

ther, he informs us that force is unknowable : and this, forsooth, is proposed as the common ground of reconciliation between Science and Religion. We pause not now to inquire whether Religion can accept this theory as sufficient to satisfy the longing, the hunger, of the human heart, but we ask : Is Science satisfied—satisfied with this proposed reconciliation in the unknowable? Can Science, whose very office it is to know, consent to a postulate which is suicidal—an ultimate which would swallow up every scientific labor and success in the fathomless abyss of nescience ?

The Modern Theory of Forces proposes, not only to explain the phenomena of the material universe, but also to solve the problems of being, to unravel the mysteries of life and mind, of thought and volition. Two principles of Force are called in to aid in this process : principles whose correctness we admit in reference to material nature : namely, the Correlation and the Conservation of Force. It has been observed that heat, light, electricity, magnetism, chemical affinity and motion have a reciprocal dependence ; that not one of them, regarded abstractedly, can be said to be the separate cause of the others, but that every one of them often becomes convertible into any of the others. Thus heat may produce electricity, and electricity heat. Hence has been deduced the principle of the Correlation of Forces. And as these forces are only transmuted, not destroyed, by this Correlation, hence has been deduced the principle of the Conservation of Force. Herbert Spencer, in order to avoid the idea of a personal Conservator, prefers the expression the "Persistence of Force."

Now when we come to apply this theory of Forces to the theory of Evolution, we are met with a question of essential and fundamental importance—namely—Are life and mind forces? Is heat, for example, convertible into life? Can matter be transmuted into mind?

Professor Grove who thirty-four years ago was the first to announce the two principles I have referred to ; and Faraday, who regarded them as the highest laws hitherto discovered in physics, both confined the Cor-