

creed errs, it certainly does not err in want of reverence towards the Infinite Love, or in want of charity to man. Let me close with a challenge which it has never been easy satisfactorily to answer, save as the poet answers it himself :

“ Wherefore should any evil hap to man
From ache of flesh to agony of soul,
Since God’s all-mercy mates all-potency ?
Man’s sin accounted such ? Suppose a world
Purged of all pain, with fit inhabitant,
Man pure of evil thought, word, and deed—
Were it not well ? Then, wherefore, otherwise ?

“ All that is, at all,
Last ever, past recall ;
Earth changes, but thy soul and God stand sure :
What entered into thee,
That was, is, and shall be :
Time’s wheel runs back or stops ; Potter and clay endure.”

BROWNING, *Rabbi Ben Ezra*.

