

CONTENTS OF OUR LETTER BOX

Dear Sir,—'Tis said, "discretion is the better part of valour," evidently so thinks the most courageous editor of any English newspaper. I alluded to *Reynolds's* on many previous occasions, but particularly on January 1st, 1896. A copy of our *Review* was submitted to that gentleman for review, Zetetics naturally thinking he would show fight of some sort, as part of a powerful opposition article on the "Myth of Astronomical Gravitation" dedicated to him, was included in this particular number: we were however disappointed in the prowess of this Goliath; the pluck usually shown on most subjects had evidently oozed away when confronted with ours. The only visible effect produced was this modest notice. — "We have also received the *Earth-not a Globe-Review*, which is a journal of the Zetetic Society edited by Leo Castle price 2d; published at 32 Bankside London," which amounts to us being as usual, left complete masters of the field of journalism on our Grand Fact.

Our chicken hearted opponents cannot accuse us of cowardice; the difficulty has always been and still exists, in getting *so-called educated people* and *learned Societies?* to even attempt to face our batteries. The truth of the matter is, our opponents powder is no good. Their guns (those we have not turned against themselves) are all spiked and their imposing fortifications, on examination, turn out to be nothing more than pasteboard, held together with sophistical assertions and assumptions—what fabrics!!

Is there any wonder they cannot stand our fire? the wonder would be if they could!

Yours etc.,

ICONOCLAST.

Dear Sir,—I am glad to see the *Review* still maintains its character and is pushing its way on against all adverse criticism which

is brought to bear against our bulwark of Geographical truth. What do you think about Nansen reaching the "North Pole?" I think it very doubtful. He may have advanced nearer to the northern centre than any other explorer, but its questionable as to his reaching the "Pole." However, I hope he has; so that the fallacy of the belief in an actual North and South Pole may the sooner be exposed. Where alas will they find them?

J. LACK

Echo answers where? Text Books tell us that the North and South Geographical Poles are the extremities of the IMAGINARY LINE, passing through the centre of the globe. The idea of a sane man attempting to reach that which does not exist! People are beginning to see that the teaching of so called Astronomy and Geography is nothing but the outcome of supposition and not demonstrated facts as they have falsely been led to believe they were. See the following:—

THE NORTH POLE AT LAST.

We are electrified by the statement in the daily press that Dr Nansen has informed his agent, a Siberian trader named Koucnareff, who has informed the Prefect of Kolymsk, who has likewise promptly informed the public that Dr. Nansen has reached the North Pole. We suppose he has merely hung up his hat on the apex of that geographical point for we learn from the same source that he is now on his way back, in spite of having found land. —*Invention*, February 22nd, 1896. No. 875, p 117.

Dear Sir,—Your continuation of gravitation is admirable. Surely all lovers of truth must feel satisfied and pleased with the style of the treatment of the subject. It has been favourably commented upon here by several, and enthusiastically applauded by others.

J. ATKINSON.

—THE—
EARTH-NOT A GLOBE-REVIEW.



A Sectional View of the World as a Plane.

VOL. III. No. 3 (MONTHLY SERIES). JUNE, 1896. PRICE 1D.

"UNIVERSAL GRAVITATION, A PURE
ASSUMPTION."

BY LEO CASTLE.

No. IV.

"Zetetics seem to have a kind of idea that we set up gravitation as a substitute for God. This is a mistake." So writes C Harpur, from the Oriental Bank, Old Broad Street, London.

We are always ready to confess *our* "mistakes," and, therefore, take this opportunity of doing so by quoting from *an authority* on modern theoretical astronomy.

"While, however, THE IDEA OF 'GOVERNMENT' BY A GOD IS NOW EXCLUDED BY GENERAL CONSENT FROM THE DOMAIN OF SCIENCE, the *notion* of 'GOVERNMENT' BY "LAW" HAS TAKEN ITS PLACE, not only in popular thought, but in the minds of many who claim the right to lead it; and it is the validity of this *notion* which I have now to call in question PHILOSOPHY FINDING NO GOD IN NATURE, NOR SEEING THE WANT OF ANY. The advanced Philosophy of the present time goes still further; asserting that as the progress of Science now places it beyond doubt that all the phenomena of nature—physical biological and mental—are but manifestations of certain fundamental 'properties of matter,' acting in accordance with fixed Laws, THERE IS NO ROOM FOR A GOD IN NATURE, and Scientific thinkers (you Mr. Harpur claim to be one of them, I presume?) who do *not* accept this as the conclusion obviously deducible from their recognition of the universality of the 'Reign of Law,' are branded as either illogical thinkers, or as cowardly adherents of a bygone superstition—men who are either deficient in the power to reason out the conclusions to which their own premises necessarily lead, or have not the courage to face them

There can be no question of the influence that is being exerted by the reiteration of these assertions on the intelligent thought of the younger generation.—Professor W. B. Carpenter, C.B., F.R.S., *The Modern Review*, October, 1880, p. 748-52.

