

impossibilities ; but it is a fair answer to the Utopian pictures drawn by Edward Bellamy and Mr. Wells.

The distinguished position occupied by Sir Oliver Lodge has caused his recent expressions of opinion on the great theme of religion to be received with profound interest and respect. It was recognised that they mark a new attitude on the part of science towards religion, and give earnest hope of some better understanding being come to between theologians and scientists than has existed since 1859, when the "Origin of Species" came to revolutionise old ideas and to rouse and stimulate new. Sir Oliver Lodge has cast his conclusions in the form of a catechism, and published it under the title, **The Substance of Faith allied with Science** (Methuen : 2s. net). This little volume combines deductions from the discoveries of modern science with a grateful recognition of the laws and power and glory of a Divine all-ruling Creator. Its author denies emphatically Herbert Spencer's idea that the world arose by chance, and is a mere fortuitous concourse of atoms ; claiming that no science sustains such a notion. Of course, very many of the Christian dogmas are intentionally left untouched in this new catechism : it being felt by its formulator that the life of Jesus, His ideals and teaching, and, more even than that, His example of service and self-sacrifice, are enough to help and encourage humanity to its own amendment.

It is, no doubt, upon the rock of dogma that the storm of controversy—if this book rouses one—will break. There are so many good people to whom the letter of the Scriptures is an infallible word ; and the doctrines of the Church necessary to be retained in their indefiniteness and entirety. But beyond them, there is a thoughtful multitude, whose infant faith has been seriously affected by the discoveries and theories of the evolutionists, who will be relieved to find it is possible to retain faith in Christ and the All-Father, and yet keep confidence that the reverent inquiries of scientific men have been trending steadily toward the truth.