March 9, 1865

In 5 days, we have made 2007 miles, & in less than 48 hours, we expect to reach Queenston. 17 hour later, Liverpool itself, if the same fire that has prepared so many loving hearts continue to bathe the waves of the sea before us. This heading will probably be the most interesting portion of this 2nd article. But, of course, you are not obliged to print a single line of it, nor of the one that preceded it, unless you actually need some thing to fill up your columns. I consider it an illusive, of late years, atheism has spread to such an extent & speed, so wild, our in our own generation, that the more often left to myself, the more I fear its deleterious & poisonous influence on those young hearts entrusted
to our ears.

Nowadays, we may say, infidelity is almost everywhere, à la mode. The great Bishop was heard to say in one of his Model Sermons: "The earth contains but few of such idiots, who, on the face of the globe, among the leaders of mankind, the blessings of His Providence, can say "There is no God," only to turn itself to Him by whom alone all nature subsists. Infidels do not love themselves held in honor such monsters, but when in the light of the Gospel one is seen that meets must inspire horror and trembling."

What would the immortal Great day to our present generation? Infidelity has developed itself so widely and rapidly that those who deny God's own existence are without number. In our days, from
from every corner of the earth, the voice of infidelity is heard preached in all directions. 

And, says one of the confessors of the age, is not an old bond, somewhat weak, 
says another, insignificant? The world was grated by chains 
or is the fortuitous severance of some combination of natural forces; unless one 
prepare to call all bonds by the more 
general macroscopic term of freedom. 
The world is God! The most abject 
Organism of antiquity never fell so low. 
The voice of the successor of Peter tells 
us the origin from which that absurd 
new doctrine clearly springing. Yes, Secret 
Conspiracies command that God be ignored, 
that the nests not interfere, either at 
the man's birth, at marriage, or death, 
or in the schoolroom where the family 
is instructed. These Secret Conspiracies
Jointly we energetically strive to guide the direction of the education of youth. Secret Societies, said recent by Geo. T. Church. They will easily succeed in forming, after their own views, their leader age & train it up, in its flexibility to anything they wish, thus being the surest & speediest way to launch our society a race of citizens, such as they desire. To impart the shape & inspiration new elements. Hence their common intolerance of any religious element in public schools. Hence, already in more than an equal 
Their gain of this capital point to 
remove from the child at school, even 
the idea of God. Every thought of the 
fundamental duties uniting them 
to his creator. Alas! confess it or not, we have reached more own
age of progress, this dangerous tendency, at which, in our midst, the idea of God is in danger. They will tolerate the teaching that man is the offspring of a monkey, but will not permit him to learn that God Himself made him after His own likeness, to know Him, serve Him, the fountain, the spring, with Him in Heaven.

Prudent

Common

abound. Natural Science tells us that every thing comes from a first cause. The bread we eat is made of wheat. Does that Wheat come from a grain? Admitting the latter, where did the grain come from? If nature produced it, why is it that Nature, whose laws are unchangeable, never repeats since another similar production? How much more consonant to human reason that either the one or the other came from the hand of God!
Infidelity is even more repugnant to the
instinct of the soul, says Plato, as we all know,
in moments of surprise or danger, natural
ly turns to God. Listen to the testimony of
your soul, says Pascal. My God! Good
God! o God! When she thus pronounces
her own instinctive cry, she does not
climb up to the Capitol, but to Heaven.

Infidelity offends as directly against
common sense, which dictates beyond
even the shadow of a doubt, that the
admirable order of creation, the spread of
the infinite wisdom of an all-powerful
Creator. What nation, however degraded,
ever desired the existence of a Creator?

