

desire to go forth with the announcement on their lips—'We have found the Messiah.'"

(c) What, then, is the religious state of the nation at the present time?

The devout Jews, the strict observers of modern Judaism, holding fast to the rabbinical system and the teaching of the Talmud, are a small and rapidly decreasing body. As a nation, at least throughout America, they have lost that reverence for religion which formerly characterized them. *The Talmud has been discarded by numbers, and the idols of Rationalism and materialism have been set up in its place.* The one strips them of all religious veneration, the other confirms them in their thirst after gain, pleasures and sensual enjoyments. Within the grasp of these two powers modern Judaism is firmly held. But there is abundant evidence that the leaven of Christian truth is silently but extensively working throughout the mass: the people exhibit in its various stages the process of religious fermentation; the dry bones may yet lack the essential element of life, there may as yet be no coming together even of bone to bone, no signs of a national repentance, but surely there is "a shaking." The word of truth has gone forth amongst them, that word which never returns void to Him who sends it, and the results which have already accompanied that word encourage us to make good the ground we have won, and to ply