

with which he tries to reconcile the moral sense of his readers to that hideous and revolting conclusion. Nemesis has now made him an involuntary apostle of Materialism, the adherents of which appeal to his "iron-linked and indissoluble chain" of reasoning as the conclusive demonstration of the nullity of the will, and the complete subjection of human action to the laws of matter. His doom has been shared by Dean Mansel, the writer of the famous Bampton Lectures on the "Limits of Religious Thought," a work which having been intended to destroy Rational Religion in the interest of Anglican orthodoxy, or rather of Toryism, and having been hailed with loud applause by the Anglicans, now furnishes Agnostics with metaphysical proofs of the impossibility of believing in God. Leading Agnostic writers have even incorporated into their works Dean Mansel's demonstration of their fundamental position, with the qualifying remark that he is, in truth, too severely Agnostic, and does not sufficiently recognise the existence in the human mind of a natural reverence for the unknown. He cut off his own legs in attempting to make Reason slay herself with her own sword.

—Among other signs of ethical change, we note that, at Dublin, a distinguished lecturer, if he be rightly reported, has been electrifying an audience of youths, and scandalizing their sires by telling them, in a lecture on the "Life of Goethe," that it is better to contribute in some brilliant way to the development of Humanity, than to keep the commonplace and traditional laws of morals. The consequences are likely to be some brilliant contributions to the development of humanity, in the shape of tavern suppers and breakings of lamps. But who is it that feels so sure that the decay of religious belief will in no way affect morality? As to Goethe, he was the very type of an artist, who lived for art and for art alone, neither duty nor affection disputed the empire of the beautiful in his breast. He was, and had elaborately trained himself to be, a sort