

## A REMARKABLE DOCUMENT.

### The Doubts of the Day All Settled.

(From the Chicago Tribune.)

Mr. Samuel Hall, of the City of Hamilton, Ontario, Can., is the latest gladiator who has bounded into the arena to do battle in the conflict between Religion and Science. He has published his opinions in a tractate of sixty pages, and announces that he will hold public discussion with any one who may differ from him. His essay is entitled "Science and Theology," and he triumphantly confutes the pretensions of the former. He relies entirely upon the Bible for his facts, as being an infallible authority, and from them he constructs various scientific theories which, however logically dependent they may be upon the premises assumed, differ somewhat from those generally received. He does not think much of the nebular hypothesis of the formation of the earth. He says :

We find from the surface to the greatest depths that the material of the earth is in layers, and the evidence is clear that the material of which it was built was in a soft, smelted state, having the appearance of being in that state by heat, and that each layer must have had a space of time to cool or harden before the next layer was laid, or the material would not be in layers. These layers refute the theory of those who suppose that the earth was all on fire and is cooling down. "If the earth was at any time all on fire, the fire would have left us no coal, or oil, or limestone, for everything that would burn would have been reduced to ashes; and all that would not burn would be some pure, heavy metal that would settle down where it never would be found by man; and there would be nothing but ashes for many miles deep. Hear God's own words to Job: "Who laid the corner stone thereof, and his sons shouted for joy." Such a host of skilled workers, with all the machinery of heaven to work with, it would not be much for God's innumerable host, with the knowledge and power of God in them, to make a world in six common days, by pouring down the material out of millions of furnaces. Some furnaces for gold; others for copper, iron, lead, etc. Then the beautiful, variegated marble and granite, which could not be made by drift, as supposed by pretended philosophers.

Mr. Hall thinks the modern notion of the roundness of the earth is an infidel belief. He says :

God said to Job: "Hast thou perceived the breadth of the earth?" Breadth or width is not used in speaking of round bodies, but of flat things. I cannot prove exactly the shape of the earth, but I can prove that the earth cannot be the shape that our moderns suppose it to be. The earth may be round-  
ing somewhat, but the water is not.

The latter conclusion he deduces from the undeniable fact that you cannot make water

stay in a round heap or body. The common illustration of a ship at sea is valueless. The reason why the hull sinks from sight is that the water vapor in the air seen in bulk opaque and hides the hull. "Sailing round the world is sailing east or west through seas and straits till the ship arrives where sailed from. Just as a man that had a house on the side of a hill and went out of the west door and went round the hill till he came to the east door." The motions of the earth occasion Mr. Hall no difficulty. "The earth sits in atmosphere, and would not move on for the sun, which moves round it, causing the water to arise off the earth as it passes round, removing the water from the sunny side, and causing the dew to fall on the dark side, thus removing the earth's ballast; keeps tipping over from the sunny side which is the lightest side at the time that the sun is shining on it. It wobbles from side to side as the sun passes around. This causes the tides."

Mr. Hall does not believe the absurd theories about the centre of the earth being in an igneous condition, because a fire can burn without air or a supply of fuel. There are local fires caused by the lightning penetrating cavities, setting fire to coal-oil, or inflammable gases causing volcanic eruptions. The earth is really hollow, and filled with gas as a balloon. Otherwise it could not float in the air on nothing as it does. The theory about the attraction of the earth was gotten up by the infidels, who believed that otherwise the motion of the earth in going round would throw all loose articles off, and the mountains would act as fans to keep the snow and rain from falling on the earth. But if it was true that the earth was round and held things to it by attraction, when on the underside, the masts of ships and church-steeple would be pointing down into the empty space below. Such foolish notions, he thinks, were gotten up by "men who did not like the Bible because it reproved their acts, and they wished to show that the Bible writers were ignorant of true science."

By means of Bible texts and modes of reasoning of which the above furnishes a sample, the writer proves that the moon is an enormous diamond, and that the sun is one continual explosion of gas by fire. The greater portion of the book is given up to the establishment of purely theological propositions. His object in going into scientific matters he gives as follows:

"The Bible contains more knowledge than all other books together, and all the nations are indebted to it for knowledge that they never could have found out. Therefore, I have wrote this book against pretended philosophers who are leading many astray by false science.

[The above has been **gratuitously** copied into the *Boston Transcript*, *Hartford Courant*, *St. Louis Globe*, *Richmond Dispatch*, and *Hamilton Times*.]