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The War of Opinion
There is doubtless no doubt in the
bosom of our countrymen that the
idea of it has been in the mind of
Republican

The War of Opinion.

inculcated in our minds by
succeeding ages. Oration
occasions of many by

William Andrew Snively

which of the opinions of our time are
opposite they will be

N. York. Coll.

July 8th

1852

not in the least
such of arms, it is the
conflict of mind
that they have completed
even in the moral & political
philosophy of all ages. The contents
are recorded upon every page of the
history of the intellectual world

Moral The War of Opinion.

There is truth in the Roman Proverb "Quot homines A sententia"

And if it was true in the days of Republican Rome, when it has only increased in truthfulness as each succeeding age has sprung new questions of ~~inquiry~~ discussion or started new subjects of inquiry.

And if the opinions of men are so different they must necessarily conflict and when they do, that conflict is not in the din of battle nor the clash of arms, it is the keener conflict of mind with mind.

That they have conflicted may be seen in the moral & political philosophy of all ages. The contests are recorded upon every page of the history of the intellectual world

Personal opinion alone may not have played a conspicuous part in the drama of ~~moral~~ intellectual development, but it has been the groundwork upon which have been built those towers of intellectual strength that have resisted even the gnawing tooth of time itself.

The War of Opinion has been waged from the time when man first began to think for himself, ^{until} a later day in the history of philosophical development, when party-spirit is considered a sufficient ground for unyielding tenacity to favorite opinions.

The groves of the Academy, the courts, the pulpit, the forum & the Halls of Legislation have at different times been the scenes of its contests & the established truths in the Philosophy of the ages are its victories.

Opinion has always been developing. Philosophy found its beginning in the sayings of the sages of old, but it could not stop there. Succeeding developments produced more plausible theories. Some adopted & others rejected & hence arose the first contest in the war of opinion. From such a beginning have sprung those philosophical speculations which have impressed their character so deeply upon all succeeding forms of thought.

In the contest between Error & Truth has been engaged the talent of all ages, although at times that talent misguided has battled for the supremacy of error with all the degraded enthusiasm of fallen nature.

Various have been the motives which have prompted the combatants to engage in the warfare of mind. With some,

Ambition has been the moving principle, - others have given birth to vile skeptical notions in order to entangle their names in the memory of a detestable few, while others again have engaged in the contest in the honest search after ~~truth~~, or defence of ~~ethic~~ truth. Such was the contest in which Mr. Luther engaged, when ~~between~~ ^{opposed} the error & superstition of age, he saw dimly gleaming the ~~beams~~ ^{gem} of truth. Such was the contest in the solution of the problem of Man's capacity for self government & the struggle wh. defined & at the same time acquired the Natural rights of man.

The bloody battles of heroes & congresses as have been simple substitutes for the decisive battles in ~~the~~ ~~history~~ of the world, but history finds in all

her bloody annals to record one
so mighty ~~as~~ in its influences
so important in its character, and
two great, decisive battles in the War
of Opinion. The victory of the one
unlocked the chains of error & per-
jury in which the world had been
groveling for ages, the victory of the
other unloosed the political chains
of oppression the fairest land has
reared the Sun. The effects of the
first have been felt every day since
it was ~~been~~ achieved, its influence
has been exerted upon every part
of the civilized world, & its mild rays
have shed a soft & hallowed light
upon the darkness of Heathenism
& Idolatry, - the ^{influence} ~~power~~ of the other
has made the throne of European
oppression tremble to their very
foundation. And that struggle
has not ended yet Public Mind

in Europe is becoming more and more
lightened & public opinion is changing
And although the outward expres-
sion of that change has been sil-
enced by the oppressor's rod, yet
the occasional outbursts of public
opinion in the very face of monar-
chical power, & in the very face of
tyrannical oppression,

"Still like muffled drums are beating
Funeral marches to the (in) grace (S).
The nations of Europe are beginning
to estimate properly the value of
civil & religious liberty. Already they
yearn for it. And public mind is
fast preparing to assert their
rights & to maintain the assertion
even at the expense of bloodshed &
civil war. The trumpet blast that
calls to that contest will sound
the death knell to the tyrannical

of Europe, for the people themselves
will rise, ~~obtain~~ (not on united
voice, ^{down} - civil) & religious liberty as
the great boon mt. Gns has &
preservation for the human race.
July 10th 1852. W. A. Lively

The Lord



Minute Expectation

The War of opinion,

Oration,

W. A. Quincy,

July 8th

1852.

