

But our sceptical philosophers quite lose sight of one great principle of christian ethics, namely, that miracles,—that is the Divine interference with the usual order of His own works, whenever such interference tends to His own glory or to the benefit of His creatures,—are no breach of the Divine economy, but in exact accordance with its known, because revealed, principles. Miracles form, indeed, a law of the Divine procedure, the fitness of which singularly recommends itself to right reason. It is the knowledge of this *law of miraculous interference*, which greatly aids the consistent believer in trusting the Almighty where He cannot trace His footsteps, or clearly see how to reconcile His word and works.

For men who have the largest amount of faith, (credulity!) upon the smallest degree of evidence, commend me, not to the Romish devotee, but to the sceptical philosopher. Thus, let there be the most shadowy probability of some geological conformation, which apparently tends to throw discredit upon Christianity, and it is immediately pronounced to be *a fact*, in the presence of which Christianity must fall, like Dagon before the Ark! I should, for instance, much like to know from those rationally, because Christianly, learned in Geology, whether the assertion that the Trilobites of the Palæozoic period had eyes suited to the *present* organization of light, be not one of those easy acts of faith or credulity to which I have alluded; being adopted because it appears to militate against the Scriptural account of the origin of light. I have already stated that the existence of light, or even of a sun, previous to the Mosaic creation, would present no difficulty to my reason in its undoubted reception of the Bible as a Divine Revelation; but I ask the question, because it seems to me that the exact nature of the eyes of these trilobites must have been taken marvellously upon trust. Since, though their organic remains may be abundant in a fossil state, I can scarcely think that the delicate coatings of the eye, with

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