

need be no strangers to the contents of the book—and we will not anticipate how it is that they discern the signatures of a divinity there—or how from the simple apparatus of a bible and a conscience, that light is struck out which guides the peasant safely to Heaven. It is saying much for the importance of natural theology that it does contribute to a result so glorious—nor let us longer speak of nature's light as if it had gone into utter extinction—when in fact the two great instrumental causes for the Christianity of all our cottages, are the light of nature and the self-evidencing power of the Bible.

17. Having said thus much for Natural Theology, we feel the less hesitation in admitting that it does leave us in difficulties from which itself cannot extricate us. But it is well that it makes discovery of these. It gives us to know our disease—and therefore prompts us to cast about for a remedy. It manifests the fearful dilemma in which we are placed; and so inclines us to hail every symptom or promise of deliverance therefrom. Whatever be the darkness of our spirits in regard to God as an object, there natively belongs to us enough of the ethical to feel, that we have not done what we ought by this unknown God. There is a light of conscience by which we can apprehend what sin is. There is a light of consciousness by which we can know ourselves to be sinners; and thus it is that every man is placed in a state of reciprocity for the overtures of the Christian Revelation. It is enough for this, though without entering very