

end of sound science, and to visit with such petty thunderbolts as its half-paralyzed hands can hurl those who refuse to degrade nature to the level of primitive Judaism" (Huxley, "Lay Sermons," p. 278).

In opposing science Christianity has unwittingly opposed the best and noblest friend of man. Science has raised man from a savage to a civilized and educated being. "Modern civilization," says the author from whom we have just quoted, "rests upon physical science; take away her gifts to our country, and our position among the leading nations of the world is gone to-morrow; for it is physical science that makes intelligence and moral energy stronger than brute force. The whole of moral thought is steeped in science; it has made its way into the works of our best poets, and even the mere man of letters who affects to ignore and despise science is unconsciously impregnated with her spirit, and indebted for his best products to her methods.... She is teaching the world that the ultimate court of appeal is observation and experience, and not authority; she is creating a firm and living faith in the existence of immutable moral and physical laws, perfect obedience to which is the highest possible aim of an intelligent being" ("Lay Sermons," p. 117).

It is science that has lessened the hours of toil, given men better food, better clothing, and better homes; diminished the ravages of pestilence and famine; destroyed those horrible superstitions which tortured the mind in the past, and instigated men to destroy by thousands their fellow-men; that has enabled man to make the forces of nature servants of his will and ministers to his enjoyment. In whatever direction we look we cannot fail to see our indebtedness to science. How much do we not owe to the mariner's compass, the art of printing, the steam engine and the telegraph, not to speak of other great inventions and discoveries? What a revolution they have effected! How they have expanded the mind and enlarged the vision and broadened the sympathies of man, promoting and extending sentiments of fraternity and brotherhood over the world, and diminishing and destroying those obstacles to advancement which religion for ages had exerted its authority and power to strengthen and perpetuate. Science has been the real civilizer; it is destined to be recognized as the true "savior" of man. And the real injury done to the race by the Christian superstition in opposing the study of science, keeping back its discoveries and inventions, and preventing the diffusion of its influence among the people, can never be estimated.

That some good has resulted, incidentally, from Christianity, no one, I presume, doubts or denies. The same may be said of any existing evil. No error or wrong can exist without producing results in which some good may be detected. Great good, in some respects, resulted from the slave trade. The superstition started by Joe Smith led to the early settlement of Utah and hastened the construction of the Pacific Railway, from which such magnificent results have already followed. Will it, therefore, be claimed by the Christian that the tendency of the slave

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