

## MURRAY'S EYE-OPENER.

The great difficulty in handling this complex problem is the different points of view from which the extreme opponents and defenders of Christianity take up the question.

Many on both sides take up the question as if it involved the whole question of Religion. The fact of the matter is that Christianity is only a Religion and a very indefinite Religion at that. The central point in Christianity is, of course, the person, character and teachings of Jesus Christ. Some people take up the question, "Was there ever such a person as Jesus Christ?" I shall attempt to prove that there never was such a person as the Christ of the Church--The only begotten Son of God Who became man and was sacrificed as an atonement for the transgression of the law of God by the human race. That there was a certain person and that his name was Jesus and that he was put to death may be granted for the following reasons: (1) That a society calling itself Christian existed shortly after the accepted date of the execution of Jesus may be granted from the fact that early Roman historians referred to the society called Christians and the accusations brought against them. (2) The execution of a person, again is a fact much more capable of proof by ordinary legal methods than the character, teachings and motives of that person.

That we have no definite information about the character, teachings or motives of Jesus may be proved as follows:—  
(1) The four Gospels contradict each other in many places.  
(2) The Apocryphal New Testament which was just as authoritative in the early Church as the accepted New Testament, would increase the number of contradictions. (3) From references in the writings of the early fathers of the Church to many other Gospels and Epistles now lost, we may reasonably come to the conclusion that if we had them in addition to the accepted Gospels and the Apocryphal New Testament the contradictions would be still more numerous.