

its signifieth the white garment wherewith Herod clothed Christ in mockery. And, as touching the minister, it signifieth the pureness of conscience and innocence he ought to have." The same old book explains about the stole: "As touching the mystery, it signifieth the ropes, or bands that Christ was bound with to the pillar when He was scourged. And as touching the minister, it signifieth the yoke of patience which he must bear as the servant of God."—*Mary Bell*.

### SCIENCE ASKS FOR FAITH

It is all very well to explain everything by natural causes or general laws; but whence do these emanate? Evidently from a great Supreme cause. If cosmic matter became condensed, first as nebula, and then as suns and planets on which life gradually became developed in more and more perfect forms, there is here an ascending movement, a continuous progress, which, of itself, excludes the hypothesis of mere blind hazard without any final aim. Neither can I understand in what manner Darwinian theories ruin a belief in God. How were species first formed—by evolution or by creation? Let us take the horse, for instance: either it appeared as a succession to congenial surroundings, natural selection, and the survival of the fittest, and by a series of insensible transformations, or it sprang up suddenly from the soil, born of inorganic matter, which so arranged itself as to engender two animals of the equine species; this would be spontaneous generation, not of infusoria, but of a being of superior organization. This latter hypothesis appears less probable than the first,

and less in conformity with a providential plan, for has it not been said *natura non facit salutem*? Briefly, then, without a belief in God and in the soul's immortality, any code of morality must be lacking in basis, and consequently the social order, which rests on principles of right and justice, is being undermined at its foundations. If all religious feeling were entirely to melt away, a return to primitive barbarism would be inevitable. It is an undeniable fact that religion has everywhere presided over the development of civilization. If, therefore, civilization is not destined to perish, religion in one or other form will continue to supply moral rules of conduct, and the necessary incentive for the accomplishment of duty. But what will this form be? It may be safely affirmed that it will be an emanation of Christianity. No new religion will be invented. The age is past and gone in which the ideal was incarnated in history under the form of revelation. Christianity brought men back to the pure and simple teaching of Christ, embodying the practice of charity and the obligation to aim at perfection: "Ye therefore shall be perfect, as your Heavenly Father is perfect;" "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself"—this, it must be admitted, is the religion *par excellence*. If any be destined to survive, it would be such plain teaching and simple faith as this.—*The Contemporary Review*.

Know thyself. Pray God to show thee thyself. Bear in God's light to see thyself, bared of all outward advantages, what thou thyself has made thyself, what thou hast been, what thou art. By God's grace, the sight will never again let thee be proud.