

ceived numerous letters entreating him to bring his heroine to a happy end, stating that the happiness of the writers depended upon the issue. Is it not an ineffable disgrace to allow our natures to be thus acted upon? We trust the day is dawning when both man and woman will feel themselves insulted by any writer or speaker attempting to act thus on their sensibilities, rather than to rouse their reason and enthroned their conscience. Such literature grows phantom-corn, not veritable fruit; food for sylphs, not for men. These emasculating, gasy books must be renounced, for the *Spirit* of Christianity is that of power and truth. Its aim is not to nourish sickly sentiment, but to awaken healthy thought; not to make men whine and laugh amidst fleeting visions, but to worship and labour amidst immutable realities. All *anti-religious* literature must go. All books which aim to crush the religious element in man, quench the sense of moral obligation, rupture the tie which attaches him to the Everlasting—whatever form they assume—whether they come in the philosophy of Hume, the wit of Voltaire, the scurrility of Paine, or the eloquence of Gibbon—we must repudiate, for the spirit of Christianity is that of reverential loyalty to the Eternal. All *sensual* literature must go. The writings which appeal more to the passions than to the reason, excite more animal feeling than spiritual thought, kindle in the inner temple more carnal fire than mental light, whatever garb they assume—narrative or novel, poetry or prose; penned by Fielding, Moore, Byron, or even geniuses superior to either—are condemned by the spirit of that system which demands the mortifying of the flesh.—All *temporizing* literature must go. Books that lower the standard of moral obligation, that advocate expediency rather than right as the rule of life—that enforce what is best now, rather than what is right for ever,—that view man rather as the citizen of time than the offspring of the Infinite and the heir of eternity, must be put away from us. They are hostile to the spirit of that religion which requires us to do all to the glory of God. Judging books, then, by the simple and practical test propounded, how much of the literature of the world is antagonistic to the spirit of Christianity?

We leave our readers to ponder the important thought contained in this testimony; and close by solemnly urging a deeper interest and closer study of the book of books.

“ This book, this holy book, on every line  
 Marked with the seal of high divinity,  
 On every leaf bedewed with drops of love  
 Divine, and with the eternal heraldry,  
 And signature of God Almighty stamped  
 From first to last; this ray of sacred light,  
 This lamp, from off the everlasting throne,  
 Mercy brought down, and in the night of time,  
 Stands, casting on the dark her gracious bow,  
 And evermore beseeching men with tears  
 And earnest sighs, to read, believe and live.”

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#### HOW THE CHURCHES DO, IN ENGLAND.

The brother in authority in these pages, says that some notes by an eye-witness of the state of religious matters in England would interest his readers.