

SCIENTIFIC THEISM

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Scientific theism by Francis Ellingwood Abbot

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FRANCIS ELLINGWOOD ABBOT

**SCIENTIFIC
THEISM**

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SCIENCE.

E se 'l mondo laggiù ponesse mente
Al fondamento che Natura pone,
Seguenda lui, avria buona la gente.

DANTE: PARADISO, VIII. 140-142

And if the world below would fix its mind
On the foundation which is laid by Nature,
Pursuing that, 't would have the people good.

LONGFELLOW'S TRANSLATION.



THEISM.

La gloria di Colui che tutto muove
Per l' universo penetra, e risplende
In una parte più, e meno altrove.

DANTE: PARADISO, I. 1-3.

The glory of Him who moveth everything
Doth penetrate the universe, and shine
In one part more and in another less.

LONGFELLOW'S TRANSLATION.

ORGANIC SCIENTIFIC PHILOSOPHY

SCIENTIFIC THEISM

BY

FRANCIS ELLINGWOOD ABBOT, Ph.D.

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To
The Hallowed Memory
of
My Mother.

Tender and true, with love's deep wisdom wise,
Thou taught'st the Child the free, pure Truth to prize,
More than earth's gold the gold of God to prize;
And now the Man, who only burned to have
Thy joy for his reward, with blinded eyes
Lays the won gold, unheeded, on thy grave.



P R E F A C E.

THE foundation and immediate occasion of this little book, whose size, I trust, is no necessary measure of its usefulness, was a lecture given before the Concord Summer School of Philosophy, July 30, 1885, in a "symposium" on the question: "Is Pantheism the Legitimate Outcome of Modern Science?" The other lecturers on this subject were Mr. John Fiske, Prof. William T. Harris, Rev. Dr. Andrew P. Peabody, Prof. George H. Howison, and Dr. Edward Montgomery, — the lectures of the last two gentlemen being read by Mr. Thomas Davidson. The contents of my own lecture, entirely re-written from the first page, constitute less than one third of what is here printed.

The real origin of the book, however, was two articles published in 1864 in the *North American Review*, while it was still under the scholarly care and joint editorial management of Professors James Russell Lowell and Charles Eliot Norton, — one in the July number on "The Philosophy of Space