

II

THE MODERN RETURN TO GOD

I. WE have heard a great deal in the last two generations of the conflict between Religion and Science. This arose out of the fact that some of the traditional religious positions seemed to become untenable in the growing light of science. The theory of evolution seemed to destroy the old doctrine of creation ; and the conception of universal law appeared to leave no room for miracle or for prayer. Added to this was the circumstance (with which we have already dealt) that we had become persuaded that nothing was trustworthy save only that which could be demonstrated or verified by the evidence of the senses or by processes of reasoning. According to this view, as we saw, we could know nothing of God ; and even if we could, yet in the light of the idea of universal law,