

You say you will admit that the earth exerts an active power through a medium. What ground have you to claim that any active power is possessed by the earth? Have you ever known a stone or a stick or a chunk of ice to exert any active agency—except this hypothetical agency of attraction? You *think* you have often seen matter put forth activities of its own; but really you have only seen activities exerted in connection with matter—just as you observe selection and choice in the working organism. Now in reality, all you know about the origin and seat of efficient power is given you in your own consciousness when you exert power; and what you infer from analogy when power seems to be exerted by other persons. That is, you only know that efficiency originates in *will*—your own will; and when you see efficiency exerted anywhere, you can only affirm that *some will is acting*.

Now, are you prepared to ascribe such will to the earth, to stones and mud and chunks of ice, when the so-called attraction seems to be exerted by them? This is the same question which has settled itself in the negative. The downward pull on the apple comes, then, from some other source. This is the other alternative. It means that power is exerted on the apple, and on all things, causing them to tend together in a certain fashion which we style the law of gravitation. Now, power is an attribute. It belongs to something; as it proceeds from will, power and will together are attributes of being. Manifestly, that being is omnipresent, for attraction is omnipresent. It is the Omnipresent Being.

Now let us glance at the principle of mechanical adaptations. The heart has valves which open and close, and serve the same ends as the valves in a pump. Do you think they were intentionally so constructed and so placed, and so acted on? You have no doubt of it, you say; neither have I. But you perceive that if intention was present, mind was present to understand the use and to perfect the adaptation. As before, this implies a personal being, and a personal being present wherever hearts are in process of formation, and wherever any other design is going into effect. It must be, then, an Om-