writings, such as the memoirs of which Justin speaks, believed to be the works of apostles, read in Christian churches and received as sacred books of the highest authority, should, immediately after he wrote, have fallen into neglect and oblivion, and been superseded by another set of books.

THE STRONG SENTIMENT OF THEIR VALUE

could not so silently and so unaccountably have changed into entire disregard, and have been transferred to other writings. The copies of them spread over the world could not so suddenly and mysteriously have disappeared that no subsequent trace of their existence should be clearly discoverable. When, therefore, we find Irenæus, the contemporary of Justin, ascribing to the four gospels the same character, the same authority, and the same authors as are ascribed by Justin to the memoirs quoted by him, which were called gospels, there can be no reasonable doubt that the memoirs of Justin were the gospels of Irenæus." But we may assert more than this. The nature of our argument goes to show that the gospels which were received as inspired, when Justin wrote in 147, and which were publicly read in the churches, must have originated long before his time. He could not have regarded these books with such reverence had he known that they originated twenty-five years before, or had he not regarded them as written by apostles and companions of apostles. Indeed, he spoke of them as "memoirs composed by the Apostles of Christ and their companions." Now, in this connection, it must be remembered, as I have remarked, that Justin was born toward the close of the first century; that he was a man of more than ordinary education, and had traveled much. All these considerations serve to bring him into connection with the times of Papias, who wrote in the first quarter of the second century, and who records the testimony of John the Presbyter as follows: "The Presbyter said that Mark, being the interpreter of Peter, carefully wrote down all that he retained in memory of the actions or discourses of Christ; not, however, in order, for he was not himself a hearer or follower of the Lord, bu afterwards, as I said, a companion of Peter, who taught in the manner best suited to the instruction of his hearers, without making a connected narrative of his discourses concerning the Lord. Such being the case, Mark committed no errors in thus writing some things from memory, for he made it his sole object not to omit anything which he had heard, and not to state anything falsely." Of Matthew, Papias says: "Matthew wrote the oracles in the Hebrew language, and every one interpreted them as he was able." It seems, then, according to this testimony, that the gospels of Matthew and Mark were known before the time of Papias. Efforts have been made to discredit the statement of this church father, because, while Eusebius speaks of his learning, he sets a low estimate upon his intellectual abilities. This, however, would not unfit him for being a credible witness as to a question of fact. Nor is this testimony of Papias all. The Acts of the Apostles, which, even according to the extremest German criticism, as represented by the Tuebingen school, were not written later than 110, but which must have been written much earlier, allude in the first chapter to the Gospel of Luke. As regards the Gospel of John, modern critics of the rationalistic school have been compelled to admit that it was written somewhere between 100 and 140 A. D., most of them placing it at 120. But Professor Abbot mentions the fact that John died about the year 100, and pointedly asks: "How could a spurious gospel of a character so peculiar, so different from the earlier synoptic gospels * * * gain currency as the work of the Apostle, both among Christians and the gnostic heretics, if it originated only twenty-five or thirty years after his death, when so many who must have known whether he wrote such a work or not were still living?" But, aside from the testimony of Justin Martyr, Papias, and the author of the Acts, it is to be remembered that the first fifty years of the second century was a time of intellectual dearth. There were too many disturbing influences arising from persecutions and other causes to allow of its being a period of literary productiveness. The apostolic fathers were overshadowed by the apostles. They felt and expressed their inferiority. Clement of Rome, who, according to the best authorities composed an epistle to the Corinthians between 93 and 97 A. D., writes simply as a mouthpiece of the church at Rome, which is struggling on the same arena with that at Corinth, and bids them take up the epistle of the Apostle Paul, who wrote to them, as he affirms, under the inspiration of the spirit. Moreover Polycarp, who had been a disciple of the Apostle John, in writing to the Philippians, disclaims all authority, and plainly says: "These things, brethren, I write to you * * * not because I take anything upon myself, but because you have invited me so to do. For neither I nor any other such one can come up to the wisdom of the blessed and glorified Paul." We find similar expressions of humility in the epistle of Ignatius to the Romans, which was, perhaps, written in the first quarter of the second century, where he makes this confession: "I do not, as Peter and Paul, issue commandments unto you. They were apostles; I am but a condemned man." And Barnabas, who, according to many critics, wrote in the year 71 A. D., uses such expressions as these: "I further beg of you, as being one of you, and loving you both individually and collectively more than my own soul." And again: "Now, being desirous to write many things to you, not as your teacher, but as becometh one who loves you, etc."

