

can really convince of the truth of it. This has been the contention of the ablest apologists for Christianity from the beginning, and on the whole this contention has been amply justified. There was too much inclination amongst eighteenth century philosophers to identify the soul of man with the pure intellect, though perhaps this inclination is sometimes erroneously assumed, owing to a looser use by some of these philosophers of the word "know." This error has been frankly abandoned, and there seems to be no *a priori* reason whatever why we should regard intellectual harmony as a sign of truth and refuse to regard moral harmony as an equal sign. Perhaps, however, this must be said, that moral truths stated in the abstract are dry and unconvincing; but acted on carry with them their own attestation. For this reason Christianity cannot be logically demonstrated; if believed in at all it must bring its own conviction by the results it produces in the person who endeavours to follow in its teaching

There is nothing novel in the position I have just sketched. I thought I had made it plain in the article on the "Evolution of Religion" published in this MAGAZINE; but a courteous and even flattering rejoinder on the part of Professor Kirkpatrick of Knox College under the title, "The Place of Christ in Christianity," makes me feel that my meaning is in need of further elucidation.

It is a great pity that the apologists of Christianity seem to think it necessary to claim for the legends about the doings of the Founder the same degree of importance as they do for his teachings. The teachings can be verified by every man for himself in his own experience but the historical character of the legends must be settled by the application of the vigorous canons of scientific historical criticism. Of course I do not mean for a moment to imply that the doings of Christ are of no importance to his teaching, because unless the Founder acts as well as teaches his creed, he is really in no sense a teacher at all. But the accounts of Christ's life have come down to us embellished with a series of supernatural marvels, and Professor Kirkpatrick seems inclined to deny the title of