

Will you insert a note in the Miscellaneous Columns of one of your forthcoming numbers illustrative of the exact inference the paragraph is intended to convey?

This point is referred to your consideration, as some readers may be carried away with the idea that the learned Dr. Paul Carus transfers all odium in the Hebrew tragedy, and all authority, from the famous Jewish Senate which governed Judæa, on to the shoulders of the Roman Procurator who countersigned the Sanhedrin's decree; passing the sentence of death being the authority allowed to the Jewish Council, the *power for executing the Senate's sentence* being rigorously vested in the hands of the Roman procurator. To use the words of the Deputies of the Jewish Sanhedrin guilty of Christ's arraignment before Pilate: "We have already judged him according to our laws, and having found him guilty of death have brought him unto you to carry the sentence into execution."

The printing press is the pedagogue of the world. And all earnest students are encouraged to question of their "pedagogue" any statement which may not be clearly understood. Surely, *The Open Court* will not fail its many students.

GEO. AULD.

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts, B. W. I., April 27, 1901.

In reply to our correspondent, we will state that at the time of Christ's crucifixion the Romans alone exercised the right of capital punishment in Judæa. The Jewish Sanhedrim could make as many declarations as they pleased that a certain man deserved death according to their laws, but they had not the power to execute the judgment. It is quite probable that the Roman prefect would not have executed Jesus had he not been delivered over unto him by the Jewish authorities. But for that reason Pilate, the representative of the Roman Empire, remains the responsible person who alone had the right to pronounce judgment in the case. According to the Gospel accounts, the Jewish Sanhedrim, having condemned Jesus for blasphemy, plays the informer in order to have him executed for his pretensions as a Messiah, and as such Jesus is executed by the order of Pilate.

The statement that "Jesus was crucified by the Romans, not by the Jews," is made without any implication, merely as a statement of fact; but we might as well incidentally mention that originally among the Jew-Christians Rome was regarded as the main enemy of the kingdom of God. Rome is compared to Babylon, and is criticised with the severest names in the Revelation of St. John the Divine. The Gentile Christians, many of whom were Romans, were more careful in their attitude toward Rome. Paul himself was a Roman citizen, and he never uttered a definitely hostile word against Rome. When by and by the Gentile Church became positively Roman, the Roman authorities were more and more exonerated, and the whole odium of the crucifixion of Jesus was then thrown upon the Jews.

P. C.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS IN ITALY.

To the Editor of The Open Court.

Will you kindly allow me by means of *The Open Court* to endorse the wishes expressed in your March number by your correspondent Signora Evelyn Martingengo Cesaresco, that animals should receive that careful and considerate attention that is surely their due at the hands of all men and more particularly those professing Christianity. "Their lives," in many cases, are not fallen in "pleasant places,"

they have not a "goodly heritage," particularly, I am sorry to say, in Italy, where I have seen the most heart-rending cruelty to beasts of burden. Not only are they constantly compelled to draw burdens greater than they can bear, but there is a systematised practice, common throughout Italy, and by no means confined to that country, of treating mules with unwarranted cruelty, by means of nose-plates fixed to their head-gear. These nose-plates are made of brass formed to fit the nose of the animal and upon the inside there are serrated edges which saw the flesh through to the bone. The mule may be a bad-tempered, stubborn animal and require stern treatment, but surely such a barbarous mode ought not only be unnecessary, but should be absolutely prohibited. This kind of cruelty is not, I assure you, in isolated cases. It is a common practice among the peasantry. I have examined the noses of scores of mules and have invariably found ghastly, ulcerating wounds caused by these plates.

If the Signora continue this good work of hers on behalf of the suffering lower creation, she will not only be helping to lighten their bitter lot, but will render untold benefit to humanity at large.

D. HOLLAND STUBBS.

St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore.

AN INDIAN CHIEFTAIN ON THE DEVIL.

Our readers will remember the picture of the manly looking Indian clergyman, the Rev. J. J. Emmengahbowk (the Man-Who-Stands-Before-His-People) which appeared in *The Open Court* of last January (p. 50). The Rev. Emmengahbowk was much interested in *The Open Court*, and especially so in the announcement which he saw of Dr. Carus's *History of the Devil*. After subscribing to *The Open Court*, he writes as follows :

"WHITE EARTH RESERVATION, March 9th, 1901.

"*The Open Court*,

"Gentlemen :

"Some thing my people interested to see the picture of the olden times and to have some idea how the ancient people worshipped to the unknown God ; that some thing the faith and worship of my people are similar.

"I was telling one of the chiefs that some a good white man has written a book about the Devil and made pictures of them. He ask : 'Is the white man still living?' I said, 'Yes, live in Chicago very near us.' 'O, dear me,' he said, 'I wish I could see the man who visited and talked with the Devil.' And he continued to say : 'Can you not procure his book and let us hear what the Devil had to say and what they look a like ? The gentleman asks too much,—I am not able to buy it—too, too much to have his numerous friends see the picture of his friend the Devil!'

"He ask me again and said : 'Emmengahbowk, do you ever know or hear of any of your friend see the Devil personally, either through dreams or in imagination.' I said : 'I have not.' 'Well, I have. Sometimes he comes with all the beautiful form like any human being—sometimes in the form of a mountain, and other times in the form of a beautiful green leaf, of course with all their enticing bait, or other word *allure*.'

"My poor people know this much and understand it : that we are allured to evil by some promised good. We are enticed into it through our passions. We are seduced when drawn aside from the path of rectitude.

"Again the chief asked : 'Do you say that he saw the Devil !' 'Of course he