

descends from its throne ;—now comes the new reign, that of *science*, seeking the *true* and analysing it.” The beautiful is one, the true is complex. As the world grows old it becomes more complex ; therefore it calls for more science, which investigates truth. All antique nations were poorly scientific, but highly artistic ; nowadays Art is at a low ebb, science is rising and is becoming sovereign mistress of the world. Needless to fight against the inevitable—it is not merely a medium, an agglomeration of influences, it is a *thought*, an idea, and thought cannot be destroyed or withstood ; it must and will work itself out, and howsoever long opposed it emerges triumphant at last. The thought which lay at the bottom of the Reformation movement conquered all obstacles thrown in its way ; the thought that demands the better assertion of woman’s position and its fellow-thought that works against needless warfare, are both fiercely attacked in these days of ours, yet both will in their good time assert themselves and sway society. The efforts of science to gain the highest place must ere long be crowned with success—already discerning eyes can see what vast strides it is taking towards the fulfilment of its end. So has every thought that ever agitated the minds of men finally come out into broad day and been acknowledged. Every branch of learning has thus striven after perfection, and many will yet be seen tending to this consummation.

At various epochs in the world’s history appear men who, long before the world is ready, proclaim the advent of a new thought, who

“ . . . dare
To name things by their real names.”

Some few disciples, earnest believers, do they find, who dimly hear the voice of Truth loud-sounding in the Future, and who gather reverently the words that fall from their masters’ mouths, to repeat them afterwards to wondering, incredulous crowds. Never have these masters *seen* the realisation of their hopes—like the Prophets they have prayed to do so, but the Time was not full—they died, and the world forgot them for a space, but long years after have these Messengers been known for what they were, and men