

There is a light in Asia.

Jehovah said: "Let There be light"; and now, after aeons have passed, we have a light from Asia - we have the principles of the Arya Samaj.

As we are Eclectics and are pledged, one to the other, to select and present whatever is good in everything which is conducive to the physical ^{intellectual} and spiritual advancement of mankind, I take a part of the forenoon of this quiet Xmas to call the attention of friends to the remarkable principles which are herewith given.

These principles seem to me to speak with an intelligence fully abreast with the best hope and the kindest purpose of our day and race. They proclaim that it is truth for which we must search - that

it is the development of the physical man, woman and child to which we must devote our first and most serious attention; knowing full well that the intellectual, the spiritual and the ideal-life must surely and closely follow upon the home-life, the love-life and the industrious life.

The old religions from the East travelled westward. They kept the sun at their backs. They worked in their own shadows. They had for their basis the spiritual condition of man first, last and all the time. They were dreams. They were Cupolas without foundation walls; and they have failed - failed because they were all sentiment and no work - because they were all ideal and no real - because they were all God and no man - because they were all Heaven and no Earth - because they were

all dogma and no principle - because they were all temple and Church and no home and fireside. They were forever instructing us in what we should do to glorify Gods and Virgins and Saints, and were having us to neglect, under every Circumstance, everywhere and at all times, our duty to man, woman and child. Every step forward into the light out from the dark has been met, by our self-elected spiritual advisers, with repulses. Everything that has been beautiful, good and true - progressive ideas, useful discoveries, applied inventions which have been to better the worldly condition of mankind - have been secured for us in spite of and in direct opposition to the protests of the religions which have come

from the East to the West - which have come to us working in their own shadows.

But, to-day, thanks to invention, science, discovery, and to the business association of men, we stand upon the threshold of a new epoch - at the gateway of a new era - at the beginning of a new order of things. There is a spirit of true religion in the air. There is a demand that right principles be set forth that the people may be guided to live correct lives. In the click of the telegraph, every day, we hear sounds which re-echo: "and the truth shall make ye free".

Man is going to have confidence in man. Man is going to be just to woman. Man is going to study God by laboring with man for man. Man is going to show his duty to God by being of service to man. The coming

Church of the True religion is going to have the principles of man for its God and woman for their only prophet. Our homes shall be the sacred altars of our affections and "our house-hold Gods" — The palladiums of our society shall be those ideals which shall best attract us to be law-abiding, God-loving and truth-seeking men and women.

There are voices in the air which bid us be patient and tolerant one with the other. There is a demand that effete texts be done away with. There is an instruction that mysticisms of a past period and that the miracles, taught by a benighted and narrow-minded priest-hood, be put aside. The dawn is breaking. The delusions of a superstitious night are being opened to the glorious rays of a bright

sunlight. The coming of a new and better state of things is at hand." The French Senate (Dec. 9-1891) declared that the Bishops must obey the laws." This marks great progress. "M. Goblet advised the French Government, on the same day, to pave the way for the separation of the Church and the State by legislation giving the Government further control of public worship." This shows very conclusively that some persons over there in France do not think that the Church is a fit power to have control of the worship of the people; and they are right, for the Church has never controlled that it has not morally and physically wrecked the people." By waging war on Papacy, "Pope Leo says (Rome, Dec. 16-1891), "its enemies hope to weaken and to proscribe Christi-

anity & & &"; and he adds that "he trusts that the heads of the different States will give an earnest consideration to the position of the Church. It behooves the Catholics to act in unison with him (the Pope) and to form a perpetual league against the assaults of the impious." This is a cry of a tottering power. Italy sees that the influences of the Church is pernicious - Italy sees that with the 500 Churches in Rome, controlled by the greatest and richest Church potentate in the world that vice and crime and pollution run riot - licensed and encouraged as they are by this very representative of Christ Jesus here on Earth. But what is even more significant, of what is going on just now, is that: "Four hundred of the rural delegates to The

