

Revelation Through Nature.

"Earth's crammed with Heaven,
And every common bush afire with God ;
But only he who sees takes off his shoes."

THE kingdom of nature intermingles with the kingdom of spirit; each is the complement of the other, and no arbitrary boundary exists between them. Truth is a perfect whole. Any distortion or suppression of it, however narrowly localized, involves general loss. The scientist while studying forms and laws may be color blind to the presence of an infinite spiritual dominion. If he dissociates nature from her vital relations, his accomplishment can be but partial. So far as he fails to recognize her as a—theophany—he misses her true significance. Likewise the theologian who has eyes only for the supernatural fails to find the vital supports and relations of his own chosen realm. Each thereby makes his own system incomplete and untruthful. Nature and spirit can no more be divorced than a stream and its fountain. The attempt to translate religion into an arbitrary and supernatural realm has robbed it of its spontaneity and vitality. To the world the supernatural is unnatural, and the unnatural is morbid.

Spiritual vitality, like an overflowing fountain, must outwardly manifest its exuberance. The natural type can only be interpreted as the divine type. When the veil of forms and chemistries is lifted, spiritual meanings are brought to light. Religion may be defined as a natural unfoldment which brings into manifestation the divine type. The methods and transmutations of the natural world are a revelation of the Father. The spirit of nature and the genius of the Gospel are in perfect accord, because they have the same source. A spiritual interpretation is the only key that can unlock the motives and the mysteries of cosmic forces, and reveal the rhythmical order of their operation. The lover of nature will persistently follow her through outward shapings and phenomena until her harmonies become