Mr. Harpur, continues:—"You will own that the multiplication table is words, and nothing more. But would anyone save a fool attempt the idiotic feat of calling words laws of nature?"

No, we do *not* own that the multiplication table is words *and* NOTHING MORE. The multiplication table is a consecutive, ascending series of absolute numerical facts or fixed quantities. *Scil.* Twice two *are* four, *neither more nor less.* Four and four *are* eight, *neither more nor less.*

But when Cambridge or Oxford graduated gentlemen tell us that "the doubles of equals are equal," which being interpreted means $4 = 2$ and $8 = 4$, we are inclined to believe that such "education" tends to make a nation, a nation of fools and infidels. Suppose Professor R. S. Ball presented your bank with a cheque for £400. Would you pay him upon that principle? Would your bank manager admit such a transaction to be a fact or a fraud?

(To be Continued.)

HOW TO SEE SPHERICAL FLATNESS!

Mr. C. R. Illingworth, M.D., D.P.H. (London), writes:—"A fact I have noticed with regard to the sea-horizon proves incontestably the sphericity of the earth's form. Draw a line, or hold a string or a stick against the horizon at two points, and it is seen that the intervening horizon-line is an arc of a circle. The same will hold good in the case of land-horizon, provided there is SUFFICIENT FLATNESS, as in the case of a country like Holland.

But is there anyone who is not content with the existing proofs?"*
—*Pearson's Weekly*, August 3rd, 1895.

"The effects of perspective alone are sufficient to compel the removal of the time-honoured mistake of the hull-down 'proof' of the sphericity of the earth; at least one would hope so; but yet blunders are cherished, defended, and repeated in every department of learning."
—ENQUIRER.—*The Future*, July, 1892.

* The last issue of our Journal shows that the "existing proofs" of earth curvature are fast "passing away." The idea of an M.D. requiring "SUFFICIENT FLATNESS" to prove the existence of "an arc of a circle" is, to say the least, very amusing. Both these gentlemen believe the earth to be a globe. Strange, is it not?—Ed. *E.R.*

FAITH AND SCIENCE.

By "BALAAM'S ASS."

"Let every man that is not a man of nothing leave his house and come!"

Such was the summons which was sent in old English times through town, village and hamlet when there was need for a general call to the battle-field. There is need for such a call to-day, but in a service vastly different than that of any earthly king. It remains yet to be seen whether the Christian Churches fully understand the actual state of affairs, and whether they will rise to the emergency of the times. We are face to face with a foe, a scientific foe, which, if Christianity does not overcome, will assuredly overcome Christianity. Its grip is tightening on our intellectual and religious life. It runs riot through our seminaries of learning and our schools of philosophy, and its teachers are working the necessary result in the destruction of common-sense and logical reasoning. Let men call it by what name they will, it is Atheism, logically and essentially, for it is the essence and basis of MATERIALISM! Such is Modern Theoretical or Mathematical Astronomy, refute it who can?

As our friend "Zetetes" has favoured us with a report of a "Christian Evidence Lecture" which he attended, we have pleasure in printing it here, as it goes to shew the truth of our correspondents, contention, viz.: that those who teach the theories of Modern Astronomy, Geology and Evolution, are teaching that which is anti-scriptural, and therefore they are unconsciously, perhaps, in a state of rebellion against God and His Christ! It is written, "for this cause God shall send them strong delusions." What cause? Why, that which is given in the previous verse: "Because they received not the love of the truth." (2 Thess. ii. 10-11.) Think not that because you are a Christian you will escape the governmental judgment of God. It is a divine and unalterable principle that "whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Beware, then, for Modern Astronomy makes God a liar, and, so far as it can, dethrones Him from His rightful place in the universe. ∴ BEWARE, then, for "GOD WILL MAKE THE QUARREL OF SCRIPTURE HIS OWN QUARREL."

