

that the very marriage was to them but the beginning of another *æon* fraught with tremendous results ;—

Just as the rustic, who has never travelled a dozen miles from home, wonders if London city can possibly be larger than his own market town ;—

Just as the ancients imagined the earth to be surrounded by an illimitable ocean, and that nothing could possibly exist beyond their *ultima thule* ; while modern science opens out to us worlds upon worlds in illimitable space ;—

Just as, in short, we are all prone to

"Think the rustic cackle of our bourg  
The murmur of the world ;"—

So men in general cannot grasp the idea, because it is too vast, that even when this world, this *æon*, has come to naught, there will then be another *æon*, and then another, and so on through "ages of ages ;" but imagine that when this little planet has been blotted out, there can be nothing possible but a Finality—an eternity of sameness. And just as, in God's great Book of Nature, these millions of globes have been revolving in space all the while, though men knew it not till of late ; so, in God's great Book of Revelation, have intimations of these "ages of ages" being existing all along, though hid from general observation.\*

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\* Butler's Analogy (Pt. I., chap. iii. § v. On Tendencies of Virtue and Vice) : "And one might add, that suppose all this advantageous tendency of virtue to become effect amongst one or more orders of creatures in any