

to join hands with the liberal theism of the Hindu.

On the optimist theism of Leibnitz or the Bridge-water Treatises we can rest no more. Science has revealed much in the heavens as well as on earth, and forced us to see on earth many things, such as the ruthless waste of animal life, to which we had before shut our eyes. Evidently, if in the government of the universe perfect benevolence and justice are combined with omnipotence, the benevolence must be in the ultimate design. A hint of that kind our own consciousness may supply in our feeling that effort is essential to moral perfection. The movement, in the case of humanity at least, is on the whole upward and onward; while through the nobler part of our nature, with its pure affections, its poetry and tenderness, and even through the beauty of the earth and the glory of the starry skies, a spirit seems to commune and sympathize with ours. Metaphysical arguments will not hold. That a thing cannot be conceived by us may be a proof only of our mental limitations. But certainly nothing can to us be more inconceivable than the generation of mind and spirit from matter. "No man hath seen God at any