

# THE UNFETTERED CANADIAN.

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ROBINSON'S LECTURES.

LECTURE VI.

IMPROVED THEORY OF MEDICINE.

If we wanted additional proofs of the necessity of Divine Revelation, to direct us in the way of truth, we have them in abundance, in reviewing the different theories of animal life, suggested by medical writers. Walking with them, we have to explore a wilderness, dark and trackless, and interminable as the *terra incognita*\* of ancient days. But when we turn to revelation for an account of life, our minds expatiate in a boundless field of heavenly light; survey objects in the reality and spirit of their being; behold prospects of truth, and glory, and magnificence, where the mere light of nature could never penetrate, nor the rays of human wisdom shed their radiance.

I know the mind of man possesses creative powers and transcendent faculties, the limits of which even he himself has never ascertained. Yet his utmost art and skill, exerted with all the ardor and daring flight of genius, will never enable him to penetrate the mysteries which God has hidden in himself; and life is one of them. But the rays of revelation have beamed upon it, and showed us its origin and end. It is neither atmospheric air, nor any other material thing, which can analyze. The inspired Elihu has described it in language lofty as the theme. It is the spirit and breath of the Almighty. "For if he gather unto him his spirit and his breath, all flesh would perish together, and man return to his dust."

\* Undiscovered continent.

If men of science would give more attention to the study of the *living oracles*, they would discover many truths, and find out many mysteries, which are unfolded and displayed on the awful pages of that book, sealed with the seven seals, which they in vain endeavored to discover in the volumes of human wisdom. Life and immortality are brought to light by the gospel. The most learned and wise of the ancient Greeks, bewailed their ignorance and their uncertainty of the nature and condition of a *future* state of existence. No light of nature, could pour its blaze through the dark impenetrable glooms of the grave; no light of life, for them, had ever irradiated the horrid mansions of the dead. From the cold repulsive embraces of the king of terrors, nature had no refuge, and furnished no remedy. When we behold a Darwin laboring to confound himself, and his followers, by a hopeless atheism, and sink them to the rank of *reptiles*, we pause to admire and to reverence the wisdom of those ancient sages, who sighed for immortality, although their hopes were doubtful, and their evidence feeble and fluctuating.

In reference to their anxiety, and their condition, the Savior said as reproof to the Jews, "many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them." What a sad and solemn reproof, which applies with equal force to infidelity, to the present hour. For if the investigations of *mind*, of *physiology*, and *anatomy*, were carried on with that spirit of liberal and subdued philosophy, which bows the soul to the behests of Heaven, how rapid would be the advancement in those pursuits; and how different would be the results, from the current course of the present achievements and specu-