Mr. President and Fellows.

The gentleman who has just taken his seat and to whom I have the honor of replying, although declining in his prefatory remarks to render us his own version of this question has, however, during the course of his speech so shaped his argument as to give a pretty clear idea of what he considers its debatable points, who are men of action and who of thought. Without making issue with him as to the correctness of his rendering, I shall content myself with ascertaining that phase of discussion that he has, probably inadvertantly, laid down, and attempt ing to meet as far as possible the arguments he has advanced. The gentleman manifests in the very outset his conviction of the weakness of the cause he has espoused, by setting aside as useless all those great truths which the history of man from the creation down to the present time, has discovered and by substituting for these a course of reasoning based upon certain theories of his own which together with his inferences are utterly fallacious and cannot be supported by any course of reasoning however subtle to which he may resort. Let us then take a cursory view at this position and ascertain how far he has succeeded.