

of the ignorance and superstition of their dupes, makes them *per se* criminally inclined.

Christian, how do you like this showing? "Man of God," what have you got to offer? This is rather a new departure, is it not? What are you going to do about it? It will do little good to sigh for the good old days when Christianity ruled supreme, when you could at once invoke the aid of the axe, rack, the stake, the fagot, the thumbscrew, the iron boot, and the tongues of fire. The ghost of the murdered past will not answer your call. Thanks to the advance of Free-thought and to the legislative care of Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, Paine, and other Infidel compeers, there is a bound set to your despotic sway. What can you do? Of course you can beseech an all-merciful deity to burn the author forever hereafter; but as he seems willing to take the chances of the hereafter, and as your faith in that divine institution called hell has of late been fearfully shaken—thanks to the humanizing efforts of Infidels which has in a measure civilized your creed and stripped your God of half of the horrible attributes you had given him—even that sweet solace is hardly commensurate for the occasion. Then what can you do? Why, it is terrible to know that any one dares hunt up and classify and publish to the world the crimes committed by the reverend "followers of the meek and lowly Jesus!" It has always been an exclusive right belonging to the priesthood to charge all crime upon Infidels; to assert from every "coward's castle" in the land that but for unbelief in the cleansing power of the blood of a person who they claim died some eighteen hundred and forty-