

scientific questions appeal to philosophical and moral principles of your mental and moral life. It is an appeal to the Word of God, for example, to which men brought to the test of facts. It was because of the conclusions than facts war- academy of Science con- sistent of Man," as in which refused to allow him to do so. We need not further suggest. True science, however, consist in an adequate knowledge by external observation, of God, and in legitimate conclusions. Any system, therefore, which denies facts, must be false.

A suggestion which may be made to our opponents. It is to remove, if possible, the cause of their beliefs. If we remove the cause, of course, we remove the effect. That the reason why he is so bound one, but one totally ignorant probably give up his belief. It is that the foundation on which he stands, he must feel that it is false, there are at least two causes of unbelief prevalent at the present time which briefly refer:

First, the denial of the exist-

ence of a personal God. By a personal God we understand, not a being identified with nature, nor "a stream of tendency which makes for righteousness," nor yet a being somewhere away off in infinite space, who, as the ancient Epicureans supposed, sent the world a-spinning, and then retired to dwell at ease, and never more be concerned with the affairs of men; but we mean a Being who is the Creator and Governor of the universe—a Being whom we can address in the words 'Thou and Thee,' who is, therefore, distinct from ourselves and the world around us—and a Being on whom we and all things are dependent—a Being, moreover, possessed of intelligence, power, and goodness to which we can assign no limits. This is what we understand by a personal God; and the denial of the existence of such a Being, we say, is the cause of many forms of infidelity prevalent at the present day. Take, in illustration of this, the very prevalent disbelief in the possibility of miracles, and the belief in the theory of evolution, in the most extended sense of the term. The present Prime Minister of England has admirably said that, "Upon the ground of what is termed evolution, God is relieved of the labors of creation; and in the name of unchangeable laws, He is discharged from governing the world." The converse of this statement is equally true. We believe it is just because men do not wish to allow the existence of a supreme Being who has any right to interfere with the world, either as Creator or Governor of it, that they hold their infidel opinions. "We have *no need* of the hypothesis of God," is the statement of a French astronomer; and this is the general sentiment of that class of men to whom we have been referring. They want to explain all things without God. Hence they adopt unsupported and even absurd opinions. You are already familiar with the absurdity