

The politics of a family bear a larger proportion to that of an empire, than what in reference to the jurisprudence of God may be called the politics of a single world to that of the universe. Our discovery of the extent of Creation has just thrown a deeper obscurity over the counsels of the Creator. It has made the problem of His administration one of greater darkness and difficulty than before. In proportion to the vastness of His dominion, do we feel an inadequacy to comprehend the measures or the mysteries of His government. The question is now immeasurably widened, because complicated with other, and for aught we know innumerable relationships. We might have hoped to conquer or resolve the mystery of one isolated world—but not when involved in a scheme that is comprehensive of all worlds. We know but in part; and every new revelation which Astronomy has made of the amplitudes around us, just tells us more emphatically than before of the insignificance of that part, or the littleness of all we know in relation to the mighty whole. It conveys a most impressive rebuke on man's presumptuous imaginations; and should teach him, that, profoundly ignorant as he is of that high regime which embraces all and subordinates all, his true wisdom lies in giving up every gratuitous fancy of his own, and being the passive subject of the information that is offered to him.

8. It is of importance here to remark that the enlargement of our knowledge in all the natural sciences, so far from adding to our presumption, should only give a profounder sense of our natural incapacity and ignorance in reference to the