

we can admire for their deep researches into the relationship of physical causes—their development of the laws which mysteriously work out the sequences of force. But when they disregard or look with contempt upon the spiritual relationship and call upon us to ignore the facts interwoven in our experience; when they plead the long continuity of the tangible and demand an excluding assent to a system of causation never having a beginning, then will we demand a rational answer to those great facts coeval with the race—the facts of conscience, of wrong done, of remorse suffered and of strivings for deliverance.

## UPON THE VERY PRINCIPLES

upon which they build up their material sciences, upon the sameness of results from similarly operating forces; by the unchanging sequence of cause and effect, and that no effect can be without a sufficient cause—upon these they place their feet as upon a firm foundation, and upon these same principles do we ask for an acknowledgment of the phenomena of life and for their solution. They may say, oh, we can see and measure the things we compare and reason about, the phenomena of mind are the protean consequences of external impressions, unstable as water, as changing as the flickering reflections from its ruffled surface. Will it do, however, to disparage the instrument by which they themselves work? If it be unreliable in its own domain, what dependence can be placed upon the grand philosophies these men performed. No, the mind of man must be the agent by which we attain to all knowledge, and its own consciousness must be a prime factor in all philosophy; and its consciousness of wrong and right, of responsibility, are essential elements in its working, and commands our assent to a spiritual relationship which was, which has been, and which is a fact in our history. A deliverance from these facts of consciousness call for the earnest consideration of human beings. Here the unaided powers of man fail him. He may form a thousand theories as to the manner and method, or in blank despair cease to investigate. But whether his thoughts ponder over the