

through the air from Nazareth. We dissented from this theory and said we would as soon believe that the Colosseum at Rome had been brought by angels through the air. "And so would we," said one of the priests, "if there were as good evidence for it." It reminded us of the saying of Tertullian, "Credo quia impossibile"—"I believe because it is impossible."

But now a leading Roman Catholic authority, *The Catholic World*, a high-class magazine, published by the Paulist Fathers, New York, repudiates the whole story. It shows that it is a baseless tradition. The legend is that on the night of May 9, 1291, the Holy House of the Virgin at Nazareth was carried by angels to Dalmatia; on December 10, 1294, was again carried across the Adriatic to Rikanati, in Italy; on August 12, 1295, was carried to the top of a neighboring hill at Ancona, and later still to its present site. The first account of this translation through the air was made in 1525, or 235 years later. From this all subsequent traditions are based. The shrine of the Virgin had long existed at Ancona, around which gathered these accretions.

The Catholic World goes on to recite the historical evidences of the existence of the Holy House at Nazareth long after its alleged translation. Indeed, we have ourselves stood in the very house still regarded as that of the Virgin Mary. Many miracles were wrought at the four times translated shrine house. "But," says *The Catholic World*, "these no more prove the fact of its miraculous translation than the miracles of Ste. Anne de Beaupre at Quebec prove the authenticity of that special relic of Saint Anne."

If the same historical spirit that disowns this myth would get rid of the legends of the Holy Coat of Treves, alleged to be the seamless robe of our Lord; of the Veronica at Rome, said to be the napkin with which a pious woman wiped our Lord's face; and the many relics of the true cross, enough, it has been said, to freight a ship, it would clear St. Peter's ship of many of the barnacles which impede its progress.

The recent visit of Dr. Booker Washington calls attention to his noble work. He is the Moses of his people, leading them into a land of larger liberty and industrial independence. The gospel of



THE LATE DR. HARPER.

work, he says, is as essential as the gospel of grace. This victim of wrong is the nameless son of a slave mother, who has come up from the lowest depths of poverty and ignorance.

DR. HARPER.

The life story of Dr. Harper, the distinguished President of Chicago University, is one of inspiring heroism. Though smitten with a mortal disease, and knowing that his days were numbered, he nevertheless went on his way, working to the top of his strength, to the very last, and then serenely, calmly, having served his generation by the will of God, fell on sleep. He was a youth of remarkable precocity, a graduate at fourteen or fifteen, a professor in his early twenties. When called to the presidency he laid the plans for a fifty million dollar university with scarcely a dollar in sight. But his very audacity won the sympathy of John D. Rockefeller, who furnished the millions needed for the development thus far of this great university, whose many courses and all-the-year-round studies are a new departure in college life, and furnish the eager student an opportunity to win his way through college by the work of his hands as well as of his brains.