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ART TEACHING

FROM A RELIGIÓUS POINT OF VIEW.*

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Religion is the acknowledgment by man, both within his own heart, and to those around him and above him, of his relationship to God. It is the realization and expression of the truth declared long ago by Aratus the Cretan poet, whose words are quoted by St. Paul, that we are God's offspring. The recognition of this relationship awakens in man the ennobling feelings of love, faith, hope, reverence, humility, and the like; and these affect the bodily powers, directing them to, and controlling them in, acts and words of piety towards God, and brotherly kindness towards men. Enlightened by Revelation, Religion teaches, that our "whole body, soul, and spirit are the Lord's."

The perception follows, on our acceptance of this teaching, that our tastes and abilities have their natural and highest aim when they are employed in the service, and to the honor and glory of Almighty God; and that the best and noblest education is that which brings out the clearest and fullest expression, that the powers of man, both mental and physical, are capable of affording of this sense of our Sonship. "All things come of Thee; and of thine own have we given Thee," said Solomon. And this, in the

[•]A paper read before the Teachers' Convention, at St. Johns, P.Q., Oct. 26th, 1881.