

But they were very
powerful in the
olden time.

The Bible had had its day. The High Priests of these principals were R. Bradlaugh in England and Robert Ingersoll in America. The Bible got a thorough raking & condemnation. "Moses's mistake was a most scathing indictment. It was A Challenge was thrown out for anyone to contradict any of the arguments. It was Father Lambert a Roman Catholic Priest in America, who took up the Challenge, and by using the same line of Argument which was ridicule, completely & refuted all the claims made against poor old Moses. The old Book still lives, and is up to date, but it is surprising how many people whilst accepting the general principals of its teachings yet somehow have a grudge against it. Has it not the old King David who records "The fool hath said in his heart there is no God: Why? Because they were rotten at heart. Does it need a war such as is now raging, to convince mankind, that there is a Supreme Being, who alone can ultimately settle all matters, and after our futile efforts to carry on ~~on~~ matters the affairs of the world, by our neglect of those same teachings laid down in the Old Book, and by paying the full price ~~for~~ ^{for} our neglect, will come to recognize that Moses was right, and that the law was but the Schoolmaster to bring us to the full knowledge of what was intended.

for mankind.

I mentioned previously that the singing in the Churches was what we, at any rate considered exceptionally good, but ~~and~~ was not confined by any means to the choir. There was not, at any rate in the earlier period such a thing as the choir sitting in a special place, the singers individually did their best from the positions they occupied in their various pews, and every body lifted up their voices to the utmost capacity, The length of the service generally was at least an hour and a half and the preacher on announcing the number would read over ~~the each~~ verse, after the singing of which would read the next & so on to the end of the hymn. Then this custom dropped out I think a certain amount of the inspiration of the words was altogether lost. It is one thing to be regretted now, that there is a great lack of inflection of the voice, whether in reading the hymn verse or even in the reading of the scripture. There was a custom in our Church at that early time was, that after the preacher had concluded the opening prayer, & before reading the scripture, the congregation would automatically rise from their seats knees (every body knelt during the prayer) and standing up would chant a hymn unannounced, "Come Holy Ghost our hearts inspire, Let us thine influence prove, Source of the old prophetic fire