Men who expressed such sentiments as these, indicating the inferiority which they felt to the apostles,

COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO FABRICATE GOSPELS

and assign them to Matthew and John of the apostles, and to Mark and Luke respectively as companions of Peter and Paul. But then it must be remembered that Clement of Rome, Polycarp, Ignatius, and Barnabas were the representative men of the early part of the second century. And if they, who were the leaders of the church, did not presume to arrogate Apostolic authority to themselves, is it to be supposed that there were others of lower station and less influence who would write Gospels and attribute them to the Apostles and their trusted companions? But we are not shut up to these arguments. Our position is strengthened by a credible tradition. There were certain churches which were founded by Apostles. The fathers of the last quarter of the second century affirm that these churches are witnesses to the Apostolic origin of the Gospels. Furthermore, the tradition clearly indicates the four Evangelists as their authors. Origen, who was born about the year 185 A. D., and as a youth was remarkable for his learning, writes: "As I have learnt from tradition concerning the four Gospels, which alone are undisputed in the Church of God under Heaven, that the first in order of the Scripture is that according to Matthew, who was once a Publican but afterwards an Apostle of Jesus Christ. * * * * The second is that according to Mark, who wrote as Peter suggested to him. * * * * The third is that according to Luke, the Gospel commended by Paul. * * * * Last of all that according to John." In his commentary on the preface to Luke's Gospel, which begins, "For as much as many have taken in hand, etc.," he makes the following interesting observation: "In this word of Luke's, 'have taken in hand,' there is a latent accusation of those who without the grace of the Holy Spirit have rushed to the composing of gospels. Matthew, indeed, and Mark, and John, and Luke have not 'taken in hand' to write, but have written gospels, being full of the Holy Spirit. * * * * The church has four Gospels, the heresies have many."

In like manner, Tertullian, of Carthage, writes near the close of the second century: "We lay it down in the first place, that the Evangelic Document had for its authors apostles, to whom this office of promulgating the gospel was assigned by our Lord Himself. And if some of them were companions of apostles, yet they did not stand alone, but were connected with and guided by apostles. * * * * Among the apostles John and Matthew form the faith within us. Among the companions of the apostles, Luke and Mark renovate it." So, too, Clement, of Alexandria, who, as has been observed, was at the head of the catechetical school of that city, writing about the Jews in 190, gives the tradition as follows: "The gospels containing the genealogies—i. e., Matthew and Luke—were written first. The following providence gave occasion to that of Mark: While Peter was publicly preaching the word at Rome, and through the power of the Spirit was making the gospel, his hearers, who were numerous, exhorted Mark, upon the ground of his having accompanied him for a long time, and having his discourses in memory, to write down what he had spoken. Mark, composing his gospel, delivered it to those who made the request. * * * In the last place, John, observing that the things obvious to the senses had been clearly set forth in those gospels, being urged by his friends and divinely moved by the Spirit, composed a spiritual gospel." We pass now across the Mediterranean and up the Rhone to Lyons, where, in 178, we fine Irenæus, the successor of the aged Pothinus, who, at the age of 90, sealed his testimony to the religion of Christ with his blood. Pothinus was connected with the apostolic age, being born about the year 87. Irenæus therefore, as a bishop of the church at Lyons, was connected by a single link with the apostolic age. Moreover, he had in his youth listened to the teaching of Polycarp, who was a disciple of the Apostle John. He was, therefore, doubly connected with the apostolic age. Hence the following tradition, given by him, is very weighty: "We," says Irenæus, "have not received the knowledge of the way of our salvation by any others than those through whom the gospel has come down to us, which gospel they first preached, and afterward by the will of God transmitted to us in writing, that it might be the foundation and pillar of our faith. * * * Matthew, among the Hebrews, published a gospel in their own language, while Peter and Paul were preaching the gospel at Rome, and founding a church there. And after the departure from life, Mark, the disciple and interpreter of Peter himself, delivered to us in writing what Peter had preached. Luke, the companion of Paul, recorded the gospel preached by him. Afterward, John, the disciple of the Lord, who leaned upon his breast, likewise published a gospel while he dwelt at Ephesus, in Asia." Justin Martyr—147 A. D.—undoubtedly alludes to the same tradition when he speaks of "memoirs composed by the apostles of Christ and their companions." Papias, as we have seen, in the early part of the second century, mentions Mark as the interpreter of Peter, and Matthew as having written the oracles in the Hebrew language.

