

hypothesis, and is not even yet fully verified,—
he says :—

“Within the ears of men, and without their knowledge or contrivance, this lute of 3000 strings has existed for ages, accepting the music of the outer world, and rendering it fit for reception by the brain. . . . I do not ask you to consider these views as established, but only as probable. They present the phenomena in a connected and intelligible form ; and should they be doomed to displacement by a more correct or comprehensive theory, it will assuredly be found that the wonder is not diminished by the substitution of the truth.”