

Reflections on the Scheme4

"The owlet [Atheism](#),
Sailing on obscure wings across the noon,
Drops his blue fringed lids and shuts them close,
And, hooting at the glorious [sun](#) in [heaven](#),
Cries out, Where is it?" [[Coleridge](#)].

I gladly confess that my ruling wish has been to feel my own [ignorance](#) deeply, and to trust to the Divine Teacher that my eyes might be opened to see more and more the wonders which may be drawn from the [Scriptures](#), when scientific minds are led to the [belief](#) that [Creation](#) and [Revelation](#) explain each other. As this conviction gains ground, scientific truths will make a more rapid progress, and "the generalisation of [Science](#) will no longer be doubtful, but assured."

"Our aim is to promote that agreement by showing the [correspondence](#) between truly scientific conclusions and [Holy Writ](#); by making it plain that scientific truths, like [spiritual](#), have for ever been descending from [heaven](#) to man."— [[J. W. Reynolds](#), M.A.]

"In Him we live, and move, and have our being,"—*Acts xvii. 28*.

Spontaneous [life](#) has no existence: whatever is developed below, derives its [life](#) from the [laws](#) which regulate it from above.

Among the many subjects which excite interest at the present time is the question whether the doctrine of [Evolution](#) is true or false. [Milton](#) had evidently some glimpse of its [truth](#), as we see in the following lines:—

"[Air](#) and ye elements! the eldest [birth](#)
Of [Nature's](#) [womb](#), that in [quaternion](#) run
Perpetual [circle](#), multiform, and mix
And nourish all things; let your ceaseless change
Vary to our great Maker still new praise!" [[Paradise Lost](#), Book V.]

If the foregoing [harmonies of sound and of colour](#) have been rightly developed from the [Scriptures](#), I trust they will be considered as steps gained towards the [belief](#) that [Evolution](#) is the [law of the Almighty](#) for the continuance of activity throughout the universe, and towards an increasing study of [Creation](#) and [Revelation](#) as mutually explaining each other. According to my [belief](#), the [Scriptures](#) must be based on the principle which is explained of [keyed instruments](#) at the conclusion of [Chapter II](#). In the development of musical [harmonies](#) the [beginning](#) and the ending are unfathomable. It is the same in the [Scriptures](#). No musical [note](#) or [colour](#) can be separated from those below and above it. Neither can any portion of the [Bible](#) be separated: every part embraces the past,