

of contents of nature's great volume. While the orbs of heaven above discourse of sublime themes, the flowers beneath preach from their tiny pulpits lessons of tenderness and love. While the dazzling sun symbolizes that light, "which no man can approach unto," the glow worm too has its eloquence for the tutored soul. You cannot dig so deep in the earth but that you find some new book or leaf of nature's great library for man.

With microscopic eyes, you cannot see so far into the infinitely small, nor with telescopic eyes see so far into the infinitely great, as not to find some new lesson recorded in the handwriting of God. Now, as the man of science gathers from all the realm of nature all these divine lessons, and groups them into systems of truth, so the man of theology gathers from all the realm of Scripture its Divine lessons and groups them into systems of truth—or, if you please, a creed, that all men may conveniently see the toil-sought gems of Truth.

If, then, it is objected that the Bible is a sufficient creed, without any human summaries or systems, we reply, that on this principle, nature is a sufficient text-book without any human sciences—which principle, carried to its logical results, would end all human progress and carry man back to the dark ages.

(6.) *A correct Christian creed is the germ of all correct Christian character.*

"As a man thinketh so is he," is a maxim of profoundest philosophy. A correct or incorrect external life is but an inward belief or creed *acted out* and rendered visible. Character is but a creed crystallized and concrete. The Church has ever felt the need of creeds carefully prepared, solemnly adopted, and earnestly maintained, not only as a safeguard against erroneous *views*, but as a safeguard