"On the 12th of March a lecture was delivered in the Mere Road Hall, North Evington, Leicester, by Mr. A. J. Waldron, the subject advertised being "Science and the Bible." The speaker is one of the principal lecturers for the Christian Evidence Society, and is presumably engaged to defend the Bible against the attacks of modern infidelity.

* See Professor Carpenter's statement given in the article on "Gravitation."

Being interested in the subject, and venturing to hope that the Bible would be ably defended, I went to hear the lecture. It was soon apparent that the lecturer had more faith in Science than in the Bible.

The lecture was illustrated by beautiful lime-light views ; but it was a pity that many of these were found to be in support of the erroneous teachings of Modern Astronomy, rather than the inspired teachings of holy men of old, who spake as they were *moved by the Holy Spirit*. The beautiful opening hymn, "Crown Him Lord of all," which was thrown upon the screen, was spoiled in one of its stanzas by the couplet :—

" Crown Him, ye morning stars of light
Who fixed this floating Ball."

It was not explained how a "floating" ball could be "fixed," or, if "fixed," how it could possibly be whirling through "space," as we were afterwards informed, at "nineteen miles per second."

The lecturer avowed his belief in the nebular theory of La Place, which he illustrated by the first view thrown on the screen. All matter was originally atomic. The atoms, though lying or floating about idly for unknown ages, suddenly received an impulse called gravitation which made them rush together and form worlds or suns. Thus then "our sun" was first formed, then the planets and the earth as off-shoots from its whirling motion.

The writer, who was allowed to speak for a few minutes after the lecture, pointed out how and where this infidel theory contradicted the teachings of the Holy Scriptures. He said that when a man came before us to lecture on Christian Evidence we had a right to expect him to support Scripture teaching, not to contradict it, nor to nullify it by wresting it to "harmonize" with the improved theories of modern philosophers. That, as Thomas Paine (who had been quoted) had shown, we could not consistently believe both modern astronomy and the Bible, and that as an honest man the lecturer should give up either the Bible or his so-called "science," and not go amongst Christians teaching them that the Bible is "not a perfect guide" or book, that the world was *not* made in six days, but evolved through "millions of years," and that man's body was *not* made out of the "dust of the ground," but had with greater probability been evolved from the lower animals and monkeys, during vast periods of time.

As the lecturer had gone out of his way to ridicule the "flat earth folks," many of whom ("about a thousand") he confessed to having met with in the North of England, the writer owned himself, before all the audience, to be one of this despised set, and he asked the lecturer if he

would agree to debate the subject with him as to whether the Plane Earth teaching or the Globular Theory is in harmony with the Word of God? I need hardly say that the challenge was declined, but declined in a flourish of words, intended, doubtless to cover up the untenableness of the lecturer's position. But if this lecturer's position is a sample of the "Christian Evidence" abroad, then I say, may the Lord deliver us from such evidence. It is calculated to make more infidels than ever it can convert to the truth of God. When will professed Christians see that the Zetetic position is the only consistent attitude for one who professes to believe in Christ. He upheld the teachings of Moses, and if we believe not Moses' writings, *how* shall we believe *His* Word?"

MODERN ASTRONOMY DEFEATED.

PORTSMOUTH CAPTURED THROUGH A "BREACH."

Everybody who knows Mr. Ebenezer Breach, personally or by reputation, will be interested to learn that his withers are unwrung by the ordeal of noise and interruption to which he was subjected on the occasion of his recent lecture at the Albert Hall in furtherance of his theory that the earth is flat and fixed and the centre of the universe. He has favoured us with a sight of a cheering letter from Lady Blount, who is as strong a believer as himself in the theory which he so prominently advocates in Portsmouth. The letter is reproduced below.

COMPLIMENTS FROM LADY BLOUNT.

" Bath, Monday.

"DEAR MR. BREACH,—Many thanks for the papers. How prominent and what *lengthy* reports!

"I *trust* that it *may* do good. But you must have had a *very trying* time! However, I am sure you are repaid for all your suffering—if the desired end is gained. You evidently are *much* favoured in Portsmouth.

"With every kind wish and remembrance to yourself and yours—together with congratulations from—

"Yours ever sincerely,

"E. A. M. BLOUNT."

SCORN FROM MAJOR-GENERAL DRAYSON.

