and so far as possible to the church, which is all but essential, say, penological, to it, he will cast aside
that religious timidity, that is forever prompting the church to recoil from the paths into which the Governor of history is leading the minds of men, a cowardice that has stood through the ages as the landmark and limit of her little faith; and will gladly go forward, sure that truth is not split into two warring doctrines, and that any change that knowledge can work in his faith can only affect its expression, but not the deep mystery expressed.

Such a state of mind may properly be called a religion of science. Not that it is a religion to which science or the scientific spirit has itself given birth; for religion, in the proper sense of the term, can arise from nothing but the religious sensibility. But it is a religion, so true to itself, that it becomes animated by the scientific spirit, confident that all the conquests of science will be triumphs of its own, and accepting all the results of science, as scientific men themselves accept them, as steps toward the truth, which may appear for a time to be in conflict with other truths, but which in such cases merely await adjustments which time is sure to effect. This attitude, be it observed, is one which religion will assume not at the dictate of science, still less by way of a compromise, but simply and solely out of a bolder confidence in herself and in her own destiny.

Meanwhile, science goes unswervingly its own gait. What is to be its goal is precisely what it must not seek to determine for itself, but let itself be guided by nature’s strong hand. Teleological considerations, that is to say, ideals, must be left to religion; science can allow itself to be swayed only by efficient causes; and philosophy, in her character of queen of the sciences, must not care, or must not seem to care, whether her conclusions be wholesome or dangerous.

RELIGION INSEPARABLE FROM SCIENCE.

There is no limb or organ of the human body which is entirely separated from the rest or leads an independent existence; and in the same way, there is not one action or operation or domain of operations in man’s being which can be regarded as disconnected from his other activities: for man’s entire activity constitutes one interconnected whole. Thus, when we speak of science and religion, of art or of ethics we create certain artificial boundaries more or less definitely determined, but which do not constitute separate domains.

Science may briefly be characterised as the search for truth, and religion as a certain conviction regulating our conduct. Now whenever the result of thought or inquiry is of such a nature as to be a conviction which serves as a norm of our moral life, a scientific idea becomes a religious idea.

Says Professor Peirce:

“Teleological considerations, that is to say, ideals, must be left to religion; science can allow itself to be swayed only by efficient causes; and philosophy, in her character as queen of the sciences, must not care, or must not seem to care, whether her conclusions be wholesome or dangerous.”

Certainly, when we search for truth we must not approach a problem with a foredetermined conclusion. Scientists and philosophers must make their inquiries without any anxiety about the conclusions to which their results will lead. In this way alone truth will be found. But to say that “teleological considerations,” that is to say, ideals “must be left to religion” is in so far incorrect as we cannot dispense with science as a critic of our ideals. We cannot by mere religious sentiment determine whether or not an idea is truly feasible, practical, and advisable. There are some ideals so-called which closely considered are mere dreams or mirages, and to pursue such will-o’-the-wisps would not only be a loss of time but might even lead us into danger. If there is anything that must be subjected to the most rigorous critique of an unbiased inquiry into truth, it is our teleological considerations. If our purposes, plans, and ends are not in accord with the real state of things, we shall soon find our position to be very difficult. And this is true not only of our business enterprises when we attend to affairs which seem to concern merely ourselves and our own well-being, but also and even more so of our religious convictions which serve us as guides for the regulation of our moral relations to our fellow beings and to mankind in general, including the future of the human race.

We can nowhere, neither in practical life nor in our religious sentiments and convictions, dispense with a rational inquiry into truth; that is to say, religion is inseparable from science.

THE DEMOCRATIC IDEAL IN LITERATURE.

BY CHARLOTTE FOSTER.

An important discovery has been made within this century by writers of history. This discovery consists in the recognition that the “personal adventures of kings and nobles, the pomp of courts and intrigues of favorites,” “the triumph of the dead” in short, is not so trivial a subject for investigation and record as the manifold quiet, common incidents of our daily life. With this discovery we read the history of the nation itself.

A corresponding discovery awaits recognition in literature. In the coming of the people to their own in literature, as in government, consists the real eventfulness of the time. If literature is to deal with this it must paint it in the imaginative glow that belongs
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Meantime, science goes unwaveringly its own gait.
What is to be its goal is precisely what it must not
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nature's strong hand. Teleological considerations, that
is to say, ideals, must be left to religion; science can
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The Democratic Ideal in Literature.

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