

when we are speaking of the universe. If it should happen that the earth should come into collision with, let us say, a comet, then all life would be suddenly burned up, but there would be released gases through the melting of solids and this would provide the condition for the immediate renewal of life.

It will be observed that such collisions of planets as were referred to in explaining the formation of the Rocky Mountains, or as were referred to in speaking of the Death and Rebirth of the Earth, are necessary for the continued existence of man, animal and plant life. Nature is constantly at work eroding and wearing away the continents of the earth and transferring their substance into the depths of the ocean. The ocean tides never cease to wash away parts of the continents and rivers wash out their beds deeper and deeper until they are down to the ocean level. Crowded by the inflowing mineral material from its greater depressions, the water of the oceans must rise gradually higher and higher, and since the uneven surface of the earth must gradually be worn down to an even surface, the waters of the ocean are bound to cover the whole earth in time. Human beings would be obliged to build huge dams in their struggle against Nature, in order to keep the lands of their habitation from being inundated. We are, therefore, profiting to-day by a disaster that occurred millions of years ago, and it is disasters of this kind that prevent humanity from becoming extinct.