It is incredible, when we consider the

SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT OF THESE TRADITIONS

and their well nigh universal acceptation, that they should not be true, besides, Mr. Norton has argued with great force that it needed but a single link in the chain of succession to connect the old men of the time of Irenæus with the apostolic age. Such being the case, the Christians of his time could not be ignorant of the manner in which the gospels had been regarded by their predecessors; and in his time the belief in the genuineness of the gospels was established throughout the Christian community.

It was my purpose in this discussion to have shown that our gospels have come down to us essentially without interpolations. Even the exclusion of those passages which have been proved to be interpolations do not affect any doctrine. But I cannot longer trespass on your patience. Let us, in closing, for a moment review the ground over which we have passed. I have shown that, notwithstanding the wide diffusion of the church in the last quarter of the second century, our gospels alone were universally received as the standard of faith. Although the lands where it was found were widely separated in race, customs, and language, still we have no record of the introduction of our gospels, and no evidence that they ever displaced any other gospels. And yet, since the origin and growth of Christianity presupposes several well-defined tenets and historical facts, it is impossible, if gospels had been already adopted by a church of martyrs, that they should have been rejected without a struggle, of which some trace must have come down to us. It has been further shown, on critical grounds as well as from analogy, that the gospels mentioned by Justin Martyr, in the year 147, were the same as those spoken of by Irenæus forty years later; that Papias, in the first quarter of the second century, doubtless alludes to two of our gospels; and that it is not probable that the apostolic fathers, who lived at a period of greatest literary activity, and who disclaimed all apostolic authority, should have written gospels which, by an unvarying tradition, are ascribed to the apostles Matthew and John, and to the companions of Peter and Paul. I can only add that the arguments given in Norton's work on the genuineness of the gospel, to which I am much indebted for the preparation of this discourse, seem to me, in the light of my previous investigations, to be in the main unanswerable. The foundations of our faith in this respect have not been shaken, except in the imaginations of those who wish to believe a lie.

THE DAILY INTER OCEAN, Feb. 12, 1881.

PROFESSOR SWING.

"THE ENEMIES OF MAN" THE SUBJECT OF HIS SERMON.

The Rev. David Swing yesterday delivered the following sermon at Central Church:

My soul is weary of my life.—*Job* x., 1.

A classic orator is said to have pictured the ills of life in colors so dark that he was forbidden to speak in public, because so many went out from his audience to seek the peace of death. Without the aid of such oratory suicide was almost a popular resort in the olden times. In that Hebrew world out of which the stream of modern religion flows it was common for men who had come upon some great misfortune to seek that cure which the destruction of consciousness was supposed to bring. Defeated commanders often ordered some slave to kill them, or in the absence of such a servant they would fall upon their own sword. In the Greek and Roman lands suicide was an equally popular method of escaping great and long-lasting sorrow. In the empire of China self-destruction is still a ready refuge for those encompassed by any form of evil heavy to be borne.

There is in our modern nations a large amount of self-destruction, but the relative quantity has greatly diminished as civilization has advanced. The population of the civilized portion of mankind is much greater than it was in the Hebrew or classic period, and must therefore present more of all the phenomena of virtue and vice. Relatively this crime has diminished from the two factors in modern civilization—a better condition of existence and a better philosophy of troubles of every name. In barbarous tribes suicide is almost unknown, for the manifest reason that their minds are not sufficiently awakened to cause that susceptibility which brings a longing for the end. The more culture the greater is the susceptibility of the soul to happiness or misery. As man descends in the scale of merit, suicide diminishes and in the brute world disappears, but the converse is not true that the more civilization the more of self-destruction, for all will depend upon the condition of life which a given civilization may bring, and upon the philosophy of life it may happen to teach. Our age is bringing a higher average of contentment; is bringing an industry and pursuits which brace up the mind and cheer the soul; is making more general all the means of extracting good from these three-score years, and is, thus far, taking away from the multitude motives for abandoning these shores. An improvement has taken place also in the common philosophy of existence, its aims and motives and methods. The ancients believed in fate and demons and bad luck, and had little faith in, or even knowledge of, a world where reason and industry are the general wheels of motion and the chief ministers of public and private affairs. Men have always stood helpless and hopeless in a world which seemed under the control of fate or luck, but, when reason has come into man's mind, it has generally cast a sunshine into the heart. Culture of the mind has brought suicide when it has led mankind out of barbarism into a civilization defective in some of the fundamental estimates of life. Even in our France the popular view of the world is often so defective, such a single pursuit of what is called pleasure, that over the failure of that wild chase many who have known of no great meaning as being in these years, have sought that sleep which brings as they assume neither evil nor good. We conclude, therefore, that civilization may come, and is coming, in such ideas as will make the burden of life grow more and more light where it assumes such a quality in any of its many forms. Man is not in our era the victim of a pitiless fate, but is more the builder of his own fortune, and hence

