

formities in the outer world have become so habitual to us that we cannot think them away. But it is quite evident that this is only a matter of habit, and that we have really no ground for believing that we know what we term the "laws of nature," or that any such laws exist at all which can be expressed in human thought.

Against all these objections to what is called the miraculous or inconceivable, it cannot be too often urged that many quite inconceivable things happen daily which we nevertheless do not call miraculous, but which receive this epithet as soon as we seriously try to understand them. Thus to the mechanical philosopher, to the determinist and necessitarian, Free Will is a miracle, that is, unthinkable. But equally miraculous though continually occurring are many natural phenomena. A whole list of these could easily be written down. It may suffice to point only to such facts as the beginning of a separate individual life or the inheritance of mental characteristics. Yet these things happen every day and are not considered miraculous.

VIII.

In the case before us the two attributes of the miraculous—viz., uniqueness and logical inconceivability—are united as in no other event in the whole history of mankind.

If we look more closely not at the history of mankind but at that of every one of us individually, we meet with an event which is equally unique and logically inconceivable from whatever point of view we may