

you and I are at one in believing that Christianity is the great force of regeneration. We believe that it naturally allies itself with all that is wholesome and natural, true, strong, and really progressive in humanity, and is the animating life of these—that it is, indeed, the immortal soul of all human good, which, once born, can never die.

But everywhere, and at all times, the race may be sick ; Christianity may flicker
Much smoke,
little fire. down ; the whole nation, or one parish, may degenerate ere the flame leaps and glows again in better conditions. Now, I think that you are causing the flame to flicker ; you are, in fact, pitching great hodfuls of fuel upon a fire that has not enough heat to consume them. I am not at all sure whether your fuel is not half slag—of that I am not competent to decide. What I chiefly see is that you ought to do a great deal more blowing of the fire. You are fond of the word “supernatural” ; you say frequently that Christianity is a supernatural religion.