

earliest forms of social life, its customs, laws, and order; its combined labour and thought setting out from the useful and advancing to the Fine Arts, acquiring definite features through Poetry, Literature, and Art as well as the later products of Science with its manifold applications.

All these are creations which continually increase, forming quite a new world—the world of Thought in the widest sense of the word. Though much is lost in the progress of centuries, the growth of this inner world is unmistakable. The amount of crude material used in the creation of this new and continually extending world is comparatively infinitesimal and has not lost any of its natural properties. The same small amount of material and of physical labour which through the genius of a sculptor and a painter has produced a Venus of Milo or a Sixtina might have served a savage to produce a meaningless effigy or a daub on the canvas, creating in the latter case nothing new, whilst in the former a whole world of beauty and a joy for ever has come into being. Nor have we any reason to believe that the total mental energy which has been employed in making physical matter become the bearer of mental creations, has in any way diminished the total amount of physical energy in the outer world.

In fact, the totality of what we term Culture or Civilisation, its manifestations and products, is a creation out of nothing and would again disappear into nothing if no human minds existed who could understand and assimilate it. Its whole existence, so far as our outlook is concerned, is only in and for them.

This circumstance, which must be patent to every one,