

P R E F A C E .

In reprinting for publication in book-form this letter on the subject of Spiritual Science and Divine Revelation, it may appear that a few remarks are called for in explanation of the course adopted—namely, the publication in the first instance of a communication on so supremely serious and intellectually important a subject in the columns of a daily newspaper. In making these prefatory remarks, however, let us state, at once, that they are simply explanatory. We have not the slightest doubt as to the propriety of the course adopted. The reason for preferring to publish primarily the communication as a letter in a newspaper is already stated in brief at the commencement of the letter itself: it is, Because the communication is of a practical nature and addressed to the general public. But the proceeding is intended to have, and may be understood as having, a further or fuller meaning, which is:—that the new light in which the subject is placed in that communication is not intended exclusively for men who professedly or reputedly are learned scholars, nor exclusively for men of any particular calling or religious profession....It is intended for the general public in the widest and most extended sense. We may add that it will be our earnest and persistent endeavour to make the information contained in it, as readily accessible as possible to the most humble as well as to the most favoured of our brethren.