

no clearly defined principles, and it appears in under many different phases. Perhaps the best thing the Apologete can do is to show the utter insufficiency of all these socialistic and secularistic theories to meet the present demands of the individual and the race, much less to afford any answer to the vague questioning of the human heart concerning a future state. It is necessary to emphasize the fact that it is the teaching and principles of the Christian system which alone can guide the individual aright, hallow the home, and elevate society. The work of the Apologete thus passes over into that of the missionary. The best remedy for all forms of secularism is not controversy, but earnest mission work. By the teachings of the Gospel, rather than by social theories which ignore it, are the masses to be reclaimed. Political and social science may be good in its place, but it cannot replace Christianity or render the Gospel unnecessary. True social science must rest on a Christian basis.

II.—ITS METHOD.

By *method* we mean the mode in which attacks are made on the Christian system, and the manner in which from time to time these attacks have been repelled. Sometimes the attack has been open and hostile, at other times it has been made in a secret and insidious way. The opponents are sometimes content to seek to destroy Christianity, and in other cases attempts are made to show that it is not needed, or to provide something as a substitute for it. The defense will naturally assume the complexion of the attack, and the method of defense will consequently adapt itself more or less to the nature of the assaults made on the Christian faith. Three points of interest come before us here in regard to the Apologetic method of recent years.

In the first place the *inductive* method has now a very important place in Christian Apologetics. In scholastic ages the method was deductive and dogmatic; and even in modern times, those who were influenced by the Cartesian philosophy depended mainly on the *a-priori* method for their proof of the fundamental positions of the Christian system. During recent years scientific enquiry has been pushed vigorously in every direction, and the results of this enquiry have been vast and wonderful. The scientific method which has yielded such extensive results is inductive, or *a-posteriori*, by means of which the enquiry proceeds from facts up to principles, or from