

At the outset, we must decline to discuss the Chinese and Indian Mythology, the Kosmogonies of Greece and the Scholasticism of the Middle Ages, which belong to the historical science of the Christian Dogmas, as too tedious and foreign to our purpose.

A Theory which criticizes other theories must stand criticism its li, on the same lines. It must account for organized existence: how the higher sprang from the lower: how consciousness is higher than material, as well as how duality of origin takes place by bringing in Force, in addition to substance, and how Force produces existence. The Theory must answer all these questions satisfactorily, in order to take rank, as a theory of the Universe; it must pass over from the negative form into a positive theory. Now, then, the question arises, where shall we begin? Well, we shall begin with the modern definition of Materialism and discuss the philosophy of the Greeks from the time of Thales to the present day, always taking care to note or keep in view the questions: 1st, How do we come by our knowledge. 2nd What is it that causes things to come into Being, out of, and, 3rd. What is it that recalls them back from Being into infinite Void.

The explanation of the Universe is alleged to be discovered in its Material Substance. Now, Materialism is this:—When the nature of the mind is viewed by philosophers as Mere Matter, or as a product of Material Organization, the theory is called Materialistic, the opposite view is called Spiritualistic or Idealistic. Materialism existed from the