

language of man however wise; but as the things themselves are spiritual, we speak them in spiritual language, teaching spiritual things in spiritual words. But the natural man in his pride, (the wise man of the world,) rejects the *things* of God's Spirit, which are thus spoken in plain spiritual language; for *these things* seem only foolishness to the proud wise man, elated with his own wisdom: he cannot know the *things* of the Spirit that we teach in the Spirit's own language, because they are discerned only by those who are humble enough to see them in the humble words of the Spirit.'

I will leave the above paraphrase for your consideration without further comment, only requesting you to examine more minutely into Paul's meaning of "natural" in connexion with "man." You will, I think, on further study, conclude that Paul is not speaking of men generally, but of a peculiar class of men, wise beyond measure in their own conceit, and who gloried in their superior learning. The first part of the chapter confirms this view. "My preaching while in Corinth," says the apostle, "was not with enticing words of man's wisdom"—"that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men." These evidently are the "natural" men who despised the teaching of the Spirit, because not beautified with the enticing words of human wisdom.

But how would you read the passage? Perhaps in this way—"The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit until a more powerful Spirit prepares him for the things of the Spirit.' Remember that in a combat we must employ weapons. My paper is full. Inviting your reply,

I am, yours sincerely,

D. OLIPHANT.

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### THE GREATEST MAN IN TOWN.

The Squire thought he was upon that eminence to be sure. The Judge knew he was mistaken; but could not be himself in his belief that he had himself reached that noble distinction. The Captain thought the Squire and the Judge, with all their honors, were far enough from the top, on which there was but one man comfortably seated, and that was a man who had spread his sail on most of the oceans, but who had exchanged their turbulence for the quietness of a country village.

I thought I would leave these dignitaries to settle this matter as