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## RECENT ETHICS AND THEISM.

IT would be impossible within the limits of this essay to examine all the different theories and suggestions that have been given to the world recently, in the attempts of Science to solve, in her own strength, the Ethical problem. We shall see that failure comes to all of them from a common source. One name, however, challenges special attention. Herbert Spencer will be allowed by all to be the Coryphæus of the school which he represents. He has done what he could to furnish a basis for Ethics from his own standpoint. So important did he consider the attempt that, feeling his health fail, he hastened to give to the world his "Data of Ethics," lest death might strike the pen from his hand before he could put this cope stone upon his system of philosophy.

"My ultimate purpose," he says, "lying behind all proximate purposes, has been that of finding for the principles of right and wrong in conduct at large a scientific basis." His whole philosophy he considers subsidiary to this purpose. The "code of supernatural Ethics," according to his assumption, is vanishing,