

the world not inspired ; and I ask again, *Why* must we judge the Bible by a standard different from that we use in the case of all other books, " sacred " or secular ?

Not on account of the stories of miracles it contains, surely, for all the other sacred books of the world are full of them ; and if on that ground the inspiration of the Bible is established, you can in exactly the same way, and with equal truth, claim inspiration for the sacred books of the Chinese, the Hindoos, Mahomedans, etc. There is not a solitary argument that has ever been invented to prove the inspiration of the Christian Bible that cannot be used with equal force to prove the validity of the same claim for any and every so-called sacred book the world has ever seen.

Let me tell you why you want the Christian Bible treated in this unfair way. It is, because it pays the Christian priest, and you, true to the instincts of your profession, prefer to put pocket above principle.

You say : " The Bible is the word of God, as it professes to be, or else it is a fraud." And to illustrate this idea you say : " A man tells me that Jesus of Nazareth was a good man, but then there were other men just as good. He was a Spiritualistic medium, but there are other mediums just as powerful in these days " " To be sure," you say, as if you were clinching an unanswerable argument, instead of simply bursting your own soap-bubble, " I have not heard of a Spiritualistic medium giving a public dinner to five thousand hungry people ! "

Neither have I ; but I have read of many cases within the last year where people have starved to death, in spite of the 25th verse of the 37th Psalm. There is not a city on this continent from which, in every hour of the twenty-four, there are not prayers by the hundred ascending from hungry men that God will furnish them with food or the means of earning it, and you know as well as I can tell you that these prayers are not answered.

You say you " have not heard of a Spiritualistic medium hushing winds or calming a storm." Neither have I ; but there is scarcely a newspaper whose every issue does not contain accounts of storms at sea, when scores of brave men go to a watery grave, but there is no record that Christ ever interfered