

The Religion of Lincoln

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 14, 1904.—"The Religion of Lincoln." In discussing this subject in his pulpit at the Vine Street Congregational church, the pastor, Herbert S. Bigelow, said in part:

"What was Lincoln's religion? He who searches through the numberless biographies for an answer to this question will be reminded of Disraeli's famous or infamous saying: 'All sensible men are of one religion. What is that? Sensible men never tell.'

LINCOLN'S SILENCE.

When we consider with what care his words have been treasured, it is significant that so little can be found to throw light on Lincoln's religious opinions. This silence would seem to prove one of two things. Either Lincoln had no religious opinions, or they were of such a nature that he deemed it best to keep mum.

No doubt it is fortunate for the world that the one paper in which Lincoln dealt with this subject was burned by a prudent friend. It appears that he profited by his friend's advice and determined to take no chance of destroying his usefulness in politics by making enemies in religion. In this respect he presents a striking contrast to Jefferson.

Though it is conceivable that if Lincoln had had any positive and earnest convictions on this subject, he would not have been less outspoken than Jefferson.

INFIDEL AND ATHEIST.

Mrs. Lincoln has said that "his only philosophy was what is to be will be, and no prayers of ours can reverse the decree." One of his law partners has said: "He was an avowed and open infidel; and sometimes bordered an atheism." Without the exceptional opportunity for knowing the truth which this witness had, we may safely reject his testimony. Unless these names are to be hurled indiscriminately at any man who rejects orthodox standards, Mr. Lincoln was certainly neither infidel nor atheist. No doubt he held views which would have been branded as infidelity and atheism by the pious mob. So also have some of the most deeply religious men that ever lived. "He's true to God who's true to man." Measured by this standard you cannot make Lincoln out an infidel. A man cannot prove his fidelity to man and at the same time be an infidel toward God.

NO CHRISTIAN FAITH.

Justice David Davis has said: "He had no faith in the Christian sense of the term—had faith in laws, principles, causes and effects." Especially did Lincoln believe in the morality of the universe. "Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves, and under a just God cannot long retain it." That could not have come from the heart of an atheist. That sentiment might have come from the heart of a man who was believed to be an atheist, or who called himself one. But the belief that this universe is so constructed that injustice will not work—that belief is the very core of any genuine faith in God.

FLOWERS AND THOENS.

Once after granting a pardon which saved the life of a soldier Lincoln turned to a friend and said: "Say of me that I plucked a thorn and planted a flower, wherever I thought a flower would grow."

Measured by the standards of the church he was a heretic. Yet his glowing faith in humanity and the right is like a pillar of fire, still leading us, as by the hand of God, out of the house of bondage.

Criticizes De Hart

Editor Independent: I have been an interested reader of Mr. De Hart's articles and although I am a believer in part of his views, I respectfully ask the privilege of dissenting from some of them.

Mr. De Hart in one of his articles uses these words, "Show me a man who believes in free trade and I will show you a man who believes in slavery or used to believe in it." Now, I should suppose that a man who had formed the opinion that he had a natural right to sell the produce of his business wherever he sees fit, without interference from any government or class of people, and is willing that all others should have the same privilege, and who also desires the freedom of buying wherever he sees fit, and without paying a fine for the right to do so, and is willing to accord to all others the same favor, ought to be one of the last persons that any one in this world would accuse of being in favor of slavery either chattel or industrial.

I should infer from Mr. De Hart's article that he considers free trade and a tariff for revenue one and the

same thing, despite the fact that if trade is absolutely free there cannot be any tariff; and if there is any tariff whatever there cannot be such a thing as free trade.

A tariff for revenue only, if I understand it aright, means taxation for public purposes only or rather for the benefit of all the people. A protective tariff is a tariff, the principal object being the legal robbery of the masses for the benefit of particular classes. Mr. De Hart further says, "Free trade never had any common sense to support it."

