

Titus when he speaks of "foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law." But Paul no more condemned science, in our sense of that word, than he condemned steam navigation.

In condemning the useless and the nonsensical we can all most heartily agree with Paul. But it is difficult to forgive those who, by using a mis-translation, pervert his authority, unless their plea be their own complete ignorance.

For, what is science, this bugbear of so many religionists? Science is merely the facts of nature, in its various departments, arranged and ordered so that our reason can comprehend them. *Facts reduced to principles*; that is science. The student of science has nature, *i. e.*, the works of God for his Bible. From the things that He hath made are clearly seen His eternal power and divinity, and the results of His Will both in time present and in time past. The scientific man may say to the theological man, "I am trying to know something of God on the intellectual side of His character, just as you are studying Him on the moral side. Your sources of information are more fallible than mine. You have a written book, written by various authors, transmitted in copies by men through many ages and by many hands. In my department the writing is by the finger of God himself. Men may deceive, by inattention or by design. But the sun, the skies, the stars, the rocks, the seas, the forests do not deceive. Possibly, we cannot read them; but, if and when we can, they tell us the truth. My studies and labours *may be* as religious as yours." There may be a great deal of speculation in science that has a very slender foundation in fact; but so there may be, and so there is, in theology. Let us not single out *science* for our special reprobation.

And, then again, don't we all live on the good fruits of science? Science is the forerunner and mistress of invention. Science gives us command over the forces of nature; invention applies it to improve the conditions of human life, to multiply blessings and comforts, and raise us out of the savage state. True, science may be turned to bad uses. There are inventions that perhaps are positive evils. But the benefits conferred on us by science far out-balance these. As well denounce education, of which science is coming to be by far the largest part. Can the people who do so think what it is they are saying? Are they ready to say, "Let God in the Bible, as we understand it, be true, but God in nature be found everywhere a liar?"