

An interesting illustration of Huxley's attitude toward the church is found in his description of an experience while engaged in the study of anatomy. At one time during his medical course he found it very difficult to remember which side of the heart the mitral valve was on. Then, he said, it occurred to him that a bishop has a mitre. After that he had no further difficulty. Since a bishop could not possibly be right, the mitral valve must naturally be on the left!

At a later time Huxley expressed his idea of theologians in these words: "Extinguished theologians lie about the cradle of every science as the strangled snakes beside that of Hercules; and history records that whenever science and orthodoxy have been fairly opposed, the latter has been forced to retire from the lists, bleeding and crushed if not annihilated; scotched, if not slain."

Huxley was 16 years younger than Darwin. He was a man of great intelligence, devoted to the study of science. He was also a man of strong emotions, much interested in religious philosophy and metaphysics.

Darwin himself had a shy and retiring disposition, and never liked to go to public meetings. He said that if he expressed a harsh word of criticism he would be unable to sleep the following night. Public attacks upset him: sometimes he wrote rejoinders, but usually he was glad to leave his defense to Huxley. In time he came to speak of Huxley as "my general agent." Huxley, however, referred to himself as "Darwin's bulldog." Whenever Darwin's ideas were to be discussed at a great public meeting Huxley was ready and fully armed. He was an able debater and a quick thinker on his feet, extremely skillful in handling repartee.

Darwin and Huxley made an ideal combination. Huxley could speak