

Fast as five senses and a receiving mind would permit, did he find *where* he was, and *when* he came, and by *what sort of scene* he was environed ; how the fair show of creation came round, each part in its own section of space and time, persuading him to notice and obey. And when he is thus the pupil of the external world, he is intraining to become its Lord,—by the discipline of submission learning the faculty of rule. Beneath the steady eye of human observation, nature becomes fascinated, and consents to be the menial and the drudge of man, doing the bidding of his wants and will, and apprenticing her illimitable power to his prescribing skill. And so it was given to the father of our race, for himself and for his children, to subdue the earth,—to put forth the invisible force of his mind in conquest of its palpable energies,—to give the savage elements their first lesson as the domestic slaves of human life, and make some rude advance towards that docility with which now they till and spin, and weave, and carry heavy burdens, with the fleetness of the winds and the precision of the hours. To a living and understanding soul, what was the unexhausted world, but in itself a Paradise ? And was there aught else for its earliest inhabitant, but to discover what fruits he might open his bosom to receive from the universe around ? Worthily does the Bible open the story of Eden, the fresh dawn, the untrodden garden, of our life. Truly too, whatever geologists may find and say, is that day identified with the general act of creation ; for, in no intelligible human sense was there any universe, till there was a soul filled with the idea thereof. The system of things, of which Moses proposed to himself to write the origin, was not a Saurian or a Mammoth's world, not such a creation as was pictur-