

Immortality.

W. H. HINSON, MONTON.

Men utterly refuse to believe that death ends all; and a belief in immortality is practically universal. It is found outside of the sacred volume, written on tablets older than those which bore the Decalogue, even the fleshy tablets of men's hearts. For under all constellations, in every condition, clime and circumstance, men have been found clinging to a belief in human deathlessness.

And the permanent impression of the race will not be disregarded by the thoughtful mind. For this belief has struck its roots down into the sub-soil of savagery, and has lifted its fruitful branches among the tallest civilizations of the world.

The old Greeks, the monuments of whose past greatness are the cherished treasures of the present generation, kindled into flame the stuporously thought of an ætium where the departed lived again. And the Romans, as "death locked shields they assailed cities with a dogged, conquering persistency that characterized them, clung to this faith.

In his "History of Christianity" Dean Milman says: "The immortality of the soul and its inseparable consequence, future retribution, have been assumed by the legislators as the basis of all political institutions."

Barth Foss tells us: "The fact of immortality has been overwhelmingly reaffirmed, and evermore with multifold emphasis by the general judgment, conscience and heart of mankind."

High Blair says: "A belief in the soul's immortality has been proclaimed among mankind. Never has any nation been discovered on the face of the earth so rude and barbarous, that in the midst of their wildest superstitions there was not cherished among them some expectations of a state after death, in which the virtuous were to enjoy happiness."

Dr. Martensen: "The unconditional destiny of all men is immortality. President Payne responds: "Glorious immortality, angel of divinest beauty, clothing earth's darkest forms with white robes of light, and shedding feeble lustre on the most gloomy." Dr. Spenser writes: "Revolve in thy mind and what is man?—a dream, a sigh, a throbbing, nothing? But blessed to feel life's immortality are brought to light."

Without a belief in immortality, writes Mrs. Miller, "religion is as an arch resting on one pillar, the end of which is abyss." While Canon Edmondeston declares that "man on the threshold of death must look to an actually destined future."

In speaking of this desire for immortality, which, like Hope, is "an eternal in the human heart, it has been called it so distinct of the soul. In "Fæstus, Bailey, speaking of himself, says: "I feel the instinct of immortality life within me, which prompts me to provide for it."

You remember, Mr. Johnson's counsel concerning reading? "Read the book

you do honestly feel a wish and desire to read; our wishes are presentations of our capacities." And he adds: "This is a noble saying, of deep encouragement to all true men, applicable to our wishes in regard to reading, as to other things."

President Hopkins has grandly said: "There is in us unity of matter. It divides itself endlessly into molecules and atoms. But we are one. We know ourselves to be one being. I hold myself to be one being. It was thirty five years ago, when I became president of my college, I knew nothing of it. Now I know that the protoplasm is not the same; that has changed many times. How then can the protoplasm of to-day read the Bible? It is thirty five years ago that I was born, and as though God had anchored this consciousness of permanence in a flowing stream of matter, to show that it cannot be the product of that matter."

The reading of the Westminster Confession shows us that the good men who framed it had not attained to all truth, but that they had attained to some truths which their fathers, taking in some measure copy from it, adopted. Four years ago, when a revision of the Scriptures was advocated by Baptists not a few in the denomination were opposed to it, I knew it was a noble undertaking, and shrouded vigorously for the "old-fashioned Bible."

The Bible has withstood assaults made upon it hitherto, and we may be confident that it will continue to stand with daring scholarship has not attempted to question the doctrine on which the Christian world rests its hope, or to prove the Book an unsafe guide for faith and action. Men who startle us by what we deem an iconoclastic spirit, nevertheless reverence the Bible for its worth, and its acceptance of and love to Christ none who know them question. They may be mistaken in some of their conclusions, but the great need just now is patience.

The Standard speaking of the Young People's meeting in connection with the convention soon to meet in Chicago, remarks that "it is not to be viewed as a mere effervescence of youthful zeal, but as a scheme to enliven the routine of christian service with some novel protestant reverence and earnestness, and toward monotony and dullness, or an ambitious impulse in persons fond of leadership. It is already proved that the new idea represents a reality, and that in its working out a new force enters into the general organism of our modern Christianity."

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Not to be taken with any of the following: Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Headache, Stomach Troubles, etc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the undersigned has received the power of attorney from the estate of the late Wm. J. King, deceased, and has the same filed for record in the office of the Registrar of the Court of Probate in the County of Kings, on the 25th day of June, 1897, in accordance with the provisions of the Act in that behalf amended.

Wm. J. King, deceased. The undersigned has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the above mentioned sum of money, and to inform you that the same has been paid to the undersigned in full.

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