HIS CAREER SEEMS HOPEFUL,

even when it is full of present trouble. The fatalism of the pagans has gradually faded away into a form of human liberty, and as a result less frequently comes to the lips the soliloquy of Job, "My soul is weary of life."

The present is not only the greatest of all periods in its industry and inventions and education and personal liberty, and in appreciation of the beautiful, but it is the greatest of all ages in its philosophy of itself. No former epoch ever reached so rational an estimate of the mission of mankind. Our world is yet too full of the miserable and unfortunate, but so far as we can see the genius of two continents, Europe and America, that genius is clothed in a new beauty and a new peace. Fewer souls than formerly feel that life is a burden; it is carried more willingly, the common regret being that it must be surrendered so soon. In our epoch the former enemies of man become his friends. Beginning with the Deity and descending to the humblest agency capable of affecting in the least the feelings of the heart, we find the foes of the past becoming the allies of the present, and what was once the clouds of adversity becoming the sky of a calm and sweet light. The Deity who once was either an iron despot or else an embodiment of bad passions, a Being fond of the pain of humanity, has become the embodiment of an infinite reason and love which offer to each one sweet and wise laws of His sojourn here. God has become known as a wonderful net-work of laws, and laws so unchanging that none may fear any caprice or injustice, and laws so universal that they apply alike to a king and a beggar. These laws are the path not of human misery, but of happiness, and millions are finding in them an abundant reward of their obedience. The Creator thus becoming humanity's friend, many of the details of His creation fall rapidly into the ranks of man's benefactors, and, instead of leading him to suicide, lead him to a consciousness of victory. Count hastily the enemies which encompass man in his attempt to make a forward march. The very skies seem to be his foes at times, and compel him to combat almost daily with the elements. In the uniform and summer-like climates man finds an occult foe, for his mind and body weaken and he must move northward and plant his cities and towns and his industries in the temperate zones. So he plants his colonies upon a bleak coast and begins his long war. The winters are long and tumultuous. The gentle and white snow which at first is the joy of each school child, and which, at its first fall in November awakens a strange thrill of joy in older hearts, turns into a powerful monster as days pass, and often compels man to sit down and confess his powerlessness. His trains which he boasts of as being able to fly by day and night forty miles an hour, lessen their speed and at last lie heloless as an infant. At a vast outlay of money and labor by men worn out in the extra toil, man's boasted engines again move, and for a day he has all the happiness of being a conqueror; but in an unexpected hour, or in an expected hour, back come the hosts of the sky and the wheels of trade again pause. A troop of locomotives dash against a snowdrift twenty feet in height or depth, and and seem to groan with a final sense of defeat. When these barriers of snow melt, then down upon man comes the same enemy in the form of a flood. The banks of the rivers are broken down or climbed over, and cities and towns and farms and valuable accumulations of labor are suddenly damaged or ruined. When the inundations and snow-drifts have had their way, then other antagonists appear and fires come to keep the peace of man from finding a regular home in his heart. His home, his town, his city or his forest or his field, is swept by this unfeeling enemy.

