

proud of myself. I will think highly of myself. In no other way can I manifest greatness." The most robust egotist of our era was Walt Whitman, and what a contrast his large impersonal utterance presents as he voices the spirit of the age! I had rather be damned in the good old fashioned orthodox way, than be saved by some of the questionable methods lately proposed.

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W. B. YEATS' article "Ireland Bewitched," in the *Contemporary Review*, has elicited some criticism. A writer in the *Dublin Express* takes exception to some of his views, and declares: "I find the true note of Celtic spirituality, no less in Burke and Berkeley and Goldsmith, giving colour and cogency to all their work

Like some grave mighty thought threading a dream.

It is the same spirituality—the strength of the man linked with the wisdom of the child—and not a spurious mysticism, which is the true source of literary, and indeed of all energy. For it is one of the deepest fallacies of our age to set over against each other as essentially opposite types, the mystic, the contemplative dreamer, and the man of action. This is an unnatural divorce—as those who read the life of (say) Dante or St. Theresa will find—for the intellect and sense are not contraries but complementaries. We Irish have, perhaps, kept the secret of this medieval synthesis of character: but if we have we must recognise it (and make others recognize it) as our strength and not our weakness."

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.—

J. T.—The nine worthies are Hector of Troy, Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar, Joshua, David, Judas Maccabæus, Charlemagne, King Arthur, and Godfrey, Baron of Jerusalem. M.S.—The Index Librorum Prohibitorum is a list of books, issued under the authority of the Roman Church, which may not be possessed or read by its members. The Index Librorum Expurgandum or Expurgatorius is a similar list of books

which may be read only after the deletion of specified passages. John T.—You must decide for yourself whether you need or want to learn Sanscrit. Mr. Charles Johnston, Flushing, Long Island, N.Y., is the best teacher in America, and I believe gives instruction by correspondence. J.R.—In the Theosophical Forum for July, 1888, Mr. Judge answers the questions, "How can a black magician be known? How should he be treated—as a part of the Universal Brotherhood?" C.C.—Latin ceased to be a spoken language about 580, A.D. You might roughly calculate from this the probable duration of English. F.W.—Read *Letters That Have Helped Me*, especially ch. xii. J.K.—Prof. J. Rhodes Buchanan was born in 1814. Cyclist.—"The great wheel was Anupadaka." See Stanza 1. This was before the pneumatic tyre age. U.S.—I do not agree with you. Punch has been cleverer than ever lately, with its drawings by Phil May, Bernard Partridge, Raven Hill, and others. G.C.—Stedman's *Victorian Anthology* is the best and most representative collection of modern British poetry. K.B.—Britain is the greatest Mahometan power. There are 130,000,000 followers of the Koran under the Union Jack.

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CITIZENS frequently enquire what theosophy does for the state or the nation or the municipality. There is no principle of the theosophical movement appears more important to me than its non-political character. What is needed is the recognition of the interaction of all departments of the body corporate. Government at present is but a series of experiments in which each ruler benefits more or less by the results achieved by his predecessors. The strictly original men never do much, for the reason that evolution is the natural plan, and the greatest progress is only possible to him who knows thoroughly the elements to be dealt with, the factors of recuperative stability, and whose sympathies embrace both the goal attainable and the raw material to be dealt with. Our contribution to