

They have turned over a few leaves of this great volume, and along the margin thereof, have written their theories. No doubt, many of these theories are true, and worthy of all respect and consideration. But others, notwithstanding the great names attached to them, are nothing more or less than vague guesses at the truths of Nature. All Nature's mysteries have not been disclosed to these men of science. The fact is, these men only stand at the threshold of the knowledge of material things—have scarcely entered the great temple wherein all things are gilded with the radiancy of the Divine glory. The world's mastermind (Sir Isaac Newton) has well said, "I do not know what I may appear to others; but to myself I seem like a boy playing on the sea-shore and diverting myself with, now and then, finding a smoother pebble, or a prettier shell than ordinary, while the great ocean of Truth lay all undiscovered before me." O, how vain that scientists should lay down, as a settled fact, that their marginal notes, their theories, must be the infallible teachings of Nature's God. I have seen children, while driving rapidly in a carriage, and seeing the apparent motion of surrounding objects, conclude that these objects did move in the direction contrary to the one in which they were going. But by and bye they grew out of that theory, and discovered that they themselves were in motion, and that these objects were standing still all the while. And so, my hearers, have theories which, for ages, pleased the world of science, been set aside as childish dreams. The men of science have often outgrown their own theories and changed them for others. How many of their pet theories, now engrossed on the margin of the leaves of Nature's great volume, they may yet have to change, remains yet to be disclosed. Do men say that the Bible conflicts with the teachings of Natural Science? I reply, are you sure? Might not the conflict only be between the Bible and the teachings of the *teachers* of Natural Science.

But here we would also be reminded that theories are written out, not only along the margin of the leaves in the great volume of Nature, but also along the margin of the leaves in the Book of Inspiration. Scientists may err, and do err, at times, in their interpretation of Nature. Theologians may err, and do err, at times, in their interpretation of the Book of Inspiration. We find the theories of the men of science, at times, at variance with the theories of theologians; we find the interpretations which men give of certain passages in the Book of Nature conflicting with the interpretation which men advance for certain passages in the Bible. But we should remember that, after all, whilst the interpreters