

guages, and of Hebrew. Latin and Greek literature contained models of literary excellence, while Greek and Hebrew contained the primitive record of a great historical faith. To understand the true significance of the faith it was necessary to understand the original records, in which it was given first to the world. The great weapon against the religious corruptions of the time was 'the Bible and nothing but the Bible, and its interpretation in the spirit of antiquity, Men had to receive the truths of God anew and to start afresh, as it were. Hence, too, the necessity of still maintaining scholarship in a historical church, if it is not to become an organ of ignorant fanaticism, and alienate all save the unhistorical vulgar; nay, even because of its extravagances and superstitions, shut out the majority of reasonable men. In Philosophy, Literature and Art, and Theology alike, we must ever and in all ages fall back on original sources and be constantly bringing to light the original meaning of what has been achieved by our ancestors, and this by a critical study, not only of their language, but also of the conditions of past life. This, in fact, is History in its fundamental sense; and it will be granted universally that if Man is a progressive being, he must understand the steps of his past progress, or go on repeating the barbarisms, not only of language, but of thought and life, which preceded the great intellectual epochs of the Hebrews, the Greeks, and the Romans—the nations which have laid the foundations of our modern political societies, and our individual culture.

Language, then, being the common bond of all the workers of the Renaissance period, we must not be surprised that it should, as with the Ciceronians, itself become an object of idolatry with many. This was one of those extravagances that belong to

all great movements, whether they be intellectual or æsthetic, political or religious. Note also that the idolatry of language was a restoration of the ideal of education from the time of Augustus, viz., Oratory. But we must never forget that the revival of Greek and Hebrew had other than literary objects in view. Reuchlin, in first introducing these languages into Germany, truly prepared the way for Luther, by fixing attention on the original records, and thus on the true meaning, of Scripture.

*(To be continued)*

NIAGARA.—Electricity, the greatest modern revolutionizing force, is about to bring about another great change in Niagara Falls, having created a demand for increased facilities which have resulted in the Niagara Falls and Clifton Suspension Bridge companies taking steps to erect a fine, large new steel arch bridge across the gorge to replace their present suspension bridge. This latter bridge was built in 1889, and was so constructed as to create the impression that it would last almost forever. Then, however, the uses of electricity were not so widely known as now, and the trolley-line development not so great. Since then trolley-road construction at Niagara has been very active, and there is a demand for a bridge to allow of an international trip around the gorge. To meet this demand the bridge companies referred to will build a steel arch. The width of this structure will be 49 feet, 23 feet of which will be devoted to a double-track trolley line, on each side of which will be a carriage way eight feet wide, and beyond these elevated walks for pedestrians, each nearly four feet in width. The abutments of the proposed structure are now being built, and the superstructure, it is expected, will be erected next Spring.—*The Electrical World.*