

as well as practical, the principal and by far the most important, if not the whole, of the particulars of the legitimate and designed analogy between the sign and the thing signified. These particulars are all included and very clearly expressed under two general heads—First, the certainty, and Second, the effect, of the coming night of death.

I.—*The certainty.* “The night cometh.” This relates not to the exact time and peculiar manner of death’s coming. To these circumstances the symbol is inapplicable. We can tell to a minute every return of night during any number of future years, and we can describe by well known marks the mode of its approach, as its deepening shades, falling upon the track of the retiring sun, begin to prevail, until the thickness of their darkness completely shuts out the light of day. Not so with death. This last, most ruthless enemy of man, uncertain and insidious, supplies no data by which, in any instance, we can ever surely know, or even nearly guess, the hour of his premeditated advent, or by which we can ever indicate what one of the almost countless ways at his command he will employ to extinguish the lamp of life. He is bound by no physical law, such as in the natural world ensures the occurrence of particular events at stated times discoverable by us, and always at every repetition of its movements shows itself by the same pheno-