

EARLY FORMS OF CREEDS.

We find on the whole that the creeds given in the Acts of the second century are simpler than those given in third century Acts. Thus in the Acts of Apollonius, Christ is merely said to have been the Word of God, made man in Judea, where He taught all goodness to men, and was crucified. No mention is here made of His resurrection or of His miraculous birth. As Apollonius was familiar with Paul's epistles, the omission of the resurrection from his creed must be accidental. But the absence from such professions of faith of references to the miraculous birth from a virgin is so frequent, that we may infer that it was not universally received among Christians of the second century, as, indeed, we know from Justin Martyr, that it was not. Sometimes we read simply that the Christ was born in an ineffable manner: e.g. in the Acts of even so late a saint as Demetrius of Thessalonica. In the third century the references to the Virgin Mary become fairly common, though no early martyr ever invoked her aid. Their prayers were ever addressed to Jesus the Messiah. Towards the end of the third century, and not before, do we meet in genuine Acts with the doctrine of the Trinity in Unity. Before that epoch the saints were content with the simpler formula of God the Father, and of His Son Jesus Christ.—F. C. Conybeare, M.A., late Fellow University College, Oxford, in "Monuments of Early Christianity."

LAYING UP TREASURE.

It is said that Carnegie sent \$30,000,000 in cash to London for safe keeping last fall during the panic. In fact, a gentleman who ought to know told us recently that he could give the names of American millionaires who hold deposits in the Bank of England for more than \$300,000,000. He declares that they are preparing for the revolution they plainly see coming.

And their miseries are coming upon them, as St. James warned them in his Epistle v: 1-6, when speaking of the close of his cycle, a period corresponding to the present when the close of a similar cycle is imminent.

The knowledge of this nether world—
Say, friend, what is it, false or true?
The false, what mortal cares to know?
The true, what mortal ever knew?

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

The Theosophical Society is not a secret or political organization. It was founded in New York in November, 1875. Its objects are:

1. To form a nucleus of a Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or color.

2. To promote the study of Aryan and other Eastern literatures, religions and sciences, and demonstrate the importance of that study.

3. To investigate unexplained laws of nature and the psychical powers latent in man.

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The only essential requisite to become a member of the Society is "To believe in Universal Brotherhood as a Principle, and to endeavor to practice it consistently."

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No person's religious opinions are asked upon his joining, nor is interference with them permitted; but everyone is required, before admission, to promise to show towards his fellow-members the same tolerance in this respect as he claims for himself.

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Attendance at the following meetings of the Toronto Theosophical Society, 365 Spadina Avenue, is invited:

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SUNDAY, 9.45 a. m. to 10.45 a. m., Scripture Class.

SUNDAY, 7 p. m., Public Meeting, at which Theosophical Addresses and Readings are given by members.

SUNDAY, 8 p. m., Class for the study of "The Secret Doctrine."

FRIDAY, 8 p. m. to 10 p. m., Public Meeting for the informal discussion of the World's Religions, Sciences and Philosophies. This Meeting is specially intended for those who are unacquainted with Theosophical ideas, and who seek information.

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A meeting for the members of the Society is held Wednesday evenings. Persons desiring to join the Society should apply to one of the officers or members. The entrance fee is \$1.50. Annual subscription, \$1.00.

Books may be had from the Society's Library on application to the Librarian.

The programme for the ensuing month will be found on another page.

The down town office of the Society will be found in the Medical Council Building, 157 Bay street, and is usually open between the hours of 10 and 5.