The War of Opinion

There is truth in the Roman Proverb "*Quot homines tot sententia*" And if it was true in the days of Republican Rome, ~~when~~ it has only increased in truthfulness as each succeeding age has sprung new questions of ~~inquiry~~ discussion or started new subjects of inquiry. And if they must necessarily conflict and when they do, that conflict is not ~~in~~ the din of battle nor the clash of arms, it is the keener conflict of mind with mind. That they have conflicted may be seen in the moral & political philosophy of all ages. The contests are recorded upon every page of the history of the intellectual world

Personal opinion alone may not have played a conspicuous part in the drama of ~~moral~~ intellectual development, but it has been the groundwork upon wh. have been built those towers of intellectual strength that have resisted even the [one word illegible] tooth of time itself.

The War of Opinion has been waged from the time when man first began to think for himself, until a later day in the history of philosophical development, when party-spirit is considered sufficient ground for unyielding tenacity to favorite opinions.

The graves of the academy, the cloister the pulpit, the forum & the Halls of Legislation have at different times been, the scenes of its contest & the established truths in the Philosophy of the [means to] its victories.

Opinion has always been developing. Philosophy found its beginning in the sayings of the sages of old, but it could not stop there. Succeeding developments produced more plausible theories wh. some adopted & others rejected & hence arose the first contest in the war of opinion. From such a beginning have sprung these philosophical speculations and have impressed their character so deeply upon all succeeding forms of thought.

In the contest between [Elrod & Anutt?] has been engaged the talent of all ages, although at times that talent misguided has battled for the supremacy of error with all the degraded enthusiasm of fallen nature.

Various have been the virtues wh. have presumed the combatants to engaged – the warfare of mind. With some,

Ambition has been the moving principle – others have given birth to vile skeptical notions to raise to [one word illegible] their names in the memory of a detestable few, while others again have engaged in the contest in the honest search after ~~truth~~ or defence of the truth. Such was the contest in which M. Luther engaged, when beneath the error & supression of ages, he saw dimly gleaming the gem of truth, Such was the contest in the solution of the problem of man's capacity for self government & the struggle wh. defined & at the same time acquired the Natural rights of man.

The bloody battles of heroes or conquerors have been singled out as the decisive battles ~~in the history~~ [two words illegible], but history puts in all

her bloody annals to record one so mighty in its influences so important in its character as it two great, decisive battles in the War of Opinion, the victory of the one ~~unlocked~~ unbound the chains of error & superstition in wh the more had been groveling for ages, the victory of the other unbound the political chain wh oppressed the fairest land beneath the Sun. The effect of the first have been the fall every day since it Was achieved, in influence has been exerted upon every part of the civilized word, & its mild rays have shed a soft & hallowed light upon the darkness of Heathenism & Idolatry – the ~~victory~~ influence of them has made the theories of European oppression tremble to their very foundation, and that struggle has succeeded yet Public mind

in Europe is becoming more enlightened & public opinion is changing and although the [calmed?] empression of that change has been silenced by the oppressor's rod, yet the occasional outburst of public opinion in the very face of monarchial power, & in the very early tyrannical oppression, ~~shall~~

“Still like unruffled dream on beauty funeral marche to the (is.) grace(s)”.

The nations of Europe are beginning to estimate properly the value civil & religious liberty! Already they yearn for it, And public mind in fact preparing & assert their royalty & to maintain the assertion even at the expense of bloodshed & civil war. The trumpet blast wh. calls to that [earliest?] will sound the death knell to the tyranny

of Europe, for the people themselves will rise & (~~claim~~ 2) not one united voice, claim – (civil) & religion liberty as the great boon wh. God has a resurrection for the human race.

July 8th 1852 W. A. Snively
The End