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Apropos of PROF. LASSAR-COHN'S Lectures.

How far one may reasonably expect the more thoughtful fraction of the general public to interest itself in the methods and results of chemical research, is a question that many others than the writer have asked. Here is a universe of wonderful completeness and of infinite extent in the midst of which man finds himself; and as far as he is able to judge he is himself the only conscious intelligence within this vast domain. Other living beings there are, and some degree of intellectuality we must grant them to possess, but in the full consciousness of an individuality which feels itself distinct from the rest of creation, we have a conviction that man stands alone. He finds, so far as he is *man* in the sense in which this term contradistinguishes him from the lower animals, his chief satisfaction and pleasure is the activity of his mind employing itself upon the vast problem of *this universe*. *He views it from different standpoints*, and speaks of it as material or spiritual, natural or supernatural, the world of the senses, or the world of the soul, according to attitude of his mind towards it. He may not hope to solve in its entirety the Sphinx riddle which is thus presented to him but at all moments when he knows himself to be at his best and highest *as a man*, he feels that the only true satisfaction which he may hope to attain as a thinking being is to be got from the serious study of what life means. Every new relation of one phase of existence to another causes, in its discovery, a thrill of pleasure to him, and this, whether it be the inter-relations of the