

THE GOOD CHRISTIANS.

Another popular argument is, that as so many good people believe in Christianity, therefore it must be true. If all the people called Christians were good, and all other people were bad, this argument would have some value, but such has never been the case. We know that many good people are easily imposed on, which is just the more reason why they should be told that such is the case. This is a fight against delusions and not against the deluded.

THE BETTER WAY.

There is an old and true proverb which says: "Take the clean water in before you throw out all the dirty water." One weak point in much that goes under the name of modern free thought, is that very little effort is made to teach a systematic code of ethics. This system is worse than useless. Many gems may be found scattered here and there through the Bible among which there is bad, foolish and useless. My contention is that a good book of moral philosophy should be all good, and not good and bad mixed together. I propose in this series to give a few gems from Confucius, and the great Stoic philosophers. The west can learn a great deal more from Confucius than the disciples of Confucius can learn out of the Christian Bible.

WISE SAYINGS.

Thus, if we assent to Comte's famous law of the Three States, Confucianism really represents a more advanced stage of civilization than Biblical Christianity.

Knowing that personal example is the most effective way in which a father can teach his sons what is right, he unhesitatingly attributed the same powerful influence to the personal conduct of the sovereign, and went so far as to declare that if the ruler was personally upright, his subjects would do their duty unbidden, if he was not upright, they would not obey, whatever his bidding.