

inwardly digest the lesson taught us in the birth, progress and promises of Communism.

Communism is the child of Pantheism. The Pantheist begins by believing and teaching that God is the soul of the world, that God is all things and that all things are God. According to this belief (the grandest, the most dangerous and most impressive of all forms of atheism) men are a part of the great ALL, as each wavelet is a portion of the vast ocean.

To many of our readers that opinion may appear so wild and so visionary that its disciples cannot be conceived as able ever to do any harm to society by such lofty and unmeaning speculations. Let us remember, however, that error is like a grain of thistle seed as really as truth is like a grain of mustard seed. The germ that falls into the ground this year may be insignificant enough, but in a few years a whole district may be under the noisome weed. It has been truly said that the error that is in the brains and studies of the philosophers of one generation, will be found in the mouths and lives of the common people of the next generation. The philosophers of Germany, of the past generation taught the people that each individual was a part of God, and that, therefore, they were all parts of the same great *All*, and therefore, again, parts of one another. The politicians of this generation have taken the pantheistic premises (that look so speculative and remote from the market), and have on these premises, by a rigid logic, founded Communism. If we are all parts of God and of one another, if there is no personality in God, nor personality in man, if we are all drops or waves in the great ocean of Being, then let us carry out the grand idea and let us found on it a new political order, in which all individual rights shall cease, in which the nation is one, in which all power and property are in the Commune.

The grim, horrid issue to which the Pantheism of Germany has brought that country teaches us some practical lessons.

1. Let us beware of the Pantheistic tendency of modern periodical literature. Our newspaper press, and our monthly and quar-