Mr. Breach's original intention in regard to his last public appear-

ance was to make it the occasion of a platform discussion of matters astronomical with Major-General Drayson, of Southsea, who in general holds the orthodox views which Mr. Breach so mercilessly attacks. With a view to arranging such a discussion, Mr. Breach addressed a letter to General Drayson in which he made the following challenge :—

“This is to certify that I, Ebenezer Breach, am desired by Lieut. Pearse and several gentlemen of the Borough of Portsmouth to invite General Drayson, Professor of Astronomy, to a public discussion, to be held in the Albert Hall, Portsmouth, on or about the 1st or 8th day of April next, as may suit your convenience.”

THE CHALLENGE DECLINED.

General Drayson promptly declined the challenge. In his reply he wrote :—

“You have omitted to mention upon what subject the discussion is to be. I assume, however, it is upon your opinion of the earth being a flat surface. In an interview which I had with you a few years ago, I ascertained that you denied the accuracy of geometry and mathematics. You also denied that various facts known and observed by millions of people ever occurred. You selected texts from the Bible, placed your own interpretation on them, and then asserted that those persons who did not agree with those opinions disbelieved in the Bible.

“Under these circumstances, any discussion with you would be mere waste of time.

“When you can calculate the instant of time when an eclipse of the sun or moon will occur, when, by measured altitudes of the sun, you can navigate a ship from England to Australia, when, on the assumption of the earth being a flat surface, you can explain how it is that at the same instant the sun is just setting in America ; then, perhaps, a discussion might be of use.

“You name the 1st of April. It might be suitable.”

MR. BREACH RENEWS HIS OFFICE.

Mr. Breach's reply to this communication was calmness itself. He acknowledged General Drayson's kind letter, which he construed as expressing willingness to undertake a public discussion if it was not made to turn on Scripture, and he added, “By no means make it a Scriptural discussion. No ! No !” Mr. Breach went on to say that when he suggested April 1st as a suitable date it had not struck him that the First was “derided by the almanack.” He now suggested Thursday, the 16th,

instead. As to his description of himself in the original challenge, he explained :—“When I wrote near 40 verses on ‘The Spanish Armada,’ under the patronage of the late Colonel Strange, the *Universe* Roman Catholic paper, styled me ‘The Portsmouth Poet’ ; when I wrote 50 verses on Queen Elizabeth, the same paper said that ‘as a comic poet I was unrivalled.’ I have been twice patronised by Her Majesty and once by the Duke of Edinburgh, and have letters to show. Was acting writer 15 years in H.M. Dockyard, &c.” As to the astronomical tests which General Drayson suggested, Mr. Breach declared that he would have no difficulty whatever in meeting them.

THE CHALLENGE AGAIN DECLINED.

General Drayson in his reply adhered to his refusal to enter upon a public discussion. “I am aware,” he wrote, “that you are entirely unacquainted with even the elements of geometry, that proof is unintelligible to you.”

OUT OF HIS OWN MOUTH.

In forwarding these correspondence to us for publication, Mr. Breach quotes the following extract from a lecture on astronomy delivered by General Drayson before the Portsmouth Literary and Scientific Society :—

“It is not necessary that we should become profound mathematicians or geometers in order to comprehend the movements of the celestial bodies and take an interest in this subject. In fact, I have found some of the most celebrated mathematicians very deficient in reasoning ; and I am convinced that over-training tends to weaken the intelligence. I am reminded here of the remark of a crammer who instructed a very apt pupil in mathematics. After two years' instruction the crammer remarked to his pupil, ‘It is very odd, but the more proficient you become in mathematics, the more you lose your common-sense.’” *

Whereupon Mr Breach makes this cutting comment :—“This goes to prove that if I were willing to forego my common-sense by being proficient in mathematics, the General would have no objection to a discussion, but he cannot attempt a discussion with individuals that have not lost their common-sense.”—*The Evening News*, April 14th, 1896.

* This doubtless accounts for “Captain Abney, at a meeting of the Camera Club, stating that he would rather be styled a ‘tom fool’ than a ‘Scientist.’”—*Science Siftings*, April 16th, 1892, p. 404.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

ECLIPSE OF THE MOON ON 28TH FEBRUARY.

To the Editor of the Belfast News Letter.

SIR—I have been requested to direct attention to the forthcoming eclipse of the moon, which will take place on the 28th instant, and have much pleasure in doing so.

