

PROEM

high plateau where all lines of science, philosophy and religion, Oriental and Occidental, ancient and modern, converged into practical questions of ethics and politics, national and international. The questioning of the intelligent with regard to the Bible and modern scholarship, as to Christianity versus the claims of scientific philosophy, involving discussion of the whole field open to the highest intellects of the civilized world, compelled a deeper investigation of "What is truth?" in the new light of questions that had lain dormant or had seemed easy of answer in a Christian atmosphere. The result was another crisis. On the traditional lines no satisfactory explanation could be found to legitimate questionings of the scientific mind. Experimental theology and evangelistic appeal, apologetics founded on fulfilled prophecy and miracles, were not current coin in this new land and in this new time.

Absolute faith in the presence and power of the Unseen Spirit of the Infinite was the one anchor which held the missionary through one dark stormy time. Nothing else could account for his own experience. Nothing else could account for the experience and power of millions whose lives had smitten sin and lifted the earth to better conditions; nothing else could account for the tremendous power of Jesus Christ in history and in the world to-day. But wherein lay the secret philosophy of that spiritual life and power, so that it could be proclaimed from the housetops to the multitude and taught on scientific lines to the highest intelligence of modern man and to the sharp intellect of awakened Japan? "For the Bible tells me so," of the Sunday-school song, was not enough for a people who had no traditional respect for the book. What authority had