

For this purpose we should bring all the moral forces within our reach to bear on the native apathy of the human spirit ; and, knowing that it is only in virtue of a good and perfect influence from above that we can be aroused from our sluggishness, we should add to the earnestness of our endeavours the earnestness of our prayers. There is a plain path set before us, which it is competent for humanity to walk in ; and instruments put into our hand, which it is competent for humanity to wield. It should neither mystify nor paralyze the task of a Christian, though told that without God he can do nothing—when furthermore told, that with God working in him he is able to do all things. It only leads him to superadd devotion to diligence, to seek for light and strength from the upper sanctuary, and with the light and strength which are given to set forth on the walk of a bidden obedience. The obscurities of that transcendental speculation which now engages us, are somewhat like the clouds that overspread the firmament above—which, though they intercept the sight of the sun, still admit the light of day to circulate at large among our lowly dwelling places. And so, while the Father of lights is Himself shrouded in mystery, there has enough of radiance descended from His throne to shed a visibility over all the doings and all the duties of our pilgrimage below—enough, not to reveal the secrets of Heaven, but enough to guide the footsteps of the humble wayfarer thitherward.

16. We do not bid any adopt this theory ; but we ask, on the other hand, if they are able to overturn it. It may not be accompanied by such