

were serpents, elephants, and turtles. Meanwhile God was perpetually telling men that he had "hung the earth upon nothing."

Men were ever trying to number the stars. Hipparchus counted 1022, Ptolemy 1026. And it easy to number those visible to the naked eye. But the Bible said that they were, as the sands of the sea, "innumerable." Science has appliances for enumeration unknown to the other ages, but the space-penetrating telescopes reveal more worlds: eighteen millions in a single system, and systems beyond count, till men acknowledge that the stars are innumerable to man. It is God's prerogative "to number all the stars. He also calleth them all by their names."

Toricelli's discovery, that the air had weight, was received with incredulity. For ages the air had propelled ships, thrust itself against men, and overturned their works. But no man ever dreamed that weight was necessary to give momentum. During all the centuries it had stood in the Bible, waiting for man's comprehension; "He gave to the air its weight." [Job xxviii. 25.]

The pet science of to-day is meteorology. The fluctuations and variations of the weather have hitherto baffled all attempts at unravelling. It has seemed that there was no law in the fickle changes. But at length perseverance and skill have triumphed, and a single man in one place predicts the weather and winds for a continent. But the Bible has always insisted that the whole department was under law. Nay, it laid down that law so clearly, that if men had been willing to learn from it, they might have reached this wisdom ages ago. The whole moral law is not more clearly crystallized in, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and thy neighbour as thyself," than all the fundamentals of the science of meteorology are crystallized in this word: "The wind goeth toward the south (equator), and turneth about (up) into the north; it whirleth about continually; and the wind returneth again according to his circuits (established routes.) All the rivers run into the sea, yet the sea is not full. Unto the place whence the rivers come thither return they again." [Eccles. i. 6, 7.]

That the central part of the earth was molten fire was received with great hesitation; and even now, after numerous proofs, is by some minds hotly contested. But God knows what he says, "Out of the earth cometh bread, but at the same time underneath, it turns itself as fire." [Job xxviii. 5.] Long before it was supposed that rock could be melted, the Bible declared that "the hills melted like wax." "Poetic figure," says the rhetorician. "Literal truth," says the laborious chemist.