

was created to fill the positions from which they were hurled on account of pride. Hence their inveterate opposition to mankind, especially to Jesus Christ, the seed of the woman who has been, and is, bruising the serpent's head. Can we reconcile these views by supposing the new heavens and earth will be the old ones refined?

THE PEN.—The art of printing was not discovered till about 1440, so that as the pen was employed prior to that period in copying the scriptures, etc., for transmission to succeeding generations, it was effectual, insignificant as it may appear, in carrying on the design of the Creator of the worlds. It is employed in the preparation of the matter comprising the substance of the many scientific, historical and religious books that have been so useful in the improvement and enlargement of our intellectual powers, and in carrying on the work of redemption. I think we should not forget to mention here, the ninety-five theses Martin Luther penned and then nailed to the gates of Wittenberg on the 31st of Oct., 1517, which were instrumental, in the hands of God, in commencing the glorious reformation of the sixteenth century: a stream, the blessings of which, are still flowing to the world, and will continue, till "the knowledge of the glory of God covers the earth as the waters cover the sea."

EXPLANATION OF I JOHN 3 : 9.—In direct accord with the contents of this passage, Paul says: "It is no more I that do it, but *sin* that dwelleth in me." Rom. 7 : 17. And if the sin that dwelleth in us, causes thoughts, words or actions that produce a sense of guilt, promise is made: If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father.—1 John 2 : 1.