On Friday next this interesting phenomenon will take place during the ordinary observing hours of the evening, and will, no doubt, attract some attention should the weather prove favourable. The first contact of the disc of the moon with the shadow of the earth will take place at about eight minutes to six o'clock in the evening; the middle of the eclipse happening at twenty-two minutes past seven o'clock; and the last contact of the moon's disc with the earth's shadow will take place about nine o'clock p.m. The eclipse will be a partial one, but a large area of the lunar disc will be immersed in the shadow of the earth. If the diameter of the moon be taken as unity, the magnitude of the eclipse will be 0.87. The first contact of the lunar disc with the shadow may be looked for at 85 degrees eastward from the northernmost portion of the limb of the moon; and the last contact with the shadow will take place at 30 degrees from same starting point in a westerly direction.

It will be interesting to those people who have recently been treated to a dissertation on the non-rotundity of the earth by a member of the so-called Zetetic Society (an association formed with the object of proving, amongst other things scarcely orthodox from an astronomical point of view, that the earth is not a sphere, but is rather a great flat plain), to watch the well-defined circular shadow which the earth will, by its interposition between the sun and moon, cast upon the disc of the latter body.—Yours truly,

W. REDFERN KELLY, F.R.A.S.

Dalriada, Malone Park, Belfast,
24th February.

[To the above letter the following one was sent, the Editor promising our friend who had a personal interview with him, that he would give it his "faithful consideration." That he kept his word will be seen from his reply at the end of the letter.—Ed. *E.R.*]

To the Editor of the Belfast News Letter.

SIR,—In your issue of yesterday, I observe an article by Mr Redfern Kelly, relative to the coming lunar eclipse. In that article reference is made to the Zetetic Society and its contention, viz:—that the earth is not globular. This indeed is the contention, and the Society is indebted to Mr. Kelly for the opportunity thus afforded of giving some of their views publicly, particularly in this instance with regard to eclipses. Now, the fact may be gainsaid, but cannot be logically denied, that the surface of standing water is other than horizontal. Water has been proved repeatedly by the Zetetic School to be flat or level, without curvature. Such being the case the earth must and does conform to that configuration with the sun and moon above the surface. With such conditions it is obvious a shadow of the earth cannot operate both luminaries being overhead, and several instances are on record where eclipses have taken place when sun and moon have been above the horizon, the earth being out of range of both. Of course it will be argued that refraction operated in such cases, and at first this explanation may appear plausible, but on carefully examining the subject it is found to be inadequate, and those who have recourse to it cannot be aware that the refraction of an object and that of a shadow are in opposite directions. An object by refraction is bent upwards, but the *shadow* of any object is bent downwards, as will be seen by the following simple experiment:—Take a plain white shallow basin, and place it ten or twelve inches from a light in such a position that the *shadow* of the *edge* of the basin touches the centre of the bottom. Hold a rod vertically over and *on* the edge of the shadow, to denote its true position, now let water be gradually poured into the basin, and the shadow will be seen to recede or *shorten inwards* and *downwards*, but if a rod or a spoon is allowed to rest, with its upper end toward the light, and the lower end in the bottom of the vessel, it will be seen as the water is poured in to bend *upwards*—thus proving that if refraction operated at all it would do so by elevating the moon above its true position, and throwing the earth's shadow downwards, or directly away from the moon's surface. Hence it is clear that a lunar eclipse by a shadow of the earth is not possible. It is admitted by Herschel and other astronomers that invisible bodies exist in the firmament, and such an amount of evidence on this point has accumulated as to put the matter beyond all doubt—such bodies, though invisible to the naked eye, become apparent when in a line between an observer and a luminous body like the moon, the intervention of such a body (says the celebrated Zetetic Astronomer known as "Parallax") is the direct cause of a lunar eclipse. There are instances on record showing that some other cause existed than that of the earth's shadow to produce an eclipse.

