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All articles intending for publication, books for review, exchanges, and all correspondence relating thereto—should be addressed to the editors, Box A, Queen's University, Kingston, Ont.

EVOLUTION IN RELATION TO CHRISTIAN THOUGHT.

READ BEFORE THE MEETING OF TRINITY COLLEGE ALUMNI, 12TH
JANUARY, 1898.

THE history of Philosophy is the history of humanity's persistent efforts to solve the great Riddle of Existence. "To the mind as it develops in speculative power the problem of the Universe suggests itself. What is it? and whence came it? are questions that press for solution... ..To fill the vacuum of thought any theory that is proposed seems better than none."⁽¹⁾ In obedience to this impulse the earliest investigators bravely set out upon the quest with their five senses for their sole equipment. With these appliances discoveries were made, and the region of the things known began to be mapped out. But the region that lay beyond was limitless. In constructing the map of the sum of things those sections which had not been explored were filled up by conjecture. The origin of all things was air, was fire, was water, according to the scheme of each several adventurer in the realms of mystery.

The efforts of the investigators were rewarded from time to time by additions to the territory of the known; and so the map required continual reconstruction. Yet, withal, the mysterious, undiscovered country loomed as limitless as ever. But at length the explored area becomes so vast that a division of work takes place: the special departments of Physics and Metaphysics—or of

1. H. Spencer. *First Principles*. Part I. ch. 2. sec. 10.