WHEN THE DEVOURING FLAMES

swept around this lake ten years ago a hundred thousand people were rendered homeless and $200,000,000 in property were destroyed. In the flood in Spain, two or three years ago, 30,000 persons were rendered poor or were drowned in a few awful hours. When you pass away from these gigantic enemies of man it is only to find a large number of smaller ones coming to annoy the districts they cannot assail and destroy. In our Northwest the cold has been so intense and transportation so impossible that two families have been known to move into one house that the other house might be burned up for fuel. Bridges and railway ties have been thus applied to keep the family circle from death. Sometimes when the people emerge from such exhausting winters and see the grass of spring, and the heart has begun to shake off its "long grief," then the rain ceases to fall, or the insects of the ground or the air come and make the green field as lifeless as the middle of the wagon road. Thus the heart sinks and rises and rises and sinks. The foes of the wheat crop are so many and so varied that it seems often a wonder that the beautiful grain can escape them all and ever arrive at that perfection called harvest when the field so waves in gold. In Ireland sometimes their life-sustaining plant fails for a half dozen years in succession. What intervals of rest these foes of the field might offer are filled in with a battle with insidious enemies of the body. Disease in countless forms stands around man like so many wolves of the prairies or mountains, and dispute over his frame as the evil spirit contended for the body of Moses. In infancy this warfare begins, and there may be truces now and then, but no lasting peace is declared. From an unrelenting necessity man is in perpetual war.

What enumeration or measurement is there for those foes who pass by us under the names of poverty and ignorance and race and heredity and accident and misfortune! Amazing are the enemies of man, amazing in their number and in their power! It need not be a matter of wonder if at times some mortal should cry out, "My soul is aweary of life!" Not many, however, do send up into the air these words, for in the wiser and deeper study of society many of the enemies of man are converted into friends. The history of the human family has revealed the fact that the mind and body are made into power and beauty by this conflict with the forces that oppose the march of mankind. Accepting of this teaching of experience, the most of the children of the two leading continents accept joyfully of a life marked by many disappointments. Obstacles have become interwoven into our philosophy. They are not the vengeance of a God, not the harsh action of such fate as followed Orestes and Œdipus but a part of the earthly plan which transforms little children into noble men and noble women. To these manifold ills language has repaired to find some of its choicest words. The words triumph and victory would have been impossible in a world where man had encountered no difficulties. Such a star would have had no laurel wreaths, nor foreheads worthy of a chaplet. One of the most sublime ejaculations in old eloquence is that of the old saint who said:

"I HAVE FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT,

and henceforth there is laid up for me a crown." Out of his combat he had gained that inexpressible consciousness of having overcome great difficulties—a happy consciousness which, in his poetic fervor, he called a crown. Whoever will pause to consider what a part has been played in forming human character by those actions designated by the terms "triumph" and "victory" will perceive the relation of difficulties to all mental and moral development. It is possible that a world might have been made which would have grown upon its bosom great souls who had met with no opposition, but our earth was no such arena. Its philosophy is that of enemies, and, through obstacles, success. The natural foes, called climate, and winter, and storm have been those angels in disguise of which we have heard so much. Unawares the human race has entertained them. The conflagrations and the floods have asked the mind to re-study the duties of charity. The frosts and the soils, the rains, and the winds, and the fires have compelled the art of architecture to appear, the storms of the sea compelled man to build the massive and powerful steamship and the Eddystone lighthouse, the wintry wind evoked the dwelling house, disease created a certain student of the body and of its many relations, the ignorance and passions of society gave the intellectual power of the lawyer, the disputes of nations gave us statesmen, the wrongs of the people gave us the champions of liberty and the opportunity of men to become heroes, the disposition of nature to hide her forces called forth the mental power of Watt and Morse and Gray, the greatness of the universe made the greatness of the astronomer, and the intricacies of truth, dwelling as it does in a palace which is also a labyrinth, have given us such intellects as Bacon, Newton, and Locke.

Man seems to have been sent to earth upon a special mission, that of winning victories. He was therefore set down amid enemies. He had allowed him by the Creator just friends enough to keep him from dying. The sun and the air and the fields and the rains and the trees became at once his allies (far) enough to stand between him and a quick ruin. Up as against these assistants arose hosts of hostile powers, and his life began in a conflict. When the colonies were founded in New England they had only one option, to toil or starve, and the modern physical and mental beauty of that part of our land came from that alternative. When the excess of the Eastern population was compelled to move Westward, these exiles built up plain homes in Michigan and Illinos and Wisconsin, and nature raised over these new cabins or, cottages the same flag, with the motto, "Labor or Starve," and the beauty and measureless richness of these States tell us what kindness lay beneath the iron-like severity, vindicating in a new field of action the old hymn,

"The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower."

justifying, also, the other form of expressing the same thought,

"Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face."