Mr. Walker, who observed the lunar eclipse of March 19th, 1848, near Collumpton, says, "the appearances were as usual until twenty minutes past nine, at that period, and for the space of the next hour, instead of an eclipse or shadow (umbra) of the earth being the cause of the total obscurity of the moon, the whole phase of that body became very quickly and most beautifully *illuminated*, and assumed the appearance of the glowing heat of fire from the furnace, rather tinged with a deep red, the *whole disc* of the moon being as *perfect with light* as if there had been no eclipse whatever. **THE MOON POSITIVELY GAVE GOOD LIGHT FROM ITS DISC DURING THE TOTAL ECLIPSE.**" Of course it will be asked how the phases of the moon can be accounted for on the Zetetic basis. The reply is, the moon is semi-luminous, shining with an *independent light of its own*, one side is illuminated and the other not, as it revolves, all the phases we are familiar with become apparent, that the moon is not a perfectly opaque body, but a crystallised substance, is shown from the fact that when a few hours old or even at quarter we can through the unilluminated portion see the light shining on the other side. Stars have also been observed through her surface. In conclusion (for I have already transgressed with regard to valuable space), I would observe that a system requiring for its support such a condition and such belief as that associated with the antipodian theory, must necessarily be absolutely theoretical, and consequently devoid of *any facts!*

J. ATKINSON.

26th February, 1896.

"BELFAST NEWS LETTER" OFFICE,
BELFAST, 28th Feb., 1896.

Declined with Thanks.

Our Secretary also wrote, his communication received the *same* "faithful consideration."—Ed. *E.R.*

(*To be continued in our next.*)

IN MEMORIAM.

We regret to announce the death of our esteemed friend, MR. A. HEASMAN, of Croydon, who fell asleep in Jesus, April 12th, 1896. He was a staunch friend of the late John Hampden, Esq., and a hearty worker in the Zetetic cause.

"*Their works do follow them.*"—Rev. xiv. 13

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All letters to the Editor should be briefly and LEGIBLY written on one side of the paper only. They *must* be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, as a guarantee of good faith. Where replies are requested by post, the postage must be enclosed. The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents. All letters *must* be prepaid and addressed to

LEO CASTLE,

c/o MR. J. WILLIAMS,

32, Bankside, LONDON, S.E.

ICONOCLAST.—Please accept our sincere and hearty thanks for your princely gift to our library of the late Dr. Robert Young's "*Analytical*" *Concordance to the Bible*. We cannot speak too highly of such an invaluable work. Its value as an help to the study of Holy Scripture is far beyond any book of its kind in existence. No Christian's library is complete without it. It is published by George Adam Young & Co., 102 South Bridge, Edinburgh. Price, Cloth Boards, 24/.

"THE PASTOR," BELFAST, and others. Under no consideration whatever will letters be inserted in this journal that are not accompanied with the name and address of the writer. We have received several communications anent the letters "The Faith" v. The Truth, which appeared in our April issue. We print one, which in substance is representative of others received. All alike condemn the action taken on behalf of the *Faith*. We ask all to please remember that our columns are in no sense "theological," therefore, we cannot insert *theological opinions* held by any person or assembly of persons.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

Please to ask for "The Earth—not a Globe—Review," at all Newsagents, Reading Rooms, and Railway Bookstalls. To be had direct from the Hon. Sec., post free, to any address in the postal union for 1s 6d per year, in advance.

All monies for the Society must be paid direct to the local Vice Secretaries, or direct to the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, John Williams. Post Office Orders to be made payable at Summer Street, S. E.

We have from time to time received many letters asking us to issue this journal every month. We have great pleasure in announcing that in future it will be issued Monthly at its present price and size, and therefore ask the help needed to continue it. We gladly give time and labour *free*, but the printer must be paid, therefore we ask the co-operation of *all Zetetics* to assist us to increase its circulation and so help us in our testimony for God's Truth as found in Nature and taught in His Word.

Mr. C. Harpur has favoured us with the following extract from the *Weekly Times and Echo*, 18th April 1896;—N. M. X.—There are, we believe, still a few amiable lunatics who believe in the "flat earth" theory. Excuse our attempting to define their "reasons!"—We take the liberty of informing this Editor that we are prepared to discuss "their reasons" for believing the earth to be a globe any time he is *MAN enough* to open his columns to us and *any* official astronomer or geographer who likes to step into the arena. Will the cowards do it? Please remember that it is the language stultifying, speculating and contradictory assertions of modern theoretical astronomy that has *caused* us to be "lunatics"!!! Remove *the cause*, Mr. Editor of the "Weakly Times and Windy Echo," and *the effects* will cease!

CONTENTS OF OUR LETTER BOX.

