

commentator the true principle of interpreting texts of Scripture that relate to natural phenomena. So, too, chemistry was employed for a time by the exulting sceptic, and to the alarm of the timid believer, in disproving the future conflagration of the earth. Yet not only has this envenomed arrow fallen harmless to the ground, but the science has furnished materials enough for at least one volume as a prize essay, entitled "Chemistry as exemplifying the Wisdom and Beneficence of God ;" and other similar volumes might easily follow. During the early part of the present century, no science excited so much of this false alarm as geology. But already, if I do not mistake public opinion, the tables are well nigh turned, and, save here and there a disconsolate few, who have so long been chanting the death song of Christianity that they can never change their notes, the ministers of Christ now find among the religious applications of this science rich illustrations of divine truths ; and from the disinterred relics of the deep-bedded strata there come forth a voice in defence of the peculiar doctrines of the reformation, and a new argument for the divine existence. So that, in fact, this new field of religious literature is already becoming attractive and prolific in publications. To geology, therefore, may be applied the riddle of Samson : *Out of the eater comes forth meat, and out of the strong comes forth sweetness.*

Now, in view of such results, we may confidently predict that some recent and yet imperfect sciences, lying on the outskirts of physiology and psychology, although at present greatly perverted by sciolism, and made to bear unfavorably both upon morals and religion, will in the end afford a support to both, proportionably strong. What they need now is careful investigation by clear-headed men of the Baconian school, who are familiar both with physical and intellectual