

new ideas of a naturalistic evolutionary character are taking their place. A laxity of morals is everywhere a subject of complaint. Between the church and the world the moral distinctions are gradually vanishing, because the Church is sinking down to the world's level. There seems to a growing inclination among professing Christians to sacrifice a sense of duty and divine obligation, to self-will, interest, or pleasure. Sunday desecration is also increasingly prevalent and threatens to turn that holy day into a common holiday.

No one can view without anxious foreboding this rising flood of scepticism and demoralization. It must increase unto more and more ungodliness as the fruits of the growing denial and rejection of Divine authority in the world and in the Church develop more and more. Take from men, who have once bowed to the authority of God's Word and then cast it from them, the steadying influence which has been brought to bear upon them by such submission. Teach men to burst asunder the bands which reverence for Divine law and Divine truth has hitherto imposed on them and what must follow but lawlessness; men will become "as the fishes of the sea, as the creeping things, which have no ruler over them." Moreover, the barriers to unrestrained individual liberty of thought and action having been destroyed, society and governments will be left naked and bare to many and many a danger from popular licentiousness.

It appears to me to be only too evident, from the present aspect of Christendom, that the decay of faith

Copernicus. For of one of these systems God is the Sun and Centre, illuminating every corner of Holy Writ with the light of His revealed truth; on the other all is of earth earthy, fallible man is the pivot on which everything turns.