Now, there are some men who might possibly object to being halted by a highwayman and might not have common sense enough to appreciate the benevolent intentions of the knight of the road; it depends somewhat upon the fact whether a man views the situation from the point of the robber or the robbed.

Since commencing this article I have happened to pick up a copy of Herbert Spencer's "The Man versus the State." In the article entitled "The Sins of Legislators" I find these words: "It is indeed, marvelous now readily we let ourselves be deceived by words and phrases which suggest one aspect of the facts while leaving the opposite aspect unsuggested. A good illustration of this, and one germane to the immediate question, is seen in the use of the words 'protection' and 'protectionist' by the antagonists of free trade, and in the tacit admission of its propriety by free traders. While one party has habitually failed to emphasize the truth that this so-called protection always involves aggression, and that the name 'aggressionist' ought to be substituted for the name protectionist. For nothing can be more certain than that if to maintain A's profit B is forbidden to buy of C, B is aggressed upon that A may be 'protected.' Nay, 'aggressionists' is a title doubly more applicable to the anti-free traders than is the euphemistic title 'protectionists,' since that one producer may gain, ten consumers are fleeced."

From interview of Count Leo Tolstoy by William Jennings Bryan, published in New York American and Journal, Feb. 7, 1904: "He is not a believer in protection and regards a tariff levied upon all of the people for the benefit of some of the people as an abuse of government and immoral in principle. I found that he was an admirer of Henry George and a believer in his theory in regard to the land tax." I do not think that the majority of the people will ever accuse Tolstoy of being an advocate of slavery in any form.

E. L. SMITH.

Castleton, N. Y.

Kherson Oats

This wonderful new "Kherson" oats has been born and bred, so to speak, so near at hand that any doubter can easily satisfy himself as to the truth of the claims made for it by the Griswold Seed Co. of Lincoln, Neb., who are the first to offer the seed commercially to farmers. Eight years ago Hon. Fred W. Taylor, now director of agricultural exhibits of the St. Louis Exposition, while making an extended search in Russia for fruits and grains to be tested at Nebraska Experiment Station, found an oat so early, hardy and sturdy in growth as



to attract his attention. A small quantity of the seed was therefore obtained for experimental purposes, coming from the Russian province of Kherson, of which the great grain exporting city of Odessa is the capital. From a very small package of seed the Experiment Station increased the stock of "Kherson" oats, getting remarkable results on the Station farm. Three years ago the Station began sending out packages of "Kherson" oat, to farmers for trial tests in dif-

**Good News for Americans
DR. SPROULE, B. A.**

**The Great Catarrh Specialist Explains
HIS METHOD OF TREATMENT**



**THE GREAT ENGLISH SPECIALIST
CURES ALL FORMS OF CATARRH**

Nineteen years ago a young, but highly honored Surgeon in the British Royal Navy astonished his friends by suddenly leaving the service and entering on private practice. That Surgeon was the now famous Catarrh Specialist, Dr. Sproule, B. A. His keen brain had early seen in the then new disease Catarrh, a menace to the life and happiness of the civilized world. While other physicians were neglecting it as unimportant, Dr. Sproule studied its nature and the means of cure. He labored in office, hospital and laboratory. He mastered the subject.

As Dr. Sproule had foreseen, Catarrh spread with frightful rapidity. Twenty years ago Catarrh was almost unknown. Now no age, sex or condition is exempt from it. No climate or locality is a cure for it. Catarrh is to be more dreaded than yellow fever or smallpox. It is, in the large majority of cases, the forerunner of consumption. Vital statistics show that deaths from Consumption in this country have increased more than 200 per cent in the last five years. Nearly all of these cases have been traced back to Catarrh as their starting point.

Dr. Sproule makes the treatment of Catarrh a specialty. He cures Catarrh. Dr. Sproule, the first to make Catarrh a specialty, has perfected the only scientific, constitutional and PERMANENT cure. The widely advertised so-called "Catarrh cures" do not and never can cure Catarrh. They often do harm by driving the Catarrh germs deeper into the system. CONSUMPTION, BRIGHT'S DISEASE, PAINFUL STOMACH DISORDERS are liable to result.

