

the limits of a fixed and antiquated creed, he should distinctly say so, and not leave others *to find out what he means by finding out what he is*. So much for evasion No 1. Where does it lie? With the man on the street? or with the man behind the wall?

Vindex quotes from his first pamphlet the following sentence to indicate the point at which my second lapse occurred:

"It is well to have it clearly understood (1) that Evolution, as limited by known facts, does not deprive us of a single argument for the existence of God, and (2) that the question of the supernaturalness of the Christian religion is not to be settled by a few well-worn, oft-repeated and unworthy sneerings at the miracles of the Old Testament."

At the risk of being indicted for "preversion," I have ventured for convenience' sake to number the two propositions which this sentence embraces. In regard to the first, I might have said that, while I had no desire that the doctrine of Evolution should weaken the belief in God in any human heart, there was no doubt that it had done much to impair the "argument from design," which has heretofore been regarded as a main support of theistic belief. Why did I not make this remark then, seeing that it would have been pertinent? Simply because it had been made and developed at considerable length in both my pamphlets. "Vindex" was bringing forward no new arguments, nor any arguments at all; he was simply contenting himself with one of those calm affirmations, which people indulge in who think they have only to speak and it will *fall* fast.

The second proposition is a mere insipid truism, which no man on the safe side of delirium tremens could possibly convert into an object of dread, a thing to be evaded. Most certainly the supernatural claims of the Christian religion are *not* to be settled by any amount of sneering, well-worn or brand-new, worthy or unworthy, at the miracles of the Old Testament, or at any other miracles. A thousand times "Yes!" to that proposition. It may not be a very precious truth, but it is a truth beyond all question. And to think that I should be charged with running away from it! Really it is too bad; if I had only thought for a moment that