We know, says Plato, no human being
ever could persuade us, that God is a mean
ingsless name. It would be the height of
abominable. No people says Cicero,
however savage, have ever believed God's existence.
another Pagan, Plutarch, rises to a
new eloquence on this strange subject.
You may find, he says, cities without
fortifying walls, with no palaces and
large gymnasiaums or coverts of land, or schools
of letters; but a people without God,
without prayer, religion. Rites and Sacri
ces, has never been known or heard of.
Sheer folly! A man who wants an effect
without a cause, or with his eyes opened
at wide, a man, testifies the light of
the Sun, is a fool. Plato affirmed
that a city, she ignored God, would
perish. In every City, Aristotle thought
that an atheist should never be
honored with a discussion; a thing
was the only thing that she be applied
Cicero with him. St. Augustine and Jerome
did not hesitate in declaring atheism an
abnormal evidence of REVOLT, possessed abnormal brain.
The celebrated Cuvier was once heard, in the Academy, solemnly declaring, that atheists can be reckoned among crazy or dishonest people, just like witches and sorcerers. Therefore, it must be said, that in the judgment of naturalists alike, atheism is a monstrosity. And yet, in our age of inventions and marvelous progress in discovery, the world is filling with such amazing intellects, not all atheists. To the same degree, but all unbelievers in one or another essential of Divine Revelation.

Where shall we seek for the reason of this incredible blindness? As a rule, we find it in the powerlessness of the heart: no one denies the existence of God before finding his interest in this doctrine. None is infected but those the current
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From of the heart. Pride and ambition will often lead to help, but unthe
whole, a violated heart is the usual
first spring of insincertainty or atheism.

The worst feature of it, however, has
yet to be drawn or described; it is simp
ly disastrous, as it opens a wide door
to all vice. With atheism, no mere
law or justice or equity, no fidelity
in social transactions. It is the ruin
of all order or peace, just punishment
of the wound offered to God; with impide
lity comes a frightful series of conse
quences, widespread, as thirst after gold
of horrors, enmity, revenge, disorders,
revolts, leaving no security, no
peace, in the general rule is to respec
tone. Voltaire himself has left on the
subject a declaration worth attention.

I would not wish to have any thing to
So with an atheistic Prince—who would find his interest in burying
me in a mortar; for I could surely
be braced. If I were a King, I would
not wish to be at my court, any con-
tion, whose interest would be to pun-
ish me. For I should have to take my life
every day to save my life.

Most sincerely, it is equally necessary
for Princes & people, that all firmly
believe in the existence of God, creator
Governor, recompensation or atoning of all
human deeds.

So I close with a remarkable declaration:

Victor Hugo

Religious Teaching, in my opinion, is man
necessary their own. The higher man rises,
the deeper his faith must grow. There is
in our age, a serious evil. I would almost
day; only one evil: a general tendency,
To call every thing into doubt. To give
every one an ind. This material eye is to
aggregate immensity the weight of un
avoidable sufferings, by the delegation of a
future; on a tried heart nothing is more
crushing than the thought of annihilation.
What was a trial made bearable by hope,
existing in self destruction, becomes sheer despair, until the profound
conviction of society, in one age. Most
certainly, I desire to ameliorate the lot of
sufferers; but I can never forget that
the best most soothing remedy is a firm
Hope grounded on an unswerving faith.
I therefore sincerely wish, I go further,
I evidently want Religious Teaching
in the school room.

What a subject for reflection! I find the
same arousal, with the same apprehensions.
Wherein I meet with a superior mind.
The cloud of incredulity is spreading dark
ing the serene interior of countless hearts.
Never in my life, did I understand and do the importance, the immense value, the blessing for youth, of a pure religious atmosphere. For more than 45 years, I very truly say, this has been my first, my absorbing thought, culminating in the foundation of Notre Dame de Fatima. When my earthly career is over, I shall have the consolation to feel that my efforts, those of my devoted associates, have been blessed. That a precious number of young souls in search of a healthy atmosphere for mind and heart, have found, and actually enjoy all they looked for, in these Faithful, Twin Institutions, which a delightful oasis they will appear to the weary Traveller, this, the burning sand of the desert! From the beginning I was satisfied to be buried in the foundations of the Work. My Successors will be better able to show us, as we could anticipate, for example, Your ever dear Scholastic, already so deserving.
of public esteem, will grow yearly in real importance, and contribute towards developing the charming & glorious future of Notre Dame of Mary's.

May Heaven continue to bless abundantly your fruitful labours in Section of a Periodical Sheet which, I trust, will long remain second to none in the country.

Your devoted
E. Pomme
Scholastic