

be communicated to the mind of man in a merely external form. We are more and more persuaded that in every age the Spirit of God has wrought from within, quickening and strengthening the spiritual powers for the apprehension of all natural and supernatural facts in which God has revealed Himself to man. This we conceive to be the one grand truth taught by the modern theology. We may even admit a development, an expanding growth, in the history of this wonderful document; and that successive men of God, returning to the contemplation of this fascinating theme, and building upon that which had been revealed to the fathers and handed down to them, under the quickening influence of the Spirit of God attained to a clearer vision and a more perfect expression of the great truths therein contained. But, granting all this, the question still remains, Did the profound religious—nay, Divine Spirit, under whose influence this man or these men meditated this theme, give them no sympathetic insight into nature? Were they blind to everything but the barely religious relations of cosmogony? and, Does the simple statement that “God made all things very good” contain the sum total of truth which they apprehended? Is all else a mere rhetorical or poetical expansion? We think not. We believe that in every age the deeply contemplative mind has reached every form of truth, even some of the most magnificent scientific generalizations, by methods far more direct than either the organon of Aristotle or that of Bacon. Even Prof. Huxley would not refuse to recognize an example of this kind in the theory of Democritus, so brilliantly expounded in the poem of Lucretius. Our position is, that in every age the mind of man in its very highest spiritual estate, by a God-given instinct, grasps truths which to ordinary apprehension are only reached and demonstrated by slowly laborious processes of deduction or induction. If this be so, is it incredible that God should have given some of the holiest and most devout minds to see beforehand truths which it has taken the world’s science millenniums to demonstrate? Is there anything monstrously