In the life of nations the waste caused in the great cities by idleness and its attendant vice is made good by the influx of new and powerful and pure brains from the country where the young

ACCEPT THE STRUGGLE OF EXISTENCE.

The young man who in poverty learns out in the open fields and in the whispering woods what labor is, when the day begins and what it is for, and what night is for, what food is for, for what is money and how it may be honorably secured and wisely applied, these passing through a schoolhouse or perhaps a college, appear at last in a city and keep up its accumulation of thought and honor and religion and professional power and its sciences and arts. As the valleys are watered by the melting snows or showers of rain from a chain of far off hills, as the grandeur of Egypt was the result of far away and unseen lakes which made the Nile, so the great cities of the world are fed by the brains and hearts which are built up in the great country-wilds which possess little of indolence or luxury but labors enough to make each lad into a Hercules.

In most exact accord with such a scheme of human welfare the last book in our Bible repeats, I think, seven times the phrase: "To him that overcometh." The rewards offered are wonderful, ranging from a divine benediction to a throne. Such a display of prizes in the domain of religion assures us that man's life is all of a piece, a unit, and that he approaches the good in each just as he approaches that of heaven through that long overcoming chanted in this poem of John. The prayers and fastings which make a saint are emblems of the denials which make a scholar or a statesman or a hero. All intellectual greatness comes by one path. It is much worn because in it have walked alike the saints of religion and the giants in intellect, those who have carried a cross or have studied a volume, those who have lived for benevolence or those who have lived for an art or an industry. Religion comes to us with a truthfulness because it is thus seen fitting so well the facts of the surrounding experience of man. It makes its saints as the earth makes its heroes. The heights of heaven are held by those who have come up through great tribulation and, behold! the heights of earth are held by those who have made the same difficult ascent. The forty days which Jesus spent in the disconsolate desert and which laid the foundation of that mock or shadow-sorrow called Lent are an emblem of the forty years which the Israelites spent in painful wanderings and which man spends in trial before the border of any promised land can be seen—forty years in which hours may come when the lip shall whisper the words that the heart dare not speak aloud. "My soul is weary of life."

There remains, as it seems to me, a conclusion of great comfort to be drawn from the thought that man was sent here to win victories. We have seen that man is borne into the tumult of battle. He meets an enemy as harsh as his mother is kind. By means of efforts and hopes and longings he is made great through successive victories. We have followed him this morning in his long and thorny path. This question is asked us now by the solemn depths of the sky and by all the mournful winds of a summer midnight. Does this triumphing creature meet at last with an utter defeat at death? Do his enemies all close up around him and transfix his soul upon that mound called the tomb? Is this being, all whose earthly grandeur comes from his warfare and victories, to sink at last in an overthrow the most perfect and sorrowful of which the mind can conceive? If so, how beggarly are all the triumphs which seemed awhile ago to be transforming him into the semblance of a God! A great general once filled all Europe and indeed the world with the number and splendor of his successes. He saw kings at his feet as suppliants.

HE HAD EMPIRES TO GIVE AWAY.

Even England, for hundreds of years the most powerful of states, trembled in her island home when the lands across the channel were shaken as by an earthquake by the tread and the guns of this mighty chieftain. But at last all this victory died like a flower. He who had crowns to give away became a beggar, and the empires, equal to a continent, contracted until they became a lonely rock in the sea! Can it be possible that that retreating victor is an emblem of man, and that all those who have fought upon a nobler field than military ambition ever knew must see their learning and virtue and charity all fade, their loves and friendships shrink until the grave shall hold all and be all? Nature and revelation alike say not. Why should the Creator send his children here to win victories and then deny them that one victory without which all all else is vain—the victory over death? It cannot be. Man is a conqueror. He was born to that destiny. You see in all the features of his face and soul that he is not a child of failure, but of success. Paul utters the most probable solution of this mystery when he says that the last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. This, too, must be put under foot. Such a result is made evident not only from the history of Christ, but from the assumption that the Infinite One who placed man here in this field of conflict, and who ordered all his bright successes to spring up from trials, will not abandon His children in that hour when they shall most need help against an enemy. Death is the common foe of us all. His desolation is the widest and deepest. Compared with that monster all other enemies seem gentle as friends. If man was sent into this earth to be a victor, at the tomb more than at all other points does he need the chaplets of laurel. In such a final conquest the career of man on earth would find a sublime completion. To this final overcoming all the other palmy days would then point. Successful in labor, successful in study, successful in his affections, successful amid temptations and many sorrows, he stands at last triumphant at the grave!