National Federation Conference
 which opened, in London, Dec. 10. 1891,
 in Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street,
 partook of breakfast on the following
 day at which the principal guest was
 Mr Gladstone. The great Liberal lead-
 er was accompanied by his wife. & & & .
 No assemblage of supposed represen-
 tative men ever held in England has
 displayed such envenomed hostility to
parsons and land owners. Delegates
 boasting themselves as persistent parson
 (Minister of the Gospel) fighters, and denoun-
 cing Squire tyranny were cheered to the
 echo; and their scornful allusions to
 the patronizing airs of the Clergy toward
 rural inhabitants were keenly relished.
 An occasional delegate feebly admitted
 that he had met a Liberal land lord and
 an open minded cleric; but the entire

Sympathy of the Conference was reserved
for the motto: "Down with the Church
and the Landlord." And right on top of
 this we have, in yesterday's (Dec. 24) dis-
 patches, that the Bishop of Liverpool has
 reprimanded his Clergy for permitting
 Mr Gladstone, who has been in the habit
 of reading the lessons, every Sunday when
 at home, in Hawarden Church; hence,
 we see that the Established Church of the
 tight little Island is getting so mad that
 it will soon show its true Christian
 feeling, also, to a non-suspecting public.
 Again, in yesterday's telegrams we had
 from Puebla, Mexico, the very significant
 item that: "twenty-six monks were arres-
 ted and jailed, by the Government soldiers,
 because they started ~~to~~, against the law of
 the Republic, to revive their monastery."

Some fanatics undertook to prevent the soldiers from performing their duty, and two were killed and several wounded; and the Monks are in jail. Mexico's three hundred years of Christian Church rule has not strengthened her people's confidence in its justice or in its religion. And in the United States, during this same month of December, there has been a call sent out, asking all Christian Denominations, Catholic and Protestant, to send delegates to a Universal Conference to see if there can be a single basis for all who seek salvation through Christ to stand upon; for the dominion of the Church of Christ, the call says, is threatened with total destruction if all its sects do not agree among themselves upon just what they must force others to do that they may

be saved according to orthodoxy.

As well might persons hope to make King Snakes and Garter Snakes live together in one hole, as to try to reconcile the antagonisms of Christian sects. Not anything on Earth are so irreconcilable and intolerant one of the other as are these Church societies. They have now one common basis. It is the same basis that "the Cannibals of Exchange Alley" have - it is gain - it is gold. The only Almighty they ~~have~~ worship now or ~~have ever~~ worshiped is "the Almighty Dollar". The Creeds, dogmas, ^{and} rites differ but their object is the same - it is greed. The results are the same everywhere. Ignorance, rags, dirt, and degradation for those who work in productive employments.

The Confederate and the Union soldiers have come together under the same flag, have embraced and united to perpetuate the one Union; but "The Church South (and) the Church North" stand further apart than ever before; eyeing one the other with the savagery of two barbarous tribes jealous to possess the scalp of a helpless fugitive - they want the spoils. They both worship at the same shrine - they prostrate themselves before Mammon their only God; and Mammon being the God of greed and jealousy he separates his devotees that they may fight and destroy one the other.

However, the signs of the times speak to those who think. "Coming events cast their shadows before". There is a spirit hovering over the land which demands that

Justice be practiced. Unseen forces are silently at work shaping this world's affairs as never before that the good and that the right can be utilized for society. There is a desire for a freer and franker understanding between men. There is a wish for associative efforts based upon equity, love and duty. Our New Year, just at hand, is big with issue. It looks, at last, as if we were actually going to have something religious which is really based upon common truth. A religion so simple, clean and pure that all can understand its every word and meaning without having to resort to a clergy and priest-craft who, for cash in hand, make a business of making deceptions more delusive.

The religion of our forefathers was based

traveled away from the sun light. It fear-
 ed the light - the truth. It denied the
 right of private Conscience. The inquisition
 tortured him or her who dared to question
 where he or she did not understand. ~~It~~
 The Churches now a days ostracize, vilify
 and consign to Hell-fire the woman or
 the man who ventures to express an hon-
 est doubt even upon subjects which the
 Churches themselves are uncertain Con-
 cerning. Ignorance has been so far the Cor-
 ner stone of all religions. Meekness, rage
 and filth are the Key of the arch to that
 religion which we, at this day, are com-
 manded to worship or to be crushed now
 and for all eternity. A little light let in
 on these good souls, who in their ignorance
 and depravity think that they alone have
 the monopoly right to speak for God, starts

and rattles them as it would a nest
of at the bottom of a deep hole. Thro-
ugh all recorded time our Churches influ-
ences have been pernicious; and only by al-
lying themselves with everything that has
been wicked and unjust and criminal
have they had the force to continue on in their
careers. War and antagonisms and injus-
tice; persecution, prostitution and degra-
dation mark their paths everywhere and
upon every minute of their records. Peace,
good-fellowship and security for property or
character are no where to be experienced
by man where the religion of our forefa-
thers and of our present mothers had or
has a congregation.

