

never been surpassed in the following important items, namely, the accuracy of their facts—the oppositeness of their illustrations,—and their unanswerable logic.

Having crept through many bushels of philosophic and literary chaff (as every genuine book-worm is compelled to do) in order to discover and appropriate a very few grains of wheat,—I am enabled to lighten the labor of the young student, by directing his attention to the best and most easily accessible sources of information. And now, having invested myself with the character of an Index in this important matter, I have no hesitation in stating, that a careful perusal of the books named in the subjoined list will put the Tyro in possession of what may be denominated a “gentleman’s knowledge” of this interesting and universal topic. As a matter of course, if the student wish to obtain a critical and profound acquaintance with it, he will have to enlarge the sphere of his investigations; he will have to sift the wheat from the chaff—(or at least endeavour to do so)—of all the theological writers from Plato and Cicero down to Archbishop Whately; in fact, he will have to devote his life to the study.

But the undermentioned will be found amply sufficient for the popular reader :—

1. Derham’s *Physico-Theology*, or a Demonstration of the Being and Attributes of God, from his works of Creation.
2. Paley’s *Natural Theology*—with Notes, and a Discourse on Natural Theology, by Lord Brougham.
3. *Harmonies de la Nature*, by Bernardin de St. Pierre.
4. *Etudes de la Nature*, by the same.
5. Butler’s *Analogy of Religion, Natural and Revealed*, to the constitution and course of Nature.
6. *Small Books on Great Subjects*—viz. :
 Man before Christianity.
 Man subsequent to Christianity.
 Christianity in the 2nd and 12th Centuries; and Christian Sects in the 19th Century.
7. *Ecclesiastical History of Eusebius Pamphilus*.
8. Cave’s *Lives of the Fathers*.