"The world recedes, it disappears,
Heaven opens to his eyes, his ears
With sounds seraphic ring;
Lend, lend him wings, to mount, to fly!
O grave, where is thy victory?
O death, where is thy sting?"

DR. THOMAS.

A DISCOURSE ON "AGNOSTICISM" DELIVERDD BY HIM YESTERDAY.

The Rev. H. W. Thomas preached the following sermon at the Peoples' Church (Hooley's Theater):

If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.—*John*, vii., 17.

We have all noticed the fact that many new words—new at least to the public ear, are coming more and more into daily use. This is mainly due to the marvelous mental activity of our times, in which the old and recondite discussions that were once confined to the schools of speculative philosophy and theology have in our day come into the foreground of popular thought. The doctrines of the schools have reached the people, and hence the terms in which these doctrines are expressed are becoming more common. And this is well: for these terms, when understood, most conveniently designate great systems of thought. One of these words coming into common use, and that must have a place in the thought of this hour, is Agnosticism. This is from the Greek word *gnoisis*, or knowledge, and with the negative particle means not knowing: and hence we have the term Agnostic as applied to those who deny the possibility of religious knowledge, or who content themselves by saying of great religious doctrines, "We don't know; there is no way of knowing; God may exist, the soul may be immortal, there may be a heaven and a hell, but we don't know it; and, not knowing the facts, we cannot affirm them, neither will we deny them." They abandon the subject as not lying within the field of either the known or the knowable.

The presence and increasing growth of this Agnostic school of thinkers in our day suggests to us the extremes and contrasts of human thought in different ages of the world. Before the days of Christ; as far back even as the days of Alexander the Great, when that conqueror subdued Egypt and founded the city of Alexandria, we find coming together there the germ of many systems of thought. There were the minglings of Jewish, Egyptian, Persian, and Grecian learning in the Alexandrian schools. And out of those strangely mixed pre-Christian theories there arose about the time of Christ, and flourished in the early Christian centuries, the school, or schools rather, of the Gnostics, or the knowing ones. These thinkers claimed a superior knowledge, a kind of esoteric culture not known to the common people, and not knowable except to those initiated into its mysteries. The history of these schools is involved in great obscurity, but enough is known to say that they attempted to grapple with the deepest problems of human thought. They dealt with the questions of God, of first cause, of the origin of evil, and of final destiny. They drew from all sources of literature—Hebrew, Greek, Egyptian, and Buddhistic, and out of all sought to combine a system of thought, in which they conceived of God as the Absolute, the impassive and as being known only as revealed through in successive *aeons* and manifestations in nature and mind. Thus the ancient Gnostics claimed to know. This was one of their peculiarities: they were the knowing ones.

The presence of these philosophers stimulated, and even necessitated a degree of speculative thought in the church. The Gnostics were partly in the church and partly out; and to meet the demands of thought, and to correct seeming errors the church, too, essayed the task of formulating systems of theology, and trying to explain and to harmonize the great mysteries. The church differed from the Gnostics in this: the church sought to be scriptural, to explain the mysteries by Scripture, and to make them accord with Bible teachings: the Gnostics were in the main simply philosophers: they relied almost wholly upon reason, and had little regard for the authority of revelation. But they agreed in this:

BOTH CLAIMED TO KNOW,

and both gave form to their facts and reasonings with all the confidence and the authority of knowledge. And in this spirit the church in the scholastic ages went on to formulate its faith with great particularity and minuteness. It defined God and the Trinity and the atonement and heaven and hell as minutely and specifically as if they had been surveying a tract of land, or analyzing the properties of a chemical compound. And from this positiveness there grew up an age of easy faith: an age of ready and large beliefs, and these came to be enforced by civil and ecclesiastical authority.

But another age dawned upon this. It was the age of the Baconian philosophy, an age in which the thinking of the world was directed to the observation and the study of the facts of nature. From this came science, or the knowing; not in a speculative sense, but from experiment and demonstration. But still the great questions of God and the origin of things, the questions of the soul, and of good and evil, continued to challenge investigation; but the investigation has led to very different results, especially in the hands of many philosophers. Accustomed to exact methods and the most rigid analysis