Catarrh is a disease of the mucous membrane and is curable only through the blood, and by medicines prepared for each case. Medicine that will cure one will often harm another. Dr. Sproule's method drives every germ out of the body. It clears the head, stops the hawking and spitting, sweetens the breath, strengthens the eyes, restores the hearing. It purifies and enriches the blood. It invigorates and tones up the entire system. It gives new life, energy, and ambition. The hardships of life seem easier to bear. Work becomes a pleasure. The man feels as if made over.

Dr. Sproule's name is revered as that of a benefactor in thousands of homes. If you have any symptoms of Catarrh, the doctor earnestly invites you to write to him and tell him all about it. It will cost you nothing. He will give you the most valuable

MEDICAL ADVICE FREE

He will diagnose your case without charge and tell you just what to do to get cured. Do not delay. In such cases every moment is precious. Do not neglect yourself. Above all do not give yourself wrong treatment. The results may be fatal.

Catarrh of the Head and Throat

The most prevalent form of Catarrh results from neglected colds.

1. Do you spit up slime?
2. Are your eyes watery?
3. Does your nose feel full?
4. Does your nose discharge?
5. Do you sneeze a good deal?
6. Do crusts form in the nose?
7. Do you have pain across the eyes?
8. Does your breath smell offensive?
9. Is your hearing beginning to fail?
10. Are you losing your sense of smell?
11. Do you hawk up phlegm in the morning?
12. Are there buzzing noises in your ears?
13. Do you have pains across the front of your forehead?
14. Do you feel drooping in back part of throat?

If you have any of these above symptoms your disease is catarrh of the head and throat.

Diseases of Bronchial Tubes

When catarrh of the head and throat is left unchecked it extends down the wind-pipe into the bronchial tubes, and in time attacks the lungs and develops into catarrh consumption.

1. Do you take cold easily?
2. Is your breathing too quick?
3. Do you raise frothy material?
4. Is your voice hoarse and husky?
5. Have you a dry, hacking cough?
6. Do you feel warm out on rising?
7. Do you feel all stuffed up inside?
8. Are you gradually losing strength?
9. Have you a disgust for fatty food?
10. Have you a sense of weight on chest?
11. Have you a scratchy feeling in throat?
12. Do you cough worse night and morning?
13. Do you get short of breath when walking?

If you have some of these symptoms you have catarrh of the bronchial tubes.

Answer the above questions, yes or no, write your name and address plainly on the dotted lines, cut out and send to Dr. SPROULE, B. A., English Specialist (Graduate Dublin University) formerly Surgeon British Royal Navy 5 to 9 Deane Street, Boston. Be sure and write today.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

ferent parts of the state and through three successive seasons these tests have been carried on and with remarkably satisfactory results. Not only do these oats satisfy every expectation as to hardiness, earliness and ability to withstand the heavy winds, but its prolific yield astonished everyone. They have yielded as high as 112 bushels per acre, and the lowest reported yield is 60 bushels in sections where in adjoining fields common oats did not run over 25 to 30 bushels. Attention is called to the beautiful form of the head shown above, which was made from a photograph of an actual head plucked at random. Heads frequently contain more than 100 grains. The grain is of a beautiful yellow color. In growing, the plants have broad leaves, and

while the straw is stiff and strong it is very free from rust. In view of the certified records of "Kherson" oats, at Nebraska Experiment Station, it would appear that our readers who desire to sow a field to new seed could not do better than write for a supply of "Kherson" oats. Address Griswold Seed Co., No. 149 South Tenth street, Lincoln, Neb.

Blacksmith Shop Wanted

A thoroughly competent blacksmith, 12 years' experience, desires to purchase a blacksmith shop or blacksmith shop and carpenter shop combined. Will pay cash if price and location are satisfactory. Address John Bye, 827 No. 16th st., Lincoln, Neb.