

So also J. W. Dawson, LL.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., the discoverer of the representative of the earliest geological life on our globe, says that the assumption that the ruder races of men are the oldest "is probably false as being contrary to history, and also to the testimony of paleontology with reference to the laws of creation."

### NO RELIGION IN THE SCHOOLS.

The *New England Educational Journal* says: We must resay what we have said before, that it is a mistake to give up everything to this outcry against all religion in the schools. Like every other turbulence of the popular sea, it has its "Hitherto shalt thou come, and here shall thy proud waves be stayed." Prohibit according to what the *Saturday Review* satirizes as the President's "whimsical recommendation," all religious, atheistic, or pagan instruction, and the outcry will be still the same. We are not the people to be long content with negations—certainly the majority, being neither atheist nor pagan, will, sooner or later, rebel against negations so proscriptive. We have, it is true, made a sad dissent, even here in Puritan New England, from the unbending religiousness of our better days, towards the laxness, indifference, and positive irreligion of revolutionary France; but we are yet, after a fashion, dominantly Christian; we have the right to treat ourselves as such; and, however for the time we may suffer the politicians to "rush us" onward in this "*Mardi Gras*" panic, we shall sooner or later discover the disgrace and danger of our position, and force a re-action. And of the really Christian portion of the nation, we shall not be surprised to see, in our own day, the overwhelming majority, awaking to the utter stupidity of attempting to silence the Roman Catholic clamour by this expedient, and turning in disgust from the spectacle

of an educational anatomy from which the very centre of all life and coherence has been taken. It will then be found out, that what we wanted was not "no religion in the schools," nor indeed "the Bible in the schools" as a mere dead symbol, but rather a regulated religious and moral instruction, on the broad catholic basis of such ancient and ever-living symbols of natural morality, Christian faith, and personal piety, as the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer. That Christian people, and even Christian ministers, instead of meeting the fact of true education, and of the national existence, by planting themselves squarely on some such ultimatum have gone to work to secure a surrender most unqualified and demoralizing, of our whole ancient usage and principle, is one of the strange phenomena of the times. It is not calculated to increase confidence in the wisdom of our spiritual guides, the soundness of our religious organizations, or our abiding capacity for self-government.

### SKEPTICISM DECLINING.

We have long known that German skepticism was ebbing from that tide which had so long overflowed universities and churches alike. A writer in a late number of *Bibliotheca Sacra* mentions the following facts in proof of this decline:

"1. That in the German universities the rationalistic lecture rooms are now empty, and the evangelical crowded; while fifty or eighty years ago the rationalistic were crowded, and the evangelical empty.

"2. That histories of the rise, progress, and decline of German Rationalism have been appearing for the last fifteen years, in the most learned portions of the literature of Germany.

"3. That such teachers as Tholuck, Julius Muller, Dorner, Twisten, Ullman, Lange, Rothe and Tischendorf,