

virulent and aggressive. What is called "The Higher Criticism," is no longer confined to the Old Testament, but includes the New. The Pentateuch, is now declared to have been the work of other hands than Moses: the Prophetical writings, are not the productions of the men whose names they bear; Ecclesiastes is not Solomon's, and the book of Daniel is of a far later age, by some unknown author. The writers of the New Testament are equally unreliable, the miracles are spurious, and the Epistles, but the opinions of fallible men. In a word, the Bible is not trustworthy, for when we have eliminated so much, what is there remaining? We are reminded of the down-east landlord, who in the days before the war used to keep a hotel at the line where two states met. It was called patriotically, the Union Hotel. One day a tired traveller drove his tired horse to the door with the request, "Landlord, give my horse a good dinner of oats, and prepare me a porter-house steak." "Stranger," said the host, "that is all right, only we don't happen to keep any oats, and we are out of fresh meat." "Well," said the pilgrim, wearily, "at any rate you can give my horse some hay, and me some fresh eggs?" Truth is, friend, we don't keep hay, and just now we haven't any eggs?" "Now, landlord," said the occupant of the buggy, looking straight at him, "will you be so good as to tell me what you *do* keep?" Drawing himself up proudly the boniface replied, "Yes, sir, I keep the Union Hotel." And so we shall probably be permitted to keep the covers of the Bible, if not the contents. And yet these men who are uprooting old beliefs, and sapping and undermining christianity, deny that they are infidels. When pressed to tell us, what they do believe, they say—we are simply enquiring after truth—the trend of scholarship is in the direction of larger hope: modern scholarship is as yet undecided, but professors in London, Cambridge and New York, favor this and that interpretation. Has it come to this that men of mature years, set apart to speak for God, have no clean-cut opinions of their own, but can only give to their congregations, the guesses and speculations of others? Has