There is a spirit of love and kindness
in the air. The business associations of
man - the incorporated companies which
have set out upon a fixed plan to realize

a certain positive result are preparing
the way for a better state of things among
those peoples who associate with forethought.
The principles of the Arya Samaj salutes
the rising sun. From India these prin-
ciples stretch across the Pacific to greet
us at Topolobampo - to offer us a new
light - a firmer Confidence - a brighter
hope for better things here on Earth and
now. These principles court the light.
They ask for the truth. There is no at-
tempt to deceive by supernatural de-
vices - by miracle or through faith. They
keep the sun ever in front. They travel from
the East to the East. They are an offering
from man to man. They make no pre-
tense of having been handed from the
Clouds. Religions which have come in
such a way have been cloudy, misty and

foggy; and it has taken a wonderful
 sight of false statements and horrid
 figures of speech to sustain them
 before the people. Jehovah does not do
 things in that way since we have gotten
 the **Kodue**. Perhaps, he knows that if ~~he~~
 he called one of us up ~~on~~ on a mountain
 now-a-days, to speak to us out of a cloud,
 that we ~~could~~ ^{would} get his picture by simply
 pressing the button. Such a portrait might
 change all the fixed opinions which have
 been made as to just what kind of a look-
 ing personage Jehovah is. But the prin-
 ciples of the Arya Samaj make man the
 object of their mission. They call for duty
 from man to man. They ask for worldly
 work for worldly persons, for worldly pur-
 poses. They come with a philosophy in

Keeping with the geography of the East,
 with science, ethics and forethought. They
 urge peace and love and unity upon man.
 They demand investigation and truth and
 work for the test of those who believe. Sen-
 timent is as nothing when unaccompanied
 by action. "To know the doctrine one
 must live the life".

Friends! let us study as our own the
 rules set forth by the Arya Samaj. They
 are the basis for a religious and devout
 life. They are in keeping with the best
 wishes of those who are cooperating in
 Sinaloa to make life here and now worth
 living - a life with a purpose - a life
 which is correct and good and useful.
 Above all let us live lives consistent with
 the very best principles we can collect from
 the best thought of the best people of the

world - ancient and modern; pagan and Christian. Let us never do ourselves the injustice to think that any person or body of persons will know anything about a future existence before they have made life here peaceful, attractive and pure. This life we have. Its duties are all sufficient to occupy our best efforts. God did not make any of us so great that we can attend well to two existences at one time. Why should we worry about subjects which God has so effectually concealed from us? Let us keep in mind that principles for correct living here are to be sought for and perfected and followed. These presented by the Anga Samaj are suggested to you as the very best that I have had the pleasure to examine. If any friend has anything better to offer

we ask that he or she present them.
 Let us cooperate that there may be light
 upon questions which are in the dark.
 Let us be honest one with the other. Let
 there be no hesitation to speak when we
 have the spirit within no matter if
 what we suggest be against or with or-
 thodoxy (?). By the way, what is orthodoxy?
 Who, except an avrant imposter, presumes
 to monopolize, in our day, the whole truth
 upon any subject? Let us do something in
 the line of order and with forethought and
 now, that virtue may be recognized here,
 that some protection may be given, at some
 time, in some place, to some one. The
 Coming Church will be based upon the
 religion of association and protection here
 and now for all who live the doctrine of
 being useful to society. There is a light

from Asia. Let us select what to us
seems best from it and incorporate
it into our every-day lives; and may
God bless you all in the New Year
and always.

Your friend,

Albert R. Owen.

Sturbridge Hotel,
Mexico City, Mexico.
Dec 25th 1891.