

strange; it has presented itself to many minds, and has called forth many replies. The exceeding greatness of the sacrifice involved in our Christianity, as compared with the insignificance of the earth where the cross was raised, causes the doubt. Dr. Freeman suggests a most interesting reply in the *Contemporary Review* for April. His answer is an expansion of St. Paul's words, "God chose the weak things of the world, that He might put to shame the things that are strong." Many illustrations are given to show how true this is in the realm of the physical. For example, man himself has less of physical resource in his own person than almost any other animal, and yet he, by reason and speech, has become the strongest of all in some respects. A germ floating in the air may, however, take possession of his body, fill him with disease, and lay him in the grave. So says Dr. Freeman, "If a world that is physically very small among worlds should really, in some sense other than physical, hold the first place among worlds much bigger than itself, such a state of things is in perfect agreement with what experience tells us is the ordinary course of things in that one world of which we know something." We have long been convinced that the solution of the difficulty lies in the character of the human inhabitants of this earth. The earth itself must share the fate of other worlds, and die in the general death of all, as foretold alike by science and by Scripture. Man, however, is not to die, but live. It was for the soul of man the Great Sacrifice was offered, and what relation has soul to bulk, or to the size of suns? We do not value intellect by weight, but worth. A human soul formed in the image of the Creator, a soul to live for ever, and grow eternally in spirit power, outweighs in value a hundred universes of matter, let that soul be located where it may, on a globe large or small. Carefully compare an immortality of happiness for countless souls, with the Cross of Calvary, by which that result has been obtained, and the sense of disproportion will vanish, and the consciousness of loving harmony will take its place.

JAMES MCCANN.