

Here he seems to admit his inability to meet the theoretical objections of this "good kind of people"; but he takes refuge in saying: "To all such sincere and earnest persons, I would only say that a question of this kind is not to be shelved upon theoretical or speculative grounds."

After the use of such language, we would naturally expect him to "get up and walk round his tub," by fabricating some plant or animal, or by furnishing evidence that, sometime in the past, they fabricated themselves; or, as Dawson drolly says, "took upon themselves the responsibility of living."

Huxley says we may have two kinds of evidence concerning the origin of life—*historical* and *experimental*. As to the former, he comes to the conclusion that the rocks furnish no traces of the first-created of living beings. With regard to the latter, we can probably not do better than quote his own words. He says: "I turn to the experimental side to see what evidence we have there. To enable us to say that we know anything about the experimental origination of organization and life, the investigator ought to be able to take inorganic matters, such as a carbonic acid, ammonia, water, and salines, in any sort of inorganic combination, and be able to build them up into proteine matter, and that proteine matter ought to begin to live in an organic form. That nobody has done as yet, and I suspect it will be a long while before anybody does do it. But the thing is by no means as impossible as it looks; for the researches of modern chemistry have shown us—I won't say the road towards it, but, if I may so say, they have shown us the finger-post pointing to the road which may lead to it."

Now, it seems to us that this is rather slight evidence on which to rest the conviction that life originated in obedience to natural laws. And it is our purpose here to give our reasons for believing that this can not possibly have taken place.

There are some things which, in their very nature, are infinite. Space and time are examples of these. We cannot possibly think of their being otherwise. To them there is no limit set—no boundary fixed. If we find it difficult to think of