

the ages of vertebrate history. It is an imperishable thought. The Articulates present us another plan persistent for even a longer period. The earth grew and attained completeness according to a method. I have brought before your attention the method of plant-making—an astonishing history, which correlates all our planets and satellites under one system. There is the method of the movements of the planetary bodies. Their paths are mathematical curves. There are other mathematical relations existing among their distances, their periods, their velocities. They are all swinging through vast irregularities in their positions and movements; but these all pass through cycles, and the old state is restored, showing that the method of the planets is so all-comprehending and enduring that seeming irregularities which continue for centuries, are in fact but the fundamental features of a stupendous plan.

Now a plan is a mental concept, framed by reflection, and coördinating things which are the objects of separate cognition. In brief, plan is the product of thought; it is a demonstration of the existence and presence and activity of mind. If the material world is underlaid and pervaded and operated by plan, method, law, then the world is a constant revelation of a present intelligence, an omnipresent and omniscient Being.

There is one plan which underlies all other plans. In a brief and condensed way, I have attempted to show that the plans exemplified in organic life and the plans exemplified in the formation of worlds, are only special exemplifications of the all-embracing plan of evolution. Out of the infinite storehouse of possible plans under which the Supreme Power might have proceeded in the origination of things, he has chosen the method which we call evolution. This is a divine choice. This sets forth a divine and eternal thought. This embraces the world, the heavens, the universe, and everywhere proclaims the Mind which instituted it. This great all-embracing, all-confronting, all-enduring fact inspires our souls with awe; it illuminates the dark realm of matter with the sunlight of a divine revelation; it moves our souls with a sentiment of humble and profound adoration.