

the light from reason ; or the despair of conscience be so terrible as to hurry a man from the present to the anywhere—and, if possible, the nowhere—but in ordinary consciousness it is the human feeling to keep hold on existence. Even heathenism, in its every phase, has never accepted death as the finality. It may not be reason, properly so called, but there is a something in man which asserts a claim to immortality. Such, at any rate, has been the fact in all ages, and the broad denial of it has come, strangely, only from those who, having Bible light, have closed their eyes to it, and, seated in the chair of the scorner, have impiously declared that there is no God, and preferred to liken themselves unto the beasts that perish.

Where is man after he dies ? Here, replies nature ;—not all here, says a hope within us ;—not here at all, says revelation. The soul is the man, is the doctrine of the Bible ; a doctrine which refutes nature, and substantiates the instinct of hope for life. The Bible raises us from the dead body to the living sentient man returned to God, and there to wait till the resurrection day when the reunion shall be completed. But some man will say, how are the dead raised up, and with what bodies do they come ? The reply is to be found only in the word of God ; and for the argument, let me refer you to the 15th chapter of 1st Corinthians, and to the evidence of the resurrection of Jesus. And here comes the issue of faith or infidelity ; for, “ if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.” Some, indeed, may hold that both our preaching and our faith are fabulous, and, discarding them, view the future as a blank, and themselves as doomed to nothingness ; but their creed will not make void the declaration that God hath appointed a day in the which He will raise the dead, and judge them too. They may now attempt to look on death, not even as a leap in the dark, but a leap into oblivion. Yet, to judge by the history of such infidelity, there will come a trying hour—if they have time to think—when their courage to face annihilation will fail them, and the verity of a God and a judgment to come will appear before them as more than possible : as a fact which they had derided, then rising up in awful solemnity, and either by the mercy of Christ bringing them humbly to His grace, or ringing the knell of doom through all their soul.

“ WHERE IS HE ?” Judging by the unconcern of many, it would seem as if they could reply, we neither know nor care. But to such I would say, what ought to awaken the deepest interest in you more than your own futurity ? Enquire, and are you no better than a beast,