DEAR SIR,—I gratefully acknowledge receipt of No 1 of your new monthly. I had purchased all the old issues from Mr. Coleman, and read them with great pleasure. It is twelve years since I gave up the anti-biblical and brain-muddling Globular theory, preferring to rest my faith on the explicit statements of the Bible, rather than upon the "imaginary facts" of "science." 'falsely so-called.' I think that the form, size, contents, and general get-up of your new series is *almost perfection*; and the price being only the popular "One Penny," should result in a much larger circulation.

With regard to the correspondence with the editor of *The Faith*—which I thought was intended to be merely a representation of "Life and Advent" truth, I would say for *myself* that I feel greatly discouraged when I see other subjects such as Astronomy, etc., first introduced by the editor and some of his principal contributors, and then when a brief suggestion or reminder of "what saith the Scriptures" on those subjects is sent for publication, the only answer given is—"the advocacy of the matter named forms no part of the testimony of the magazine!"

I once listened to the editor of "Zion's Watch Tower" for upwards of *six hours!* and I was not tired of him then. I love much of what he has written, but I certainly don't think his astronomy is BIBLE ASTRONOMY! I am glad to see Mr. Smith's article.

In Victoria Park, London (1884), I saw a medical doctor apologising to an Infidel Lecturer (a blacksmith), for the ignorance of Bible writers on Astronomy!!!

May God speed you in your labours for His truth.

EDWARD HOBBS.

DEAR SIR,—The monthly issue of the *E.R.*, if kept at its sample level, will be worth more than libraries of Newton, La-

Place, Herschell, Darwin, Huxley, Spencer, Tyndall & Co.'s, mind-muddling, hypothetical mixtures; the former directs to "Thinking Manhood," whereas the latter must eventually land its votary to "Monkeyhood"—or worse—an "un-thinking thing in man's shape!"

Who's for Manhood?

Yours, etc,

ICONOCLAST.

Dreghorn

DEAR SIR,—I shall be glad to know if you have given the subject of vacuum any study. It is generally asserted that vacuum is powerless, but after enquiring into the subject I find in general that the man who works with it every day knows little or nothing about it! According to the G. & S. W. R. Coy.'s working Time Table, engine drivers are earnestly requested to see and have 18 inches of vacuum before leaving each station. Now, their brake is called the "vacuum brake," and when you question the engine-drivers about it, they all without a dissenting voice maintain that it is the atmosphere that does the work. After perusing J. Hampden's article on "Atmospheric pressure as fabulous as the rest," I have always seized every opportunity of enquiring into the matter, and find it to be as he described it to be. I am well acquainted with an engine-driver here who is working a pumping engine daily, and he, after I directed his attention to it, pronounced the popular scientific theory to be a down-right farce. He can suggest an experiment with a pumping engine which would settle the matter and place it beyond dispute. If you think it will be of any value to you I could submit you a diagram and a detailed explanation; also, he assures me that so-called "atmospheric pressure" has absolutely nothing to do with syphon pipes, as he has proved over and over again.

Yours in truth,

R. M'CORMICK.

—THE—

EARTH-NOT A GLOBE-REVIEW.



A Sectional View of the World as a Plane.

VOL. III. No. 4-5 (MONTHLY SERIES). JULY-AUGUST, 1896. PRICE 1D.

"UNIVERSAL GRAVITATION, A PURE ASSUMPTION."

BY LEO CASTLE.

No. V.

The following extracts are taken from Blair's Grammar of Philosophy. (p. 343 &c.):—

"Philosophers of past ages, to account for the action and reaction of matter which produce material phenomena, ascribe powers to *inert* matter, to which they gave the names of *attraction* and *repulsion*; one, for the power by which bodies and atoms go together, and the other for the power by which they separate. The idea was first promulgated by Empedocles, who called them Friendship and Strife!"

"The convention about the terms was, however, soon extended, and Newton first ascribed the fall of bodies to the attraction of the Earth, and then the motions and order of the planets to the attraction of the Sun, calling it Gravitation. On so obscure a subject, in which faith preponderated over reason, the world were easily mystified, and though attraction and repulsion were not essentially different from witcheries and charms, an association with geometry made them appear plausible, and author's now adopt them without reserve, as sufficient and satisfactory causes."

"No body acts WHERE IT IS NOT PRESENT; nor acts in a direction in which it is not itself in force. If a body move from north to south, it is evidence that some motion has been transferred to it in that direction; and if it move towards a body in the south, its motion is