

investigators who are deciphering the hieroglyphics of God inscribed upon this temple of the earth are to be honored and encouraged. As it is now, vaguely bigoted theologians, ignorant pietists, jealous churchmen, unintelligent men, whose very existence seems like a sarcasm upon creative wisdom, with leaden wit and stinging irony swarm about the adventurous surveyors who are searching God's handiwork, and who have added to the realm of knowledge of God the grandest treasures; men pretending to be ministers of God, with all manner of grimace, and shallow ridicule, and witless criticism, and unproductive wisdom, enact the very feats of the monkey in the attempts to prove that the monkey was their ancestor.

It is objected to all assertions of the validity of God's great record in the matter, that science is uncertain and unripe; that men are continually changing the lines of science, that it will not do to rest upon the results of scientific investigation. It will be time to consider science when it has ripened into certainty, say men, but not now. Well, as the case stands, how is the record of the Book any more stable and intelligible than the record of the rock? The whole Christian world for two thousand years, since the completion of the canons, has been divided up like the end of a broom into infinite splinters, quarrelling with each other as to what the Book did say, and what it did mean. Why, then, should man turn and say that scientific men are unsettled in their notions? At the Congress of Christian Churches in Hartford recently, the Rev. Dr. Hopkins, a prominent High Churchman, said: "No less than nineteen different varieties of Christianity are at present trying to convert the Japanese. The nineteen do not agree as to what the ministry is, nor as to the Word, some including the Apocrypha, and others discarding it altogether; and many differing as to the meaning of the Scriptures. Nor are they agreed as to the Sacraments. So, too, on doctrine, discipline, and worship. There are all sorts of contradictions of belief. Now, if Christians, with eighteen centuries of accumulated tradition, cannot agree, how can we expect the heathen to solve the great riddle?" This is