

it is no easy thing to guard the Fair Deposit. Something is yielded, and no doubt something in the forms which our childhood received may have to be yielded. In many cases the Fair Deposit is encumbered with other things which were the thoughts of men and not the thoughts of God. We are stronger for parting with the first, weaker for parting with the last, even though it seem little that we give away. We rarely find it possible, after having once parted with a Divine truth, to keep the rest intact. There may be an earnest purpose to do so, a real desire to replace with something of a spiritual character what has been lost; but the downward path is easy, and too often that hope to win a purer creed and a higher ideal of life finds itself in the midst of the dissolving views and breaking-up scenery of the ancient heaven.