

that although they inevitably come into frequent contact, the study of their independent origin and history and their different psychological method is more valuable than a temporary and merely ephemeral compromise of their respective doctrines. Happily this country has produced many great and a few thinkers of the first order, in whom the greatest that scientific thought has achieved was in harmony with a truly religious spirit. In contemplating these illustrious examples, and bowing before their greatness, the popular mind will probably find its conviction of the possibility of an ultimate reconciliation of both aspects more strengthened than by leaning on the doubtful support of a voluminous apologetic literature, which proposes to give general proofs where only individual faith can decide.

I deemed it appropriate to offer these few remarks on the whole of the voluminous literature¹ from Butler

¹ The largest and best known type of publication in this class of literature, which is practically unknown on the Continent, but which belongs to our period, is found in the Bridgewater Treatises "On the Power, Wisdom, and Goodness of God, as manifested in the Creation." The circumstances under which this series was published are set forth in the preliminary notice to the first treatise. The Earl of Bridgewater, heir to the title and fortune of Francis Egerton, third Earl of Bridgewater, who constructed from the plans of James Brindley, and in accordance with the idea of his father, Lord Chancellor Egerton, the first of the large canals in England, from his coal mines at Worsley to Manchester and Liverpool, left in his will to the Royal Society the sum of £5000, which,

with its accruing interest, was to be paid to the person or persons selected by the President and appointed to write and publish one thousand copies of a work with the above title,—"illustrating such work by all reasonable arguments, as, for instance, the variety and formation of God's creatures in the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms; the effect of digestion, and thereby of conversion; the construction of the hand of man, and an infinite variety of other arguments; as also by discoveries, ancient and modern, in arts, sciences, and the whole extent of literature." The series contained works by such foremost men of science as Sir Charles Bell, William Whewell, William Prout, and William Buckland.