

else. All you can demand—and it is a just demand—is that there shall be a reasonable presumption behind your faith ; and if there be no such reasonable presumption, then your faith is not faith, but credulity and superstition.

There is more to be said for Agnosticism ; but the Agnostic position is breaking down, has, indeed, broken down, in the face of two tendencies ; and both these tendencies have arisen from the continuous application of those very modes of investigation out of which Agnosticism was born. First, the scientific mind has begun to distrust its own instruments. The more its knowledge has grown, the more precise its methods of observation have become, the more difficult the business of classification has become, and the more precarious the process of deduction. So far from being able to enunciate laws with a fine assurance, we discover to-day that there are huge tracts, and these the most important tracts, in which we can