

combinations as a continuous history. All of this daring proposal leads, of course, to a scientific revolution similar to that accomplished by Lamarck, Darwin, and Haeckel in biology. And this, we have to keep recalling, is not the work of a tyro, but of a *savant* recognized and honored as such in the front rank of physicists the world over. We grant that only those in that rank, and gifted also with rare powers of generalization, can competently weigh the evidence and appreciate the theory which the industry of a long life has presented in these volumes. It is a theory which certainly must wait for final completion; but as a working hypothesis, in the absence of any other, it is a unitizing, completing scheme of nature, invaluable as a suggesting power, and as a centre around which the results of scientific observation and experiment may be intelligently gathered, and then held as parts of one mighty world drama. It may be further said, that, however the author may come short of present sufficient evidence of his hypothesis, he has rendered very dubious, if not wholly untenable, the old notions of matter, and of all chemistry based upon the atomic hypothesis. Hereafter we are to have neither an atom nor a vacuum, but a continuous world of continuous matter, with all of its world creative changes and combinations accounted for by a continuous law formulated in a nomenclature expressive of that unity. The realization of this dream of Newton, Huygens, Young, and their many patient followers, of whom our author is one, would certainly be the crowning glory of our race. To date the solution of both the vital and the material worlds in the same century

would seem to be pressing Father Time too rashly of late; and he may properly leave us to evolve through another century before we reach the sufficient evidences of the true theory of ether and matter, suns and worlds.

T. B. WAKEMAN.

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