

Christianity Europe has deciphered Nature's context, and lit successive lamps of Science to search still farther, so that a Guttenburg has, with more than wizard skill, summoned from the printing press a gigantic power to mould the whole destinies of mankind; a Newton, "sailing in strange seas of thought alone"—the first human soul who followed the Eternal in those paths—has interpreted, as one inspired, the true harmony of the spheres; and a shining phalanx of the sons of thought and enterprise have curbed the elements and trained them to man's service—and, by giving almost an intelligence to matter, and a growing perfection to its energies, are fast redeeming nature from her helpless prostration under blighting Evil. Christianity is triumphant in Divine Philosophy; and its enemies who frequent such schools as those of German Pantheism and Rationalism feel more and more bewildered by the intellectual maze wherein they stray,—the cry from the dying lips of the great German Master is also theirs, "More light!"

Again, Mohammedanism, once the fierce rival of our faith, lies faint and crippled on the confines of civilization. The crescent moon of Islamism that, gleaming on the green banners of the Faithful, carried terror through continents, draws surely to its setting. Once it shone triumphant from the mountain-passes of Cabul, where the jeweled minarets Ghizni, "the Celestial bride," flashed out like a vision of enchantment—to the sunny borders of Castile, where the Moor rolled back the serried bands of Christian Spain, and lorded it in Alhambra's gorgeous halls. That pageantry has passed away. The ancient Paynim fire—so brilliant once when Saladin and his scimitars braved the heavy onset of the Latin lances, and matched the red-cross chivalry—has long since burnt out; and the Moslem now sees other masters of the realms once subject to the Caliphate; sitting in a contracted empire which was won, and ruled, and therefore ruined by steel