

**LUX NATURAE: NERVE
SYSTEM OF THE UNIVERSE.
A NEW DEMONSTRATION
OF AN OLD LAW**

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Lux Naturae: Nerve System of the Universe. A New Demonstration of an Old Law by David Sinclair

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DAVID SINCLAIR

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BY

DAVID SINCLAIR,

AUTHOR OF 'A NEW CREED,' 'VERA VITA,' ETC.

'Nature, with the same voice, speaks to all, and in no country is
her tongue a foreign language.'

LONDON:
ELLIOT STOCK, 62, PATERNOSTER ROW.

1894.

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CHAPTER I.

Science stage of the development of truth—Evolutionary truth forces its sway—Nature's revelations mark the epochs of civilization—Nature's universal sympathy—Omnipresence, etc., of the Deity scientifically a simple truth—Natural law is inviolable—Whistling of birds, and all sounds, are proofs of aerial telephones.

THERE is nothing useless or merely ornamental in Nature. She has no forces which are not at the service of man, nor is there any secret about the working of her laws into which he may not successfully inquire without presumption. No scientific research for truth is, in itself, a presumption; and in no case can its true course lead to ideas of infidelity, or to anything derogatory to the highest interests of man. Science has recently, with extraordinary success, provided lever, fulcrum, and power to raise civilization such as no other stage of its development has supplied. The first dark whispers of geology, being insuppressible, now

loudly attest the truth. The truths announced by Darwin stand boldly out as no mere insinuation can stand, while his side-lights of what seemed true, but are not, have already vanished like a Will-o'-the-wisp. The works of great men in their laboratories, by the revelation of quondam secrets, have exalted truth as Moses raised the brazen serpent. Just as sure as there is any provision made for created beings, just as sure are the preservation, development, evolution and dominance of truth, by law, provided for; and no agent of progress has done more towards this highest evolution than science has with dry, hard, matter-of-fact revolutionary revelations.

There are things hidden in Nature which are not invisible in the sense that they *cannot* be seen. Visible trees have necessarily hidden roots, and there is just as much wrong—and no more—done by an inquiring mind examining these hidden roots as there is in researching the hidden truths of Nature. If it be wrong to inquire into any truth whatever, however lofty, then it is wrong for man to make a natural use of his strongest natural gifts, and the chief complaint against him at last must be that he has *not* hid his talents away in a napkin. He is not only permitted, but expected, to know

the truth. Perfection awaits humanity at its final goal, but before that goal is reached all truth must be the common property of the race; and if man does not acquire that enviable attainment by his own means (as he is capable of doing), then it will be forced upon him by a natural development brought about in strict accordance with fixed laws, whose gradations of evolution may seem slow, but are certainly unflagging and unflinching. Whether there be truth in the evolution of man or any other animal, it is as clear as historical facts can bear record that the knowledge of truth has been an evolutionary development through periods of long and slow but steadily progressive stages, with ages, or times, when war, religion, superstition, literature, science, etc., have been the specially predominant agents of advancement. Now this, now that civilizing power has seemed to obliterate the facts of some former power; yet each and all have left their age a little in advance of the predecessor on the upward march. The lamentation about present decay, and the mourning over the good old but dead past, however genuine, does not affect the fact that the human race is progressing even when nations are decaying. No stage of the evolutionary progress of truth has been so rapidly