

The Open Court

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Devoted to the Science of Religion, the Religion of Science, and the Extension of the Religious Parliament Idea

Editor: DR. PAUL CARUS.
Assistant Editor: T. J. McCORMACK.

Associates: } E. C. HEGLER.
 } MARY CARUS.

VOL. XV. (NO. 8)

AUGUST, 1901.

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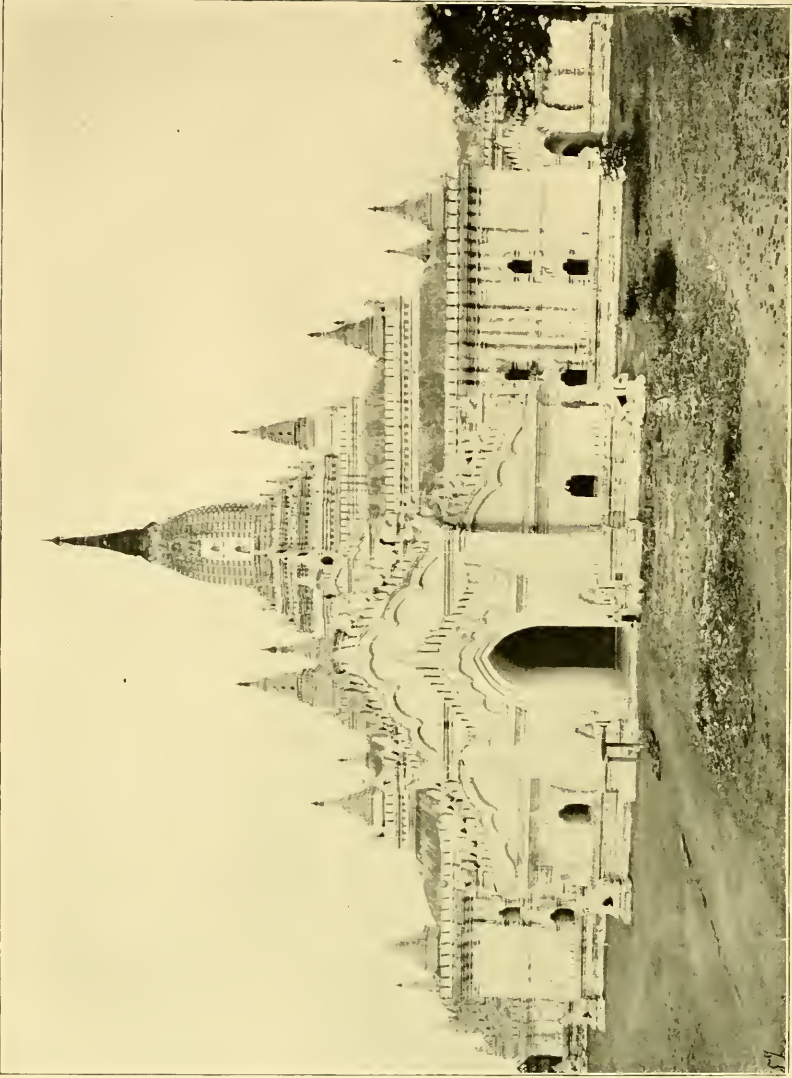
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THE ANANDA TEMPLE.

Greatest of the Burmese temples at Pagan, in four styles of architecture, Greek and Buddhist. Eleventh century.

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A PLACE FOR OUR EX-PRESIDENTS.

BY THE HON. CHARLES CARROLL BONNEY.

UNDOUBTEDLY the American people would be glad to make some appropriate provision for all surviving Ex-Presidents of the United States, and the present seems a favorable time for the agitation of this matter. It is therefore respectfully urged that without distinction of party but as a patriotic service, an amendment to the National Constitution be adopted without unnecessary delay, and submitted to the several States for ratification, providing that all such Ex-Presidents shall be *ex-officio* Honorary Members for life of the Senate of the United States, with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and compensation of a Senator, except that such honorary members shall not vote upon any question. Of course the voting power of the Senate would not be disturbed by the proposed change.

Such an amendment would secure to the country the benefit of the experience and wisdom of the Ex-Presidents and would give them an honorable and dignified position in which, there is no doubt, they would be glad to continue to serve the people.

The advantages of such a course are so obvious and so many, and the absence of grounds for objection is so noteworthy that it seems as though little argument or effort would be required to carry this suggestion into full effect. Indeed, there is no good reason why the State legislatures should not have the amendment before them for action next winter.

It would require a vote of two-thirds of each House of Congress to pass the proposed amendment; and a ratification by three-fourths of the States to make it a part of the Constitution. May we not hope that the next session of Congress will be distinguished by the adoption of the proposed amendment?