

crime (there was for ages no distinction between sin and crime), every member of the community had a right to the observance of these rules by others, as well as the duty to observe them himself. And it was the god or the deified ancestor who inspired the king or judge in deciding what was the right, that is, what was in accord with the original plan. All law was divine, and from a divine law-giver; and man could not make or change. "Great Pan is dead," the gods have passed away, the heroes have lost their traditional power; it is recognized that man may—and must—make rules for himself—*vox populi* is now indeed what *vox dei* was supposed to be; and for all practical purposes *vox populi est vox dei*. Nor god nor king has "the right divine to govern wrong": that is reserved for elected Parliaments and Legislatures.

Far be it from me to compare the sovereign people or their representatives to the bacillus, the spirillum—but from a god to a voter is in the same direction—though the distance may perhaps not be quite so great—as from a god to a typhoid germ.

And both professions have profited by the change. In medicine, the supernatural is almost if not quite effete. No longer is that grim passage of Scripture quoted, "And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet until his disease was exceeding great. Yet in his disease he sought not to the Lord, but to the physicians. And Asa slept with his fathers." [I pause here to say that it may have been his name, which means "physician," that made Asa prefer the doctors; and I further remark that it seems to have taken two years for them to kill Asa, even with this disease of the "feet."]

Nor would now much, if any, attention be paid to such an argument as was with fiery ardor launched against Simpson's proposition to use chloroform in midwifery. The Scottish clergy inveighed against the practice as sinful, as being, they said, an attempt to interfere with the primal curse laid upon the woman: "In sorrow thou shalt bring forth children." Simpson, indeed, replied with some effect that the first surgical operation on record was anaesthetic; for when the excision of one of the costae was to be made from our first ancestor, the Operator "caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and Adam slept."

No plague or epidemic comes now from the superior, but from the lower and controllable—and nothing is sacred to the hygienic physician.

And in like manner all reverence is lost for old ideas in law—we know now where our law comes from; if we do not like it, we change it; the new is ruthless with the old. It is a distinct