

The Hindus have a mystic egg as well as the Japanese, and the Chinese use dyed or painted eggs on sacred festivals.

The Romish and Greek churches adopted the mystic egg of Astarté, and consecrated it as a symbol of Christ's resurrection, and in Russia the presentation of an egg at Easter is the usual compliment among people of all ranks, high and low ; and besides the ordinary painted or dyed eggs, beautiful ones made of porcelain, sugar, chocolate, and various other materials are sold at the shops, and they frequently contain some articles of jewellery, such as a pair of diamond ear-rings, a broach, etc.

In Presbyterian Scotland, where there is neither Easter, nor Lent, nor Christmas, Astarté's day is, however known as Egg Sunday, and the school-boys vie with one another on that day, as to who can eat the most eggs.

I have seldom met with the Pasch or Easter eggs since I have resided in Toronto and supposed the custom had happily fallen into disuse ; but it has lately been revived in another form as the new-fashioned illuminated Easter cards generally bear an egg, accompanied by a religious text or motto.

Enough of Pagans and Paganism, but what shall be said for those Christians, in name at least, who worship their God with fire, and fill their churches and houses with carvings and paintings for the use of religion, with graven images and depicted images either on walls or windows,* and with similitudes of the Babylonian triangle

* I do not condemn all paintings in dwelling houses, for my own walls are covered, but among them there is no representation of my Divine Saviour (whose image is, I trust, in my heart), neither of saints nor of angels. I have, it is true, a Seggiola, valued both as a good copy and an heir-loom, but (and amateurs may call me a goth and skeptics a bigot) the halos, faint as they were, and the tiny cross are painted out, so that it is now no longer a Madonna, but only what Raphael really painted, an Italian peasant woman and her two babes. One little rood in a house may seem to some as trivial, but as *The Record* said lately "One rood screen and one retreat may not, perhaps, be esteemed much in a church, but one case of scarlet fever may in its progress decimate a population. It would be thought a serious thing to pass over a case of rinderpest because it was solitary."