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the innate force of his intellectual power, to reach by regular process of abstract reasoning, to those sublime discoveries which have so powerfully affected our welfare, he would be tempted to worship himself, not his Creator, his own mind rather than him who formed it. But a different arrangement has been providentially devised, both the time and manner of many inventions indicating that man is but the instrument through which the Deity reveals himself, and not an independent controller of nature. The discovery of the power of the Telescope to pierce the firmament, was like that of the glass of which it was composed, altogether casual. Galvani introduced us to the science of electricity, by an accidental application of zinc and silver to the muscles of a frog. We owe the wonders of the Magnetic Telegraph to the unexpected discovery of Oersted, that a galvanic current deflected a magnetic needle. Bradley established the prodigious velocity of light, while he was investigating a totally different phenomenon. Hargraves was indebted for his remarkable improvement in the spinning jenny, which so greatly influenced the commerce of England, to his child who upset the wheel at which he worked; the wheel continued to work the spindle in a vertical position, he seized on the idea, and prodigiously multiplied the power of the instrument. Had not Watt been employed as a workman to repair an atmospheric engine, we might still have been ignorant of the power of the steam engine. Had not an apple fallen at the precise time it did, at the feet of Newton, we might still be unacquainted with the law of gravitation. Of these and many other discoveries the origin was in a great measure accidental, not accidental in the sense of a blind chance, but in their being introduced into the world under circumstances which loudly proclaim the hand of a disposing power, man appropriating to his use phenomena, *thrust*, as it were, on his observation. The time again when these grand masterpieces of discovery were wrought, prove the same conclusion.

Who is there who does not see something more than a happy coincidence in the fact that the facilities of working the coal mines of England were acquired at the precise time that the steam engine required them, when it would have been comparatively useless without them. The Mariner's Compass and Astrolabe were inventions so plainly preparatory to the discovery of America, that we cannot fail to see the providential design. Again, we can scarcely resist the inference, that the gold deposits of California