

than one who had to interpose in every new creation. The more grand, the more omniscient, and the more omnipotent our God is, the more worthy he is of our worship and adoration; it ill becomes any-one, therefore, to detract from His glory, or to put any limit to His Majesty.

It is denied by many that instances of spontaneous generation have ever taken place, but it is an undoubted fact, that wherever experiments have been performed, whether by Pasteur, Childe, Bastian or others, and whenever fair play has been given to the experiments and life has had a chance of budding, life has resulted.

There are of course scores of men who conduct experiments in such a way that life has not a chance of exhibiting itself. They enter into the subject with a mind predisposed against the theory, and perform the most useless experiments under the most absurd conditions. They did not want to produce animals which lived under like conditions with ourselves, or the animals around us, but creations which would be subject to conditions which are imposed on no living thing. Because animals would not form in solutions known to be destructive to all animal life; because animals could not be evolved with a body which would endure being boiled or roasted; because animals would not come to life in an atmosphere below zero, or could live without water, spontaneous generation was a farce! Many also would mix up mineral substances alone, expecting an animal to result, when the only possible one would be of cast iron, rivetted and jointed with nuts, screws, and washers; they forgot that even such an animal—a locomotive for instance—requires fire, air, and water, to set it in motion. These experiments by incapable or prejudiced chemists, do not, however, affect the main proposition—which, indeed, forces itself on everyone who has seen stale beef, cheese, fruit or vegetables—viz: that under favorable conditions, life will continually spring up spontaneously in matter.

As our time is limited, and it is impossible for us to analyze the subject as we would like, we will confine ourselves to showing what life is, and if we can prove that the life which forms crystals and rocks and moves the compass needle, is the same as that which grows trees and moves our bodies, then we may consider our prem-