

Dictated.

Jacksonville, Ill.
Dec. 3, 1891.

Judge Touge,
Dear Sir,

I have read many of
your books and papers, and they all
seem to me to cluster about and be
based on the one and only great
thought and theme in the whole
universe of God, our own real and
only proclaimed universal Christi-
anity: which alone our fathers
based this new great Republic: the
unlimited freedom of each and every
human soul, and right of self-govern-
ment in all truth and righteousness.
This is in direct antagonism to the
declared ^{creeds} of all other sects, states, and

things that have ever existed on earth. The one stands or falls wholly on the simple Christ word. The other stands or falls with some of the multivarious forms of the utterly heathen church word. I have recently dictated a little book, aiming to discriminate between our very real and very simple Christ words of the first century, and our huge pile of apostate church words of the fourth century. The one the source and basis of all possible freedom on earth; the other the source and basis of its very worst forms of slavery, namely, the enslavement of both soul and body to some sort of a persistently lying and hypocritical priesthood, whether called orthodox or heterodox; under which the priest must always be master, the king, the mere

puppet, and the people, in both soul
and body, its misled and befooled
slaves; and the more voluntary
their service, the deeper must be
their degradation.

I have given my argument a
somewhat political drift, both because
Christ was perpetually after an ever-
present Spirit and Kingdom, and,
never and nowhere, after, either a
ghost, or a ghoul, or a sprite, or
a church, or a sect of any sort;
and never said a word about either
or of them, except to repel and re-
ject them, nor authorized any one
else to do so; and, second, because
I wanted to indicate our only true
line of defense of our free

schools and institutions, against the
heathen papacies, and sectarists now
plotting against them, as Gen. Grant
years ago foretold us they would
do. Can we not now, one and all,
at Americans, "rally round the flag,
boys"? The mighty symbol of true
freedom inscribed toward heaven
by any state or church on earth,
one word and status, light,
life, and blessing to all who up-
hold it, but bloody stripes to all its
opposers, leaving all apostate states, churches,
and sects, and their creeds and
cronies to take care of themselves as
best they may.

Christ's one and only proclama-
tion of his kingdom of the heav-
ens is the only law that was ever
given, even in pretence, in any
age or language, to every man.

individual of the whole human race; whoever may have first uttered it, it is uttered-out, myriads of times, more demonstrable today, than it ever could have been when first uttered. How unlike the apostate heathen creeds of other states, churches, and sects. If they can stand overnight without needing some amendment, they will do better, than any one of them ever did do, as yet. I have directed my publisher to mail you a copy of my book, because I really want to know how, in general, it strikes you, and, if its principles are true, you have strength, use, talent, and capacity to devise the means

of their speedy acknowledgment,
both as our only religion and our
only law. I am an old man, next
week to pass into my eighty-seventh
year. For some three years, I have
not seen a human face, or letter,
or picture however large; Hence I
speak of dictating my book. And I
never expect or even hope to do any-
thing worth mentioning in regard
to it; but you can, and indeed, are
now actually doing it every day
of your life. But can you not ar-
range or methodize and concen-
trate your work, as to show clearly
to all men that this proclamation
of the Kingdom of the heavens, the
only religion ever upon earth
worth keeping over night, is
wholly on your side, as well as
the Constitutional laws of our own

Republic, based wholly upon it and
it alone. Of course, I am not respon-
sible for the prefaces which the pub-
lisher and editor were pleased to
attach, or for the misprints said
to be in it, as I never saw a word
in it or about it. Please correct
the misprints with a pencil before
beginning the reading; and, if you
have time, write me a line, tell-
ing me, in general, how it strikes
you; and write and say and do
about it everywhere else whatever
you may think best. For you
yourself are a free man under
this great universal Republic of
all the suns, stars, and worlds;
and, therefore, capable of directing

your own work and your own in-
telligence towards its proper means
and ends; and the ever-present
and ever-indwelling spirit of
truth and of God will lead you
right in all the future, as well as
in the past, whether you keep
step exactly with me or with any
body else or not. For this one great
law of universal unity and har-
mony also admits the needed free-
dom of infinite varieties.

Yours truly,
J. I. Turner