

form this cabin. Was there an earthquake or a very strong wind that caused the broken pieces to fasten together, in such a way as to make the walls and the roof of the cabin? We noticed the small windows, and I said, "How fascinating it would be to see the natural processes at work that produced these windows. I wonder what caused the logs to fall at exactly such an angle as to produce these rectangular holes, and what sort of chemical or volcanic process caused the various minerals to flow together, in such a way as to produce panes of glass exactly the right size to fit the apertures in the walls of the cabin.

Then I noticed the smoke rising from that pipe, and said in excitement, "There is evidently a fire in the cabin. We must run quickly and put it out before the cabin is destroyed." The friend replied, "There is no need to hurry. The fire is in a little stove, and the smoke is coming out through the stovepipe. It can't set the cabin on fire." I said, "What was the natural process that brought iron out of the earth and formed parts of it into flat sections that were joined together, in such a way as to mould it into the shape of a stove and made it possible for a lightning storm to produce a fire within the stove, and yet not injure the rest of the cabin? Was there perhaps a small volcanic upthrust that fused cylindrical pieces of iron together to make that pipe and fit it into a hole in the roof, so it extends out of the cabin, so the smoke goes into the outer air rather than filling the cabin?"

My friend looked at me with disgust. He said, "How ridiculous! It is perfectly obvious that someone made a plan for the cabin. Someone cut down the trees in the enclosure here, and cut the pieces of wood into the right size and fitted them together. Someone brought the little iron stove and the iron pipe for the chimney and cut a hole through the roof that would exactly fit the pipe and put them together. It was all done according to a plan."

I said, "Have you seen this man?" He said, "No." "Do you know his name?" "No." "Have you ever talked with him?" "No." "What proof do you have that he exists?" He looked at me with irritation. "It is perfectly obvious," he said, "that some man planned the cabin, bought the materials, fit them together, and produced it." I answered, "You cannot believe that natural forces, acting simply in relation to scientific laws, produced this little cabin; yet you suggest that the mighty universe, with all its intricate features working together so harmoniously, came into existence by purely natural causes.