

spot, and at every time, to call upon his Maker. And when the mind is imbued with this principle, and let man wander where he may, and when he can lift his eyes to Heaven, and even in unwhispered language breathe out his prayer to his Great Protector, he carries with him everything that is vital in his religion. The temple of the Christian is the wide earth on which he dwells; and the Being whom he worships is a Spirit, and his own spirit pays its holy tribute to the Parent of its existence.

We read in the Book of Judges, when a company of warlike Danites carried off the gods, ephod and teraphim, from the house of Micah, "a man of Mount Ephraim," that he pursued and said, "ye have taken away my gods which I have made, and the priest, and ye are gone away, and what have I more?" His gods were his religion, and with them it went; and this is the frail foundation on which all idolatry rests. It is material. It is perishable. It is liable to disaster. But Christianity exalts its head above all changes and accidents. It carries in itself the very essence of immortality: for take from a christian his churches, his ordinances, his long accustomed forms; aye, take from him even the Bible itself, and yet his religion will live. It is in his heart; and the heart will find its God. It is this spirituality that adapts it universally as the religion for man; but take that from it and it would be like Samson shorn of his locks; or by another comparison, deprive it of this, and it would be like taking the very sap and vigour from the tree of life.—It was because the heathen systems had no spirituality; because they had left the spiritual and taken to the visible that they decayed so rapidly, and were so perpetually changing; and, on the opposite, had it not been for this spirituality in our religion—we may call it the very soul of its existence—it could not have been maintained. Persecution could waste it were it bound down to earth, or did the earth contain one visible object essential to its life; but, as it is, it carries in itself its own indestructibility. It is thus immortal, for being spiritual, it is beyond the reach of men to destroy it. The Christian may be persecuted, he may be exiled, or suffer on the scaffold, or in the flames, but there is deeply and safely lodged in his heart, that which an enemy's wrath cannot reach, nor his tortures extract. He may be fettered in the dungeon, but no power, or manacles of man can chain down his spirit, as it rises to the very throne of God, to pay its unconquered homage of devotion. There is the electricity of mind and thought, as on a telegraph of faith, that cannot be restrained; or, if you will, there is the law of spiritual