and so far as possible to the church, which is all but essential, say, penultimate, 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 bold confidence in herself and in her own destiny.

Meanwhile, science goes unwaveringly 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 characterized 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 has become a religious ideal.

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 of 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 foreordained 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 critique of our ideals. We cannot by more religious sentiment determine whether or not an ideal 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-wisp 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 where we attend to affairs which seem to concern merely ourselves and our own welfare, 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 OPEN COURT.

THE DEMOCRATIC IDEAL IN LITERATURE.

BY CHARLOTTE PORTER.

As an important discovery has been made within this century by writers of history. The discovery consists in the recognition that the "personal adventures of kings and nobles, the pomp of courts and intrigues of favorites," "drum and trumpet history" in short, is not so vital a subject for investigation and record as the manifold quiet, common incidents of that "constituent, intellectual, and social advance in which we read the history of the nation itself.

A corresponding discovery awaits recognition in literature. In the coming of all 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
The Open Court
A WEEKLY JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO THE RELIGION OF SCIENCE.
No. 303, (VOL. VII—3d) CHICAGO, JUNE 15, 1893.

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The Open Court.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE OPEN COURT:
Mr. Editor:

I have the honor to submit herewith a few pages of a manuscript which I trust may be of interest to your readers. I am a member of the O. C. L. S. and have been active in its affairs for several years. I am also a member of the American Philosophical Society and have contributed to its Transactions. I am enclosing a copy of the manuscript in question, which I hope you will find time to read and consider.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

P.S. I am also enclosing a photograph of myself for your information.

[Attached photograph]

The Open Court.

THE MUNICIPALITIES.

The Municipalities.

By C. S. Peirce.

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[Attached photograph]
CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BASIS OF DUALISM.

To the Editor of The Mentor:

While thanking you for the review of my pamphlet, "Das Materialismus, eine Verirrung des menschlichen Geistes, weitgehend durch eine eigene Weltanschauung," in the last number of The Mentor, April 1963, I take the liberty to make, in the interest of the subject, the following remarks:

It is well known to me that Kant regarded the sentence "ego sum" as a fallacy; and this in the reason why (on page 54, footnote 5) I expressly remark that "We must not pass over in silence the fact that such men as Hume and Kant, we are sorry to say, regarded the ego as a sum of spiritual activities. The ego has to be regarded as the vehicle of theses activities, and consciousness is, strictly considered, only an activity of the ego.''

Descartes' "ego sum" means to me nothing but that the thinking ego assumes its existence as a fact which is guaranteed by our self-consciousness.

Nothing is at the start more certain, when I attempt to investigate something by reflection, than the fact that the ego exists. There is no "it thinks," but an "I think." Taking issue with your statement in the review, I have to add that, strictly considered, we should say "the lightning lights," and see "it lightning." Every activity demands something from which it proceeds.

This being a fact which to me is beyond all doubt, I cannot surrender my dualistic world-conception which in the course of my argumentation is a necessary consequence of this axiom.

Descartes' mistake is that he gives to this axiom, "ego sum," the form of a syllogism.

In this sense I maintain, on page 66 of my pamphlet, "Descartes' axiom, ego sum, is and remains the unshakable foundation of all thought. When we deny this fundamental certainty everything falls. If I am not, what do I know of the All, what do I care for it?"

"Let me add that with Di Dithini do not consider in this motto of all true philosophy an abstrused syllogism, but the immediate expression of certainty which together with the act of thinking postulates the thinking subject as given. Matter of whose existence the materialist is convinced from the start, because his senses make its existence appear to him as possessing immediate certainty. Has a claim of existence in the eyes of the criticist, only on the account of the ego which on the basis of its preposits cannot help concluding that matter exists, and which is constantly conscious of the fact that an unconditioned reality is to be attributed to our sensations and ideas."

Will you kindly publish this letter or inform the readers of your periodical concerning its contents?

Respectfully yours,

D. E. HICKER.

[Dr. Oker is consistent. His dualism is thorough-going. There is the act of thinking and the ego which is the bearer of conscious thought; there is the act of lightning, and that something which does the lightning. There is the thundering and the thunder which does the thundering, etc. He to whose this duality is an indubitable fact cannot escape dualism. Dualism is an inevitable consequence of this position.—Ed.]

THE OPEN COURT.

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