

POSTSCRIPT

I THINK that every reader who brings an unprejudiced mind to the study of these narratives will feel and confess the wonder and the power of religion.

But scepticism will raise two objections.

We shall be told, first, that it is doubtful whether these conversions last ; and, second, that the word religion is merely an unscientific term for mental excitement. The value of the conversions will be depreciated by the first criticism ; their testimony to the truth of religion assailed by the second. I am anxious to meet these two objections which are so general in modern society, modern society with its mouth full of negations and its soul empty of affirmations, and to show their shallowness.

Most of the men whose stories are narrated in these pages have carried their regeneration over several years ; not one of them has been recently converted. Such tremendous change lasting over a week, over a month, would be wonderful and worth while ; what does scepticism say when all of these conversions are declared to be a matter