

STEP by step, with dogged persistency, Prebendary Reynolds follows upon the heels of the scientists, and shows that nature and the laws of nature, as yet understood, do not justify a single scientific argument against religion. Besides the facts and even the theories of scientists, when examined in a scientific manner, though not of course proving the statements and principles contained in the Holy Scriptures, yet are quite in harmony with them. Mystery or the supernatural is found to pervade all nature, and to force itself upon the observation of every student who does not drop his scientific methods, by which he originally obtained his scientific results, when he considers its relation to the written Word. The contest which the Prebendary had to wage with the scientists has not always been sufficiently understood by even well-intentioned and practised critics. His works are not text-books of Christian evidence, written on a painfully precise plan. One main governing purpose, nevertheless, pervades the whole work. The writer does not sit down in the professor's chair and simply instruct his readers, but he follows the materialist scientists of all orders through their hyrcynian wood, and conducts them to the true centre, which is the common meeting-ground of religion and science. The apparent or real want of order in the constructive parts of the work (3) are due to the labyrinths in which his opponents are perpetually losing themselves, and from which the Prebendary, as their true though sometimes cruelly candid friend, endeavours to conduct them to the highroad of truth. Special incidental advantages of the work are numerous. The opening up an entirely new field of Christian inquiry furnishes some splendid illustrations of the Divine Majesty, checks the deification of matter or human reason, and also supplies motives to adoring love, which tends to man's highest development. Another collateral advantage of Prebendary Reynolds' labours is to teach the devout believer, especially if not an advanced student, to hold his judgment in suspense, and not to be hurried hither and thither by the passing currents and eddies of modern theories, before skilled and competent writers like our author put them to the test. No one can carefully read his works without the conviction that science, properly pursued, is no other than an ally to Christianity.

(3) *The Supernatural in Nature: A Verification, by free use of Science.* By Joseph William Reynolds, M.A., Rector of St. Anne and St. Agnes, with St. John Zachary, Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral. Third Edition. Kegan Paul, Trench & Co., 1888. 14s.