

The LAMP

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MR. W. T. STEAD.



R. STEAD'S Address in the January "Review of Reviews" after five years of phenomenal and, one believes, entirely useful success, claims attention from everyone associated with the work of Humanity and Brotherhood. If we cannot all recognize "a comrade in a Holy War," at least let us be fellows in a still holier Peace, and stand ever for the ideal Liberty that knows no curb but Reason and no coercion but the chain of Love.

H. P. B. wrote once—"My dear Mr. Stead: This may seem a poor compliment in your eyes, but in mine it is the greatest one I can make, when I say—You are a true Theosophist in heart and soul, whatever you may call yourself." A concrete example that a theosophist may exist without having joined the T. S. is important, for it must be remembered that theosophy is not the faith of a sect, but that it stands for the united Wisdom of the human race. Why Madame Blavatsky recognized a theosophist in Mr. Stead may be gathered from his statement when in Toronto in 1893: "It is my life message, condensing the essence of the whole Christian religion—not be a Christian—but be a Christ. Be a Messiah to some man or woman by you. Interpret God to those you touch. Don't preach much. Do a kindness

when you can. Be a Christ."

Mr. Stead's psychic powers are also of interest to theosophists, and although he seems to doubt the possibility of such powers having been developed to even greater degree in others than in himself, to judge by his opinion given in "Borderland" that "Mr. Judge deceived himself before he hoodwinked Mrs. Besant," yet his independent testimony to phenomena of a striking character is encouraging. Perhaps if he fully appreciated the issues at stake he



WILLIAM T. STEAD.

might have been as anxious to investigate Mr. Judge at first hand as to get at, for instance, "the truth about Russia." Those who do not believe "Julia's" messages to be inventions merely, even when she speaks of an "irreducible minimum," need not apologize for faith in Mr. Judge. To be sure Mr. Judge has not yet suffered a Holway martyrdom, but those of us who

know him are witness to greater wrongs than that. Nor is he least, either, in "the Union of all who Love in the Service of all who Suffer."

While the personal equation claims consideration we must not permit Mr. Stead's opinion on details to blind us to the fact that for five years the Review of Reviews has been working practically on behalf of the first object of the Theosophical Society, and that Borderland has been accomplishing much for the third. Those who like their occultism diluted and who